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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

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IA TAKES OVER ANOTHER UNION

HAYS SLAPS TNEC BLAST AT FILMS

New York, March 31.—Will Hays was elected president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association at today's annual meeting for his 20th consecutive year. His new contract is for five years, at $80,000 annually, same as the old pact after a 20% slash made late in 1939. It is understood Hays suggested the new salary agreement be made on the same basis as the re-

♣ Continued on page 8 ♣

Arthur Wimperis Fifth D. O. Selznick Scribe

David O. Selznick has added Arthur Wimperis, British author, to his writing staff, making five writers preparing material for Selznick's production slate. Other four are Marcus Goodrich, author of 'Delilah,' D. Somerset Maugham, Peter Viertel and Oliver H. P. Garrett. Wimperis has not been given his assignment yet.

Ray Milland Assigned 'Wild Wind' Topper

Ray Milland will play one of the two male leads in 'Reap the Wild Wind,' forthcoming Cecil B. DeMille Technicolor production for Paramount. John Wayne has the other starring role. DeMille has also cast Jack Dixon, Boston newspaperman now visiting Stirling Hayden here, for a spot in the film.

Newfield Does 'Glory'

Sam Newfield will direct Producers Releasing production, 'The Lone Rider Gallops to Glory,' featuring George Huston and Al St. John, starting tomorrow.

Freulich Gets 'Blondie'

Henry Freulich will photograph 'Blondie in Society,' next of the series at Columbia which starts Friday. St. Brendan's choir is set for vocal spot in the picture.

Templeton's 'Confusion'

Dink Templeton will script 'Private Confusion' at 20th-Fox from the play by Austin Parker and Hardie Albright, for Associate Producer Lou Ostrow.

Terms Helen Gilbert

Helen Gilbert has been signed to a term contract at Paramount. She was formerly at Metro.

VICTOR H. CLARKE PUSHED AS TOP FOR CENTRAL

Appointment of Victor H. Clarke as general manager of Central Casting Corp. is being urged by leaders of various groups of film extras, including members of the former Screen Actors Guild Council. While the Producers have not yet indicated whether any change in managership is contemplated, it is understood that the one-year term guaranteed How-

● Continued on page 10 ●

Freeman Due Thursday

Y. Frank Freeman is due in Thursday from Hot Springs, Va., where he has been attending Paramount sales conclave.

COSTUME MAKERS WELD OUTFIT OF ABOUT 800

The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes took over a new group of 460 film workers last night when members of Motion Picture Costume Makers Federal Union 20841 voted to affiliate with Motion Picture Costumers Local 705. The latter union has local autonomy but operates under a charter from IATSE.

The Costumers voted that each group in Local 705 would keep its autonomy pertaining to its own particular affairs. A petition was drafted asking the IATSE to take immediate cognizance of the Costumers' problems and to assist in pushing its negotiations with the Producers for

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Skouras Cites Huge Profits Expected via Defense Areas

Stressing the fact that government defense work in the area served by Fox West Coast theatres in California will entail expenditure of approximately $1,275,000,000 during the next couple of years, Charles P. Skouras, circuit prexy, in inaugurating the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign at a joint meeting of Northern and Southern California operating heads here yesterday, painted a glowing picture of profits certain to accrue to the various company houses as a result of this spending.

Of the $32,000,000,000 govern-

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Sears Party Eastward; Einfeld Out Monday

Gradwell Sears, Mort Blumenstock and Carl Leserman leave for New York Thursday after production conferences at Warners. S. Charles Einfeld will go east Monday.

Col Says Distribution, Production Must Be Industry Combo

New York, March 31.—Columbia Pictures today filed a denial in U. S. District court to the government antitrust suit against it. The answer runs 120 pages and declares that without the combination of production and distribution the film industry cannot exist.

Columbia declares that from 1927

♥ Continued on page 8 ♥

M. J. Siegel at Desk

M. J. Siegel, after five weeks on production conferences in New York, returned to his desk at Republic.

UA LINEUP GIVEN KELLY FOR REGIONAL CONFABS

Arthur Kelly, United Artists sales head, in for conferences with United Artists producers yesterday, pulls out for New York Wednesday or Thursday. Kelly came in to get lineup for 1941-42 product which he can announce at the UA regional conventions which start in New York on April 14. Others will follow in Chicago, Cleveland, New Orleans and San Francisco.

He conferred yesterday with Edward Small, Walter Wanger and David Loew. Today will talk to Alexander Korda and others. Figures on announcing 20 pictures for the new program and wants to get selling

★ Continued on page 9 ★

CBS 1940 PROFIT $2.91 PER SHARE

New York, March 31.—Columbia Broadcasting System's annual financial statement sent stockholders today revealed a net profit of $5,006,633 or $2.91 per share, about $200,000 more than net earnings of

■ Continued on page 9 ■

NY Optimistic Over Release of 'Kane'

New York, March 31.—Orson Welles sneaked into New York today, reiterating his radio statement of Sunday night that 'Citizen Kane' would be released within three weeks. The RKO board of directors meeting, slated for today, was postponed until Friday. Optimism is general that the film will be released, with the Rivoli on Broadway understood to be taking it as soon as 'John Doe' closes, within three or four weeks.

Archer's New Tag; Gets Lead in 'Ozarks'

Republic has changed the name of John Archer to Ralph Bowman and has set him for the romantic lead in 'Thunder Over the Ozarks,' which starts tomorrow with Nick Grinde directing. George Ernest and Kane Richmond have been signed to featured roles in the Weaver Brothers and Elviry picture.

Vallee, Parrish Duets

Rudy Vallee and Helen Parrish will sing several numbers together in Universal's 'Too Many Blondes,' which is due to roll this week, with Thornton Freeland directing. First number chosen for pair to warble is 'San Antonio Rose,' by Bob Wills.

Keane Joins 'Sucker'

Robert Emmett Keane will have a role in Universal's 'Hello Sucker.'

PREVIEWED

THE LADY FROM CHEYENNE (U)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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1940, at the Post Office at Los Angeles,
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Evelyn Finnie back from NY.

Merle Oberon pulls out today for Phoenix.

Frank M. Thomas back from New York jaunt.

John Murray Anderson is expected in Hollywood this week.

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and his wife head east Thursday.

Karen Morley planed to New York via American Airlines last night.

Al Shenberg will be assistant director on Metro's 'Enemy Within.'

Jimmy Stewart has turned his private plane over to Olivia de Havilland.

Chet LaRoche to Detroit tonight to pick up a car, and then into New York.

Emil Newman has completed the score for 'The Cowboy and the Blonde.'

Wanda McKay has been signed by Edward Finney for a part in 'The Pioneers,' her first western role.

Mrs. Preston Foster trained in from New Jersey yesterday after attending the funeral for her mother.

Gracie Fields benefit at the Shrine auditorium for the British War Relief Fund last Wednesday netted $9,000.

Beverly Hills Kennel Club dog show will be held at the club May 3 and 4. Mrs. Jack Oakie is in charge of entries.

Harmon Nelson, assistant producer on Kate Smith program, and Elliott Lewis, radio actor, will be in khaki by another month.

Basil Rathbone will be featured speaker at the annual Royal Sons of St. George banquet to be held in Vancouver April 23.

William Powell and his wife, Diana Lewis, leave on fortnight's holiday in New York when he finishes in 'Love Crazy.'

Morgan Ames and his wife trained in from Chicago for studio visits yesterday. Ames is an executive with the Mort Singer theatre chain.

Maureen O'Sullivan is due back early next week from vacation in Phoenix, from which she planed to New York last week for a radio broadcast.

20th-Fox basketball team, which won the national A.A.U. championship at Denver recently, is being banqueted a la stag at Cafe de Paris tonight by studio.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood is called the new capital of the fashion world, and when you look at some of the femme skimmers, you wonder whether it is a knock or a boost.

Hollywood Inside

SOME of the most expensive 'props' ever made, consisting largely of military equipment, will be utilized by Warners in three currently shooting pictures with national defense themes. United States government, through military authorities, is making an aircraft carrier, huge Boeing Flying Fortresses, dive bombers, pursuit ships, training planes and other equipment worth millions of dollars available for two features, 'Flight Patrol' and 'Dive Bomber' and a two-reel preparedness picture, 'Here Comes the Cavalry.' At Fort Bliss, Tex., today the first shot for the two-reeler will be of 17,000 cavalrymen and 250 planes passing in review before high-ranking officers. In 'Bomber,' on location at the San Diego Naval Base, Warners will have the use of a $350,000,000 aircraft carrier, 23 of the gigantic Boeing bombers, 25 dive bombers, 70 combat ships, 15 training planes and three complete crash units. Scenes for 'Patrol' on location at Alhambra, will require hundreds of planes.

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DEAL is being worked out for Tex Ritter, now winding up his last series of musical westerns at Monogram, to go to Columbia to co-star in a group of outdoor action features on that company's 1941-42 program. So far, it is understood, that new pact has not been inked but negotiations are reported in the closing stage. It is expected that Ritter will be teamed with Bill Elliott, who for the past two years has been doing westerns for Columbia, in the new group being planned. Ritter has been starring at Monogram in the musical oaters produced by Edward Finney, who brought the western unit over from Grand National three seasons ago, but Finney is said to be dickering for his services with a major lot and will not join in the new Ritter deal.

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METRO will be the only company releasing what is classed as a big picture during Holy Week when it sends out 'Men of Boystown.' Usual custom is to hold back the big product that hasn't hit the theatres until after the Easter religious ceremonies are over but due to the nature of the picture, depicting the work of Father Edward J. Flanagan in rehabilitating boys at Boystown, Neb., company feels film is a fit subject for release during that period. Additional advantage is gained due to the fact that other companies have followed the general practice of holding back their bigger features during Holy Week, leaving Metro a clear field to play for theatre trade without competition of the same class.

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THERE is a feud brewing between two male stars that may lead to fisticuffs if one goes on with his impractical joking. Jokester is noted for having a rather flat sense of humor and for playing juvenile tricks on his fellow actors. While the other actor in the same picture was singing, the funny one went to a monitor mike on another part of the stage, switched on the current and talked into the sound track. He spoiled a perfect take, one that director, crew and singer had labored to get. Prankster went into gales of laughter at his own antics, but stopped short when he was told by his victim that he would be slugged if it ever happened again.

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20TH-FOX, with its cavalcade of radio, 'The Great American Broadcast,' is in the peculiar position of not being able to use radio exploitation to its full effect. Primarily a musical, film has eight tunes by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren, none of which can be plugged over the air because of the Ascap-BMI set-up. To offset the loss of network plugs, 20th-Fox is framing a special musical trailer for theatres to educate the public and is also now working on a deal to set the tunes on the 200-odd radio stations around the country who have signed licensing agreements with Ascap.

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'LADY FROM NEW ORLEANS,' Republic's John Wayne-Ona Munson starrer, will beat Universal's 'The Flame of New Orleans,' with Marlene Dietrich and Bruce Cabot, into national release. 'Lady' will hit theatre marquees April 22 and 'Flame' will be released three days later, April 25. Universal is talking of making a premiere junket to the Louisiana locale of the film, although plans have not been fully developed. Republic also would like to have a New Orleans premiere of its picture.

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APPROXIMATELY 40,000 junior admissions weekly are being attracted to Fox-West Coast theatres in California since the circuit set up the reduced tariff plan for juves a couple of months ago. Despite the cutting of box office rates for youngsters, the average admission price for the circuit is 33½c, compared to 32c last year, it is reported by Charles P. Skouras, circuit prexy. Three years ago the average admission prrice for film houses in the Los Angeles area was between 15 and 20 cents.

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REPUBLIC will be the first studio to try out the idea of combining its press previews and exhibitor trade showings Friday afternoon at the screening of 'Sis Hopkins.' Studio is taking no chances on previewing the Judy Canova starrer in a projection room, but has obtained the Studio City theatre for the combined showing. If the 'Hopkins' plan is successful it will be adopted for the future with both press and exhibitors banding together at one showing.

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BECAUSE of growing traffic due to defense activities, train transportation for motion pictures has to be reserved weeks ahead for location units. Metro had to make arrangements last week to get freight carriers for its 'The Yearling' main production unit, slated to leave here April 20.

Warners Options Quinn

Warners yesterday picked up its option on Anthony Quinn.

John Arthur's 'Shoes'

Universal has cast John Arthur for a featured role in 'Tight Shoes.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

The good old fashioned murder film was sorrowful and grim.
The gloomy villain prowled the joint when lights were low and dim,
And now and then a shriek arose to pierce the tragic night
And audiences trembled at the victim's woeful plight.

But now the villain pulls a gun and pulls a gag likewise.
The victim sings a comic song and merrily he dies.
Detectives romp around the place and rumba all the while.
For nowadays the fans demand a murder with a smile.

★ ★ ★

'Lady Windermere's Fan' is coming back, even though fans are as scarce as bustles.

★ ★ ★

This is an appropriate time to film the biography of George M. Cohan, the greatest flag-waver of them all.

Cary Grant will have to play a dual role in 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.' It will take two of him to fill Alec Woollcott's clothes.

Madeleine Carroll, as 'The Lady In Pursuit,' chases that alluring glamour boy, Bob Hope, who catches up with her in the last reel.

Hollywood as well as London has its war sufferers. Leland Hayward lost one of his best 10% customers when Jimmy Stewart went to work for Uncle Sam.

Sooner or later, Hollywood was bound to avenge those Lampoon insults. Now Maxie Rosenbloom is going to play 'Harvard, Here I Come.'

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It ain't true what they say about Harry Carey. He is NOT retiring from pictures to write an autobiography. The young man is just getting his second wind.

★ ★ ★

When you hear of an actor retiring from pix
It is merely a quaint little whim.
A thesp is a durable fellow who sticks
Till the pictures retire from him.

★ ★ ★

Rochester has a soft job as Bing Crosby's chauffeur in 'Birth of the Blues.' He doesn't have to drive a Maxwell.

★ ★ ★

The jitterbug epidemic has spread to the Far East where the sing-song gals have become swing-song gals.

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It may be a good show, but hatcheck concessionnaires don't think much of the title, 'Hold On To Your Hats.'

★ ★ ★

'The Man With the Shovel' is not a sequel to 'The Man With the Hoe.'

Wage - hour investigators in Hollywood are puzzled by the problem, 'what is a professional?' It is simpler in the college world, where a pro is an athlete who takes a check instead of cash.

Preview

★

The Lady From Cheyenne

(*Comedy Drama*)

Universal release of a Frank Lloyd Production. Stars Loretta Young. Features Robert Preston, Edward Arnold, Gladys George, Frank Cravan, Jessie Ralph. Balance of cast: Stanley Fields, Willie Best, Samuel S. Hinds, Spencer Charters, Clare Verdera, Alan Bridge, Joseph Sawyer, Ralph Dunn, Harry Cording, Charles I. Aldrich, Dorothy Granger, Marion Martin, Gladys Blake, Sally Payne, Iris Adrian, June Wilkins, Charles Williams, Erville Alderson, Emmett Vogan, Roger Imhof, William Davidson, James Kirkwood, Emory Parnell, John Dilson, Esther Howard, Kernan Cripps, Phyllis Kennedy, Harry Stubbs, Loren Raker, Bob Larson, Delmar Watson, Murdock MacQuarrie, Lloyd Ingraham, Jessie Arnold, Harry Woods, Charles Halton, Joe Eggenton, Wade Boteler, Sue Moore, Harry Seymour, Stanley Blystone, Roger Gray. Produced and directed by Frank Lloyd. Associate producer, Jack H. Skirball. Screenplay by Warren Duff and Kathryn Scola. Based on original by Jonathan Finn and Theresa Oaks. Photography, Milton Krasner. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, John B. Goodman. Film editor, Edward Curtiss. Music director, Charles Previn. Score, Frank Skinner. Gowns, Vera West. Song by Charles Previn and Sam Lerner. Previewed March 31. Running time: 84 mins.

Frank Lloyd has taken the humorous slant on the reason and the manner in which the gallant gentry of Wyoming granted women the franchise, thereby setting an example for all the world. Lloyd doesn't claim to have followed history. He merely forewords his entertaining and showmanly presentation as the way in which it might have happened. 'The Lady From Cheyenne' is no grandiose epic. It kids the pants off some things a self-respecting epic would never dream of profaning, such as politics. It extols the wile and guile of women in winning what they want, nice women and—expedient women. Its whimsical suggestion as to how the emancipation of women may have had its genesis, out on the American frontier, in what was considered one of the rawest of the new states, is deft satire and bright funning. The telling is excellent screen narrative, the performances are colorful, the result is a piece of substantial, beguiling audience entertainment. With logical exploitation, it has every reason to expect profitable business.

Screen play by Warren Duff and Kathryn Scola, based on an original assembly of facts by Jonathan Finn and Theresa Oaks, takes the basic historical data and weaves it delightfully around a schoolma'm who became outraged at the wanton violence of men who dominated her frontier settlement and their contempt for women as human beings. She proceeds in a very feminine and astonishing way to do something about it. When 'the lady from Cheyenne' discovers that women can do nothing directly about law and order or the complexion of their town politics, she wheedles a state legis-

✤ Continued on page 8 ✤

PAR WILL PREEM 'DRAFT' AT FT. ORD IN U. S. TIEUP

Preview of Paramount's 'Caught In the Draft,' Bob Hope-Dorothy Lamour comedy, will be held May 2 at Fort Ord, military camp near Monterey, in co-operation with the Army's public relations policy. Under plan set up members of the Hollywood press and film names to make the jaunt will be guests for the day of Fort Ord officers and will be given a complete inspection of the selective service camp.

Hollywood group will travel by special train to Fort Ord with Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Stillwell, commander of the Seventh Division, acting as host, along with the 30,000 soldiers stationed there. Plans tentatively call for inspection tour, luncheon at a field mess, a parade in army 'jeeps,' display of maneuvers, boxing matches, baseball game, dinner in the army mess hall and then the preview of the picture. Reception at the officers club in the Presidio of Monterey follows showing.

Film names will include Hope, Miss Lamour, Lynne Overman, Eddie Bracken, Phyllis Ruth, Clarence Kolb, Paul Hurst, all of whom appear in the picture, plus other Paramount players whose assignments will permit junket.

Republic 'Saddlemates' Starts April 11

Republic's next for the Three Mesquiteers, 'Saddlemates,' goes before the cameras April 11, with starting date being moved up from April 25. Picture was previously titled 'Old Spanish Trail.' Lou Gray will produce. 'Saddlemates' will be the seventh for the Mesquiteers on the 1940-41 program, with one more, 'Gaucho of El Dorado,' to be made for the season.

'Vegas,' Ellington Opens In Par D.T. Switch

Paramount theatre last night yanked its dual bill of 'The Lady Eve' and the 'Roundup' after five days on third week and opens today with 'Las Vegas Nights' and the Duke Ellington ork on stage. Nine day week will be played by the new combination.

Rep April Releases

Republic will release six pictures during April, including 'Pals of the Pecos,' with the Three Mesquiteers, April 3; 'Sis Hopkins,' Judy Canova and Bob Crosby, April 12; 'Rookies On Parade,' Bob Crosby and Ruth Terry, April 17; 'Lady From New Orleans,' John Wayne and Ona Munson, April 22, and 'Singing Hills,' with Gene Autry, April 26.

Patterson in 'Starr'

Elizabeth Patterson is added to support group in 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr,' for which the title role still remains to be cast. Picture has an April 7 starting date.

Friedman With Dmytryk

Seymour Friedman will be assistant director to Edward Dmytryk on 'Betty Co-ed,' which rolls at Columbia tomorrow.

Father Flanagan Party In from Omaha Today For 'Town' Preview

Bishop James Hugh Ryan and Father Edward J. Flanagan, accompanied by party of nine, arrive here today from Omaha on the Los Angeles Limited to attend the luncheon to be given tomorrow at Metro studio by Louis B. Mayer in conjunction with nationwide broadcast over NBC of preview of 'Men of Boystown.'

Some 300 guests representing all studios are expected to attend.

Casey, Padway Discuss Metro With Mannix

Pat Casey, Producer-Labor contact, and Joseph A. Padway, general counsel for the American Federation of Labor, spent some time yesterday in conference with E. J. Mannix, general manager of Metro. Padway also is attorney for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. Padway is expected to head east today to report to Prexy George E. Browne and other IATSE officials on the Wage-Hour hearings conducted here on disputed classifications. The latter included sound technicians, cameramen, grips and property men.

SWG Talks AMG

The Screen Writers Guild executive board met last night to receive reports from committees negotiating with Producers and the Artists Managers Guild. The next meeting between the scriveners and company executives is scheduled for Friday night. Every effort is being made to expedite negotiations because the current skeleton agreement expires April 10.

Hebert Joins Goldwyn

Bill Hebert takes over post as publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn (14), replacing Myron Lustig, who has resigned to enter business with Gus, Lou Metzger and Harry Srere. Contract between Hebert and Goldwyn was inked yesterday and flack will complete present writing commitment to Collier's magazine before stepping into new duties.

Arlen Flooded In

Flood waters yesterday prevented Richard Arlen from getting in from his ranch to Universal to resume on 'Men of the Timberline,' with Andy Devine, following return Saturday of company from location at Kernville. Director Jack Rawlins shot around Arlen all day.

Sibyl Bowan to Mexico

Sibyl Bowan has left for Mexico City for role in 'The Mad Senorita,' Miguel Torres production.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

DIRECTOR CHARLES RIESNER, who has written several books, including one on child psychology, is out with another tome, 'Between Salaries,' or 'Short Notes of a Long Memory,' telling of his work as a comedy director with many of the top stars of the silents, and how he believes each of them influenced him in his life and his labors. . . . Costumes for Merle Oberon in Alexander Korda's 'Illusions' will be designed by Vertes. Role calls for 32 different costumes. Also contributing a number of designs to the production is Walter Plunkett. . . . Harry Carey will tell cadets at the Black-Foxe Military Institute his experiences while making 'Trader Horn' in Africa, as guest speaker at the Campfire Night tonight. . . . Garry Owen, who goes into a featured role in 'Soldiers in the Saddle,' Warners two-reel national defense short being filmed at Fort Bliss, Tex., has the same name as an heroic cavalry horse after which the Garry Owen division at the Texas fort is named. Horse, long since dead, is the subject of a statue on fort grounds.

After discussing preview junkets with friends, Preston Foster yesterday wanted to know where Dante's 'Inferno' will be previewed if it is remade by 20th-Fox.

THERE will be actors and actresses entered in events at the 'Racing Jamboree' to be staged May 4 at Gilmore Stadium for the benefit of the Mount Sinai Hospital and its Free Clinic. The 100-yard dash will be for male stars and a jumping contest will be for the ladies. A zebra will race against horses and camels and one feature of the show will be a 200-yard 'strip tease' dash. . . . Phil Arnold has been drafted and is now stationed at Camp Callan, San Diego.

Entire cast of Bob Hope's radio show will be on hand tomorrow night at the Wilshire Bowl for the opening of Skinnay Ennis' band. Phil Harris goes one-nighting.

GREGORY RATOFF trained from New York yesterday, checking in at Columbia (3) to begin preparing his next picture, 'Tonight Belongs to Us.' . . . Leon Navara's band and the dancing Theodores open Thursday night at La Conga. . . . Edith Blum, daughter of Sally and Myrt Blum, marries Gene Rubin at the home of her grandmother, Mrs. James Hellman, on Saturday night. . . . Of interest to Hollywood members of the Green Room Club in New York is the news that this organization, recently revived, will stage one of its 'revels' in New York April 28. This will be the first gathering of this kind in 11 years. Charles Withers of 'Hellzapoppin' has been chosen 'Jest of Honor.'

GEORGE WAGGNER Directed "MAN-MADE MONSTER" Universal
Management
RUTH COLLIER Inc. Agency

Union Leaders, Disney Execs in Confabs On AF of L Drive

Union leaders representing the Transportation Drivers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and other crafts contacted Walt Disney officials yesterday, as the American Federation of Labor opened a drive to unionize the lot. Demands already have been made by the Screen Cartoonists Guild and the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors. The Screen Publicists Guild and other independent groups also are organized on the lot and are expected to co-operate in the union drive.

Joseph A. Padway, general counsel for the AFofL, who came here to represent the studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes at the Wage-Hour hearings, is looking over the Coast union situation and is expected to be consulted on the Disney matter. Meyer Lewis, western director of the AFofL, and George Meany, national secretary-treasurer of the AFofL, are due here in the next few days.

Meany and Lewis will arrive today unless they are called to Seattle from San Francisco. In the latter event they will reach here Thursday. In the meantime the Disney shots are being called by Aubrey Blair, AFofL international representative; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and George E. Bodle, attorney for the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Greek Relief in F-WC Houses $92,649

Greek War Relief collections in Fox-West Coast theatres in California amount to $92,649, it was stated yesterday by Charles P. Skouras, of which Southern California circuit houses accounted for $64,000 and Northern California theatres $27,742. An additional $17,500 is expected as the contribution from Southern California independent theatres and around $15,000 from unaffiliated houses in the northern part of the state, for around $125,000 from all theatre collections. Southern California, to date, has collected upwards of $300,000 for the Greek relief, Skouras said.

'Doe,' 'Girl' Holdovers

Warners will hold 'Meet John Doe' for a fourth week at their Downtown and Hollywood theatres. 'Nice Girl?' will be held for second week at the RKO and Pantages theatres, starting next Friday.

Obituary

DR. LLOYD SILVERSTEIN

Dr. Lloyd Silverstein, who recently married Helen Hoffman, niece of Louis B. Mayer, died in San Francisco yesterday. Mrs. Mayer has gone to the bay city to assist in funeral arrangements.

Posies

Banquet commemorating Jack Benny's 10 years in radio will be held May 1 in the Biltmore Bowl. NBC stages the ceremony and will give it a transcontinental airing.

Skouras Cites Huge Profits Expected via Defense Areas

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

ment defense money, around $2,900,000,000 will be spent in territories served by National Theatre Corporation houses the F-WC chief stated. He then proceeded to give a breakdown of the various amounts to be laid out in the several California operating districts. Greatest sum wiil be spent in the Los Angeles No. 4 district, to which Stan Meyer has just been appointed district manager succeeding Dick Dickson, resigned. Slightly more than $1,000,000,000 has been earmarked for this territory, embracing $390,000,000 directly by the U. S. government and $616,000,000 in orders not completed at the Douglas and Vultee plants.

Defense expenditures in other California districts, as outlined by Skouras, follow: Cullen Espy's Los Angeles territory, $36,300,000; B. V. Sturdivant's district, $56,300,000 in addition to $262,000,000 at the Burbank plane factories ordered by outside governments; George Bowser's San Diego and Long Beach areas, $373,500,000 by the government and $330,000,000 outside; Lou Christ's Arizona district, $4,700,000; Lou Rosenberg's San Luis Obispo area, $9,900,000; Charles Thall's metropolitan district in San Francisco, $260,000,000; Dick Spier's district, $160,000,000; Harry Sipel's territory, $14,500,000, and Nick Turner's Inland Northern California area $268,000.

In launching the Spyros Skouras drive, which officially starts April 13, and continues until July 13, Skouras told the nearly 300 district and house managers and home office employes gathered in the Fiesta room at the Ambassador hotel, that he was confident the Northern California territory, with a quota of $38,000 per week above par, would cop first honors, and that Southern California, with a quota of $68,000 over par per week, should run an easy second.

$31,000 IN PRIZES

Prizes to be awarded in the drive will total around $31,000, about $4,000 more than a year ago, Skouras said, with an additional $5,000 to be hung up for two special weeks yet to be worked out. There will also be $7,700 awarded to 'the forgotten man,' the F-WC prexy said, this sum going to operating chiefs not directly connected with actual theatre management, such as bookers, etc.

Yesterday's session was presided over by Arch Bowles, with Skouras and his various aides outlining the details of the new business drive. Government consent decree was discussed by Charles A. Buckley, head of circuit's legal department, who voiced a plea that Fox West Coast managers live up to the letter of the decree, no matter what other operators might do. There has been no admission of guilt in setting up the decree, Buckley said, the agreement relating solely to further conduct of distributors and theatres.

Summed up briefly, Buckley said, the consent compels the distributors to trade show their product before selling; compels the licensing of pictures in groups of not more than five; compels the abandonment of the practice of forcing shorts; prohibits distributors and affiliated circuits from buying pictures for different exchange centers, such as buying in Southern California for Northern California; sets down rules regarding adequate clearance; provides for arbitration, and places limitations on undue expansion for a three-year period.

There is nothing alarming in the consent decree, Buckley insisted, and the principal worry for theatre managers is that of clearance.

PENSION PLANS

Buckley also dwelt briefly on National Theatres' proposed retirement or pension plans, stating that 25% of company's candy sales would be devoted to an employes' fund, from which it is possible that after one year some definite retirement or pension plan may be evolved. Buckley stated that profits from candy sales in the theatres now run around $6,500 to $7,000 per week, so that approximately $1,600 can be devoted immediately each week to this special fund.

Skouras touched on proposed circuit buying plans, announcing that for the time being the F-WC buying would be centered in the hands of Larry Kent, Cullen Espy and Charles Thall, and with Ed Alperson transferred from Chicago to head the buying for the Pacific Northwest houses.

STURDIVANT ON DAIS

Managers were given full accessory details by Andy Krappman, and B. V. Sturdivant spoke briefly on circuit organization and the ABC's of show business. Dick Dickson made his swan song address, and details of a $3,000,000 theatre expansion and rehabilitation plan were outlined by Skouras.

Dean Hyskell and Dickson were acclaimed by Skouras for their fine job of getting the convention room in a fitting atmosphere for the gathering.

Skouras and various aides pulled out last night for San Francisco en route to Portland, where the next of a series of drive meetings will be staged. Other confabs are scheduled for Colorado Springs, Kansas City and Milwaukee.

KGFJ, AFRA Sig Deal

Station KGFJ has signed a Guild Shop contract with the American Federation of Radio Artists covering staff announcers. Deal carries a minimum wage clause and other provisions of regular AFRA pacts. Negotiations leading to contract were handled by Attorney I. B. Kornblum, AFRA executive secretary.

Wolfe Gilbert to NY

Wolfe Gilbert leaves Friday for New York to attend meeting April 8 of Songwriters Protective Assn. and general session of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, scheduled for later in the month. While east he'll pass the Jewish holiday with his parents.

'Premiere' Lensing

Shooting on 'World Premiere' got underway at Paramount yesterday with Ted Tetzlaff directing and Sol. C. Siegel producing. John Barrymore, Ricardo Cortez and Frances Farmer head the cast.

Wald, Saper Assigned Production of WB 'Navy Blues' Film

Warners yesterday signed Seymour Felix to stage the dance numbers for 'Navy Blues,' and set Jerry Wald and Jack Saper as associate producers on the picture. Shooting starts April 15. Wald and Richard Macaulay did the screen play from an original by Arthur T. Horman.

Arthur Schwartz is composing the music and Al Dubin is writing the lyrics. Felix's most recent assignment was 'Tin Pan Alley' at 20th-Fox. Lloyd Bacon will direct.

F-WC Launching First Candy Drive

First candy sale drive in the history of Fox-West Coast Theatres will be launched as part of the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, it was announced yesterday by Earl Rice who has been named to head the drive. Theatre standings will be computed based on the improvements shown during the drive in excess of the par established. Par in each theatre is based on the average gross sales during the past 10 weeks. Prizes aggregating $970 will be hung up, to be divided among four districts, and an additional $30 is offered for any theatre manager or staff member who submits the most practical idea for stimulating sales. An additional prize of $1,000 is to be distributed among the districts if the entire division shows a 10% increase over the 10 weeks average.

Bert Gordon Rejoining Cantor in NY (2)

Bert Gordon has returned east to join Eddie Cantor's airshow April 2 as a regular with his 'Mad Russian' routine. Reunion with Cantor is coincidental with the guest bookings of Oscar Levant and Hattie McDaniel.

Dramatics for Ether

Dramatic insert on Kate Smith's broadcast Friday night will be from Paramount's 'The Round-Up.' On guest list will be Richard Dix, Preston Foster, Don Wilson and Susan Hayward. On Parsons Lifebuoy show the same night will be Paulette Goddard in a sequence from 'Pot o' Gold.'

Boswell with Templeton

Connie Boswell does a guest shot with Alec Templeton over NBC Friday night.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'Wild Bill Hits the Trail' to 'The Son of Davy Crockett.'

EVERY TELEGRAM GETS INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION AT Postal Telegraph

CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

Chaplin, Others Tell Of Schenck, Moskowitz Honesty, Integrity

New York, March 31.—Charles Chaplin and other tops in the picture business paraded to the witness stand in Federal court here today to testify as to the honesty and business integrity of Joseph M. Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz. The Schenck-Moskowitz big guns roared at the opening of the defense, with the government formally resting its case and Judge Grover Moscowitz denying seven applications to strike from the indictment and to dismiss the charges of income tax evasion.

Four character witnesses were on the stand, headed by Charles Chaplin, who declared he first met Schenck in 1914. The actor described the formation of the United Artists Corp., and declared that after the formation it was decided to secure a man 'who had a keen sense of business, a man in whom they all had confidence, a man whom the industry trusted, a man, above all, whom we could trust, Joseph M. Schenck, to head our business.'

HELD COMPANY TOGETHER

Chaplin stated Schenck held the company together, that he was the 'appeaser,' settling arguments, while the start depended on his 'generosity, kindliness and judgment.' He declared 'ours is a great friendship, that is why I am here. Everybody is Joe Schenck's friend.' Chaplin testified the executive's reputation for honesty and integrity is 'good'.

The next witness, Irving Berlin, told about Moskowitz, stating he had known him for 20 years, that he 'never heard a word against him,' and that his reputation for honesty and integrity is 'excellent.'

Phil S. Gibson, chief justice of the California Supreme court, the next witness, testified he met Schenck in 1923. Since then he said he had associated with the film executive in business and a social way, especially when Schenck was chairman of the Infantile Paralysis campaign in California, and when he was engaged in other charity and social work. He said Schenck's reputation was the 'highest'. He declared he flew here voluntarily to testify.

GOLDEN ON STAND

John Golden, legit producer, next declared he had known Moskowitz for a dozen years. He said Moskowitz is 'a good boy—a fine, competent business man,' and that his reputation in the industry is 'very good.'

The government then blocked a move to call four internal revenue men on the grounds that agents could not be allowed to testify unless permission of the Treasury Department is secured. An attempt will be made to get permission. The last witness was Carol Hall, certified public accountant, who continues on the stand tomorrow. Will H. Hays is expected to testify tomorrow, James Farley on Thursday.

Guestar Pat O'Brien

Pat O'Brien makes a guest call on Silver Theatre broadcast April 13.

BEAUTIFUL HOME WITH POOL
Charming 2-story residence (not Spanish) with lovely grounds. Unusually large master suite, 2 other bedrooms besides servants' quarters. A real buy. Under $30,000.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

NEWSHOUNDS COVERING H'D FORM CO-OP ASSN.

Los Angeles and Hollywood newspaper correspondents and columnists banded together yesterday into an informal association aimed at co-operation with the motion picture industry on mutual problems. Association was formed at meeting at the Brown Derby, attended by 18 newspapermen from wire services, syndicates and local dailies. Douglas Churchill, of the New York Times, was appointed temporary chairman, and group plans meetings at regular intervals to discuss Hollywood news problems and other matters.

Committee consisting of Louella O. Parsons, Edwin Schallert, Fred Othman (UP), Harold Heffernan (NANA), Wolfe Kaufman (Newsweek) and Churchill was formed at yesterday's session to arrange a meeting with the Publicity Directors Committee within the next few days for discussion of group's general purpose and problems of immediate importance.

Members of the association, in addition to those already named, include John Truesdell, Esquire Syndicate; James Francis Crow, Look; Hedda Hopper, Des Moines Register and Tribune Syndicate; Virginia Wright, Los Angeles News; Richard Pollard, Life; Sidney Skolsky, New York Post Syndicate; Jimmie Fidler, McNaught Syndicate; Harrison Carroll, King Features; James Starr, Herald-Express; Hub Keavy, Associated Press; Robin Coons, United Press, and Ralph Jordan, International News Service.

'Shovel' Before Cameras

'The Man With the Shovel,' last on the 20th-Fox 1940-41 schedule, goes into production today after delay of one day to make final script changes. George Montgomery and Osa Massen share top roles. Ray McCarey directs.

Planted

Warners

Herbert Haywood, Hugh Sothern, 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Max Hoffman, Jr., 'The Gentle People.'

Bill Phillips, 'Dive Bomber.'

Lottie Palfi, 'Underground.'

Charles Irwin, 'The Flight Patrol.'

John Dilson, 'Sergeant York.'

Republic

Frank Sully, 'Thunder Over the Ozarks.'

Lee Phelps, Guy Usher, George Chandler, 'The Gay Vagabond.'

Pauline Drake, Maurice Cass, 'Country Fair.'

Metro

Ernie Alexander, 'Blossoms In the Dust.'

Aldrich Bowker, 'Love Crazy.'

Reginald Owen, 'Lady Be Good.'

20th-Fox

Leyland Hodgson, Larry McGrath, 'Miami.'

Hans Joby, Knud Kreuger, 'Man Hunt.'

Harry Sherman

Minor Watson, 'The Parson of Panamint.'

Paramount

Andrew Tombes, 'World Premiere.'

IA TAKES OVER PIC COSTUME MAKERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

a contract covering wages, hours and conditions.

Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor international representative who organized the Costumers, said the merger of the two groups eliminated the possibility of any jurisdictional beefs and welded the group into one of the strongest studio locals. It will have a total membership in excess of 800.

Lynch Litigation Out

New York, March 31.—Suit of David Stoneman, Boston attorney, against Stephen Lynch, former Paramount director, for $250,000 has been discontinued in New York Supreme court. Action sought monies for legal services to Lynch during the Par reorganization from 1933 to 1935.

Tim Holter Rides Mon.

Fifth in the series of six Tim Holt westerns, so far untitled, is scheduled to roll Monday with Edward Killy directing for RKO. Bert Gilroy produces.

Fredric March Topper For Warners Film On Spence Novel

Fredric March will star in Warners 'One Foot In Heaven,' novel of a minister by Hartzell Spence. March reports to the studio in about four weeks, and picture will roll in late May or early June. Casey Robinson is writing the screenplay.

Rev. Norman Vincent Peale, of the Marble Collegiate Church, New York, will join Warners in an advisory capacity when shooting begins.

Vincent, Cocking Ogle Workers at Metro

Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings branch of the Wage-Hour Division, visited Metro yesterday where he was given an opportunity to view the jobs actually performed by workers whose classification under the 40-hour week will depend upon the recommendations Vincent makes to Washington. He was accompanied by Eldred M. Cocking, survey analyst of the Division, and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact.

Births

DAUGHTER was born last week to Mrs. Margaret Prince, daughter of Les Swope of the Hollywood Theatres Corp. The father, Frank Prince, is learning show business with Fox West Coast and is currently working as an assistant manager in Glendale.

LADY FROM NEW ORLEANS
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

"We . . . in New Orleans . . . we know how to live . . . how to have fun. Why, New Orleans is the nearest thing to Paris in America."

JOHN WAYNE • ONA MUNSON
RAY MIDDLETON • HENRY STEPHENSON
HELEN WESTLEY • Bernard Vorhaus — Director

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William Saal
Special Representative

Albert J. Cohen
Associate Producer

Robert North
Associate Producer

Armand L. Schaefer
Associate Producer

Joseph Kane
Associate Producer

Bernard Vorhaus
Director

Joseph Santley
Director

John H. Auer
Director

THE FASTEST GROWING STUDIO AND ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD!

M. J. SIEGEL
President Republic Productions, Inc.

Leonard H. Fields
Associate Producer

Harry Grey
Associate Producer

Al Wilson
Production Mgr

George Sherman
Producer-Director

Louis Gray
Associate Producer

George Arthur
Associate Producer

H. S. Brown, Jr.
Associate Producer

E. H. Goldstein
General Manager

William Witney
Director

Cy Feuer
Musical Director

John Victor Mackay
Art Director

C. L. Lootens
Chief Sound Engineer

Harriet Parsons
Producer-Director

Bob Mark
Make-up Dept. Head

Herbert Norsch
Sound Effects Mgr

Murray Seldeen
Editorial Chief

Peggy Gray
Head Hairdresser

Daniel J. Bloomberg
Sound Dept Head

Al H. Horwitz
Camera Dept. Head

Jim Hathaway
Director Trailers

R. W. Altschuler
Director of Purchases

Paul Guerin
Chief Electrical Dept

REPUBLIC STUDIO EXECUTIVES

Republic is proud to introduce the key men of its able, enthusiastic studio organization. Graduates of America's foremost universities, colleges, and technical schools and widely experienced in all aspects of production, they bring wide alents and consummate skill to the fastest growing of all motion picture studios.

Jack English
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Maurice A. Hanline
Story Editor

Adele Palmer
Chief Women's Stylist

Walter D. Compton
Director Publicity

Ralph A. Oberg
Super. Construction

Charles A. Cashon
Director of Stills

Bud Thackery
Process Photo Chief

Robert Wilson Webb
Casting Director

Howard Lydecker
Special Effects Director

Pierre Valin
Transportation Mgr

Morris Braun
Prop Dept Head

Robert Howard Ramsay
Chief Men's Stylist

Hyman J. Glick
Comptroller

Martin Broones
Associate Producer

Eileen O'Hearn Debut Pic, Col's 'Obituary,' Lenses Tomorrow

Start of the tentatively titled 'Obituary' at Columbia has been put over one day, picture now going before the cameras tomorrow. Charles Barton directs with Tommy Flood as assistant director under the production guidance of Jack Fier.

Cast is headed by Frank Craven, Edgar Buchanan, Roger Pryor and Eileen O'Hearn, former Los Angeles Times stenographer making her picture debut.

SAG Tells Kate Smith Of Its Opposition to Free Air Talent

The Screen Actors Guild yesterday was readying a letter to Kate Smith advising her of the opposition of the Guild to the use of free talent on air shows. It was stated that attached to the letter would be copies of all correspondence between the Motion Picture Relief Fund and the Screen Actors Guild, and between the SAG and MPRF and Louella O. Parsons.

The SAG added that copies of all correspondence in the Parsons case, as well as articles printed on it in the newspapers were being sent to all talent agents so they would be guided accordingly.

Carbonara Scores '16th'

Gerard Carbonara has been assigned to do the musical score for 'The Night of January 16th' at Paramount.

HAYS, RE-ELECTED MPPDA HEAD, SLAPS TNEC BLAST

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

duced pay from the former $100,000 annual wage, in effect about three and a half years.

Carl E. Milliken was re-elected secretary, while George Borthwick, assistant treasurer, was named treasurer and a member of the directorate in place of Col. Frederick Herron, now in active army service. Milliken has taken over Herron's foreign division work.

Probably the most startling part of the Hays annual report was a slap taken at the Temporary National Economic Committee's blast at the industry. It follows in part:

'It is interesting to note that the recent monograph published about trade practices in motion pictures and the screen's codes of self-regulation reviews legislation, litigation and arbitration, and finds them all wanting. The statement is so keen about the forest that it overlooks the trees—the essential factors by which the industry grew up. We cannot quarrel, however, with a conclusion reached in the monograph that no present patent medicine remedies, no simple solutions, and no infallible formulae exist for any problems in this industry.

'On the contrary, to quote from this monograph, issued under the auspices of TNEC, and written without any hearing or submission on the part of producers, distributors or exhibitors, what the industry needs "more than anything else" is intelligent and sympathetic study.

WHOLESALE CRITICISM

'The screen is too prominent a medium for criticism, right or wrong, not to be constantly leveled at it. Wholesome criticism allows for constant self-examination and stimulates our progress; baseless criticism gives us opportunity to establish facts about the industry.'

The motion picture industry, facing 'an unparalleled opportunity for service in this crisis of events,' is rising fully to the occasion, Hays declared in his report.

'The responsibilities undertaken by the industry on every front of total defense,' Hays asserted, 'demand greater vigilance than ever at the dykes of self-regulation. Our pictures must serve the entertainment needs of a nation in possibly its greatest historic moment. Entertainment has a more responsible function than ever.'

Hays paid a tribute to the trade press of the industry in his report. 'It is not only a medium for the exchange of information among all branches of the industry,' he said, 'but it is able to survey our problems as a whole and render constructive service in the execution of our programs.'

CITES H'WOOD'S RECORD

'The high civic consciousness displayed by members of the industry never has been more clearly reflected than through their relief, charity and community activities in Hollywood. Members of the industry,' Hays said, 'have been taking their place in the civic life and social services of their communities and the nation. The volunteer services of many have been made available to the government.'

Preview 'Lie' Thursday

Press preview of Warners 'The Great Lie,' starring Bette Davis, will be held at Warners Beverly Hills theatre Thursday at 2:30 p.m. Picture will have its world premiere on Miss Davis' birthday, April 5, at Littleton, New Hampshire, at the Premier theatre there.

Lubitsch Papers Filed

Certificate to end the affairs of the Ernst Lubitsch Productions, Inc., was filed with the secretary of state yesterday. Sol Lesser was president of the concern. Corporation was organized May 12, 1939.

Film Preview

☙ Continued from page 3 ☙

lature into passing a bill which gave women the vote and permitted the impanelment of the first woman jury. A love story is neatly entwined with the political maneuvers, and some ladies who didn't then rate the name, helped pave the way for the legislative precedent, in scenes which provoke much of the legend's amusement.

Loretta Young delivers one of her top enactments as the doughty school teacher who refuses to be bullied by the town's ruthless robber baron and his henchmen. She stabilizes her character very carefully as a naive, honest and strangely candid woman but in no sense a caricature. And in that she had of course the shrewd collaboration of Producer - director Lloyd who guided the comedy very carefully, effecting an adroit admixture of character and situation humor with strong melodramatic elements to give it excitement and suspense.

As antagonist, Edward Arnold opposes Miss Young with a well proportioned role as the lawless promoter.

Robert Preston persuasively plays the courtly young lawyer, mouthpiece for Arnold, who manages to keep all the skullduggery nice and legal until his love for the schoolma'am about-faces him. Frank Cravan has a solid part as the courageous editor who helps the women in their battle for the vote. Gladys George contributes a choice performance as spokeswoman for the ladies-of-the-parlor who are intrigued by the idea of the vote and help soften up the legislators to pass the bill. In the group with Miss George, Dorothy Granger and Marion Martin also are in evidence. Jessie Ralph, Stanley Fields, Joseph Sawyer, Roger Imhof, Samuel S. Hinds, Spencer Charters, Charles Halton, Wade Boteler are prominent in lesser parts. Willie Best creates a striking impression as the legislature cloakroom attendant whose advice to Miss Young contains gems of political technique and spur her on to victory.

Lloyd's direction emphasizes the comedy at all times, but also marches the story along with bold dramatic connectives, as when the roughs beat up the editor, burn the schoolhouse, kill the man who challenges Arnold's rule and hold up the train in an effort to kidnap the schoolteacher on her return from the Cheyenne capital. All this is pitched against backgrounds and sets carefully devised to preserve the atmosphere of early Wyoming days. Deserving a big share in this authentic creation is the art direction of Jack Otterson and the excellent photography of Milton Krasner.

Drab attire of Miss Young during early part of the story is well calculated not alone to create sound character but to enhance the contrast when, later, she bedecks herself gorgeously under tutelage of the honky-tonk gals to bedizen the legislators and the governor. The gowns are Vera West's.

Femme chorus sings 'Ladies From Paree' by Charles Previn and Sam Lerner.

Col Says Distribution, Production Must Be Industry Combo

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

to 1939 out of 9,169 features produced the majors made 3,581 and independents 5,588. Company cites the competition of radio which spent $45,000,000 on talent, and the high costs of original plays, in increasing production costs, thus necessitating a distribution outlet for a producer.

In its own case Columbia says it was discriminated against by the majors who refused to distribute its product, or gave harsh terms, necessitating its securing money for the formation of its own exchange system.

Company lists loans and borrowing from 1935 to date, showing it lent as many times as it borrowed and equally from independents and majors. It pointed out it gets nothing for nothing, showing how it paid RKO $50,000 above Katharine Hepburn's salary in borrowing the actress for its film, 'Holiday.'

Columbia splits its product with independents and majors and declares this suit is res adjudicata as judgment has already been entered in the Interstate Circuit suit in Texas. Dismissal of the action is asked.

Leah Baird to Receive Termer at Warners

Warners will sign Leah Baird, top film player of silent pictures, to a term contract today and she will have roles in 'Underground' and 'Bad Men of Missouri.' Victor Jory was given a featured spot in 'Bad Men' yesterday.

Thorpe Ogles Harbor

Director Richard Thorpe and unit production manager, Art Smith, are on two-day prowl of Los Angeles harbor for Metro's tuna fishing yarn, 'Lazy Bones,' in which Wallace Beery and Shirley Temple are to be costarred.

Story Buys

After seeing a rough cut of 'Rookies On Parade' in New York last week, Herbert Yates and M. J. Siegel authorized Republic purchases of two more similar stories. These are 'Devil Dogs On Parade,' by Lester Miller, and 'Gobs In Blue' by Harold Turner.

AT THE DEBUT RECITAL **Biltmore Music Room,**

MORYA DAWN

TEN YEAR OLD LYRIC SOPRANO

Carl Bronson, critic Herald-Express, said:

"Morya Dawn sang with vocal security and is a genuine singing wonder who vocally delivered Mozart, Fourdrain, Ravel, Staub, and Rebikoff with keen suggestive realization from low to lofty heights. There was no suggestion of immature exploitation."

MORYA DAWN is a pupil of

ALICE GENTLE

1911 Hillcrest Road **HE. 2890**

Johnston Arriving To Ready Mono Confab Plans

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, arrives today from New York, where he has been the past few weeks working out details of new financing for the company's 1941-42 program of 53 features and westerns. Results of Johnston's negotiations and plan of operations for the new season will be submitted to the franchise holders at their annual convention, to be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Roosevelt hotel.

Conventioneers leave Chicago today aboard a special Santa Fe car after gathering there to make the trip in a body to the Coast. Westbound party, consisting of southern, eastern and midwestern franchise holders, arrives Thursday. Early arrival here for the three-day meeting is John Franconi, of Dallas, who checked in yesterday with his wife for a few days Hollywood looksee before business gets underway.

CBS 1940 PROFIT $2.91 PER SHARE

■ Continued from page 1 ■

$4,806,000 or $2.80 a share estimated in the preliminary report early in February. This is virtually the same net as in 1939 or $2.91 per share. Increase in profits is explained by changes in excess profits tax made March 7 of this year. Gross income amounted to $50,912,063 as against $42,845,393 in 1939.

Jack Benny's Troupe East for Benefit

Jack Benny headed a party comprising his writers, Bill Morrow and Ed Beloin; Harry Baldwin, secretary, and Lou Cowan, manager of radio's Quiz Kids, to Chicago last night via Union Pacific for a Greek war relief program April 2, on which he will appear. Group streamlines back April 5. Also on the train was Grove Patterson, editor of Toledo Blade.

Set Clark, D'Agostino

Carroll Clark has been assigned to handle the art direction on 'True to Form,' which David Butler will produce and direct for RKO. Albert D'Agostino gets similar assignment on 'Unexpected Uncle,' Erich Pommer production which Tay Garnett will direct.

'Courtesy' Gets Ducking

Rain yesterday hampered conclusion in filming of 'Military Courtesy,' which Director Irving Pichel is making for the Motion Picture Research Council and the U. S. Army. Regimental parade at Fort MacArthur remains to be shot.

Assigned to 'Good'

Six Hits and a Miss will be featured in Metro's musical, 'Lady Be Good.'

a.m. Dailies

Wife Sues Jim Thorpe—

Jim Thorpe, reported lecturing in the east on topics of health, has been sued for divorce by Mrs. Freeda Thorpe. Hero of the 1912 Olympic games at Stockholm had acted in several films. Mrs. Thorpe asks reasonable alimony for her four sons.

UA LINEUP GIVEN KELLY FOR REGIONAL CONFABS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

plan ideas, titles and cast for the new product. With the 20 definite, Kelly feels that the UA organization may be able to get close to 30 for the season.

Though company has been discussing for many years the idea of selling certain of the product in block groups and others individually, no decision has been arrived at so far, with possibility merchandising for new season will be as heretofore.

Murray Silverstone, UA operating head, is due to leave New York for Hollywood on Friday to confer on quotas of pictures various UA producers will make for forthcoming season and also confer with John M. Stahl and Clarence Brown on possibility of their establishing their own units to release through the company next year. Contract of Brown, who has been at Metro for around 15 years, has expired, and although a new one has been proffered by Metro it has not been signatured. Stahl is currently at Columbia.

Cartoonist Charges Against Disney Given Yager

A conference was held at the National Labor Relations Board yesterday on the unfair labor practice charges filed against the Walt Disney studio by the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The board was represented by George Yager, chief field examiner, with Attorney George E. Bodle appearing for the Cartoonists.

A large number of affidavits from Disney employes were turned over to Yager to be included with the exhibits. It is probable that the board will be ready to recommend a hearing date by the end of this week.

The Screen Cartoonists Guild charges that Disney officials have been sponsoring a company union, and that efforts have been made to intimidate workers and prevent them from joining the Guild. The SCG now claims to represent a big majority of the 700 employes.

Writer Sues Chaplin Over 'Dictator' Dance

New York, March 31.—Charles DaHaven, dancer and writer, filed suit in U. S. District court today against Charles Chaplin and United Artists Corporation, charging plagiarism of a dance called 'Mulligan and Mulligan From the West, Follies of 1776' in 'The Great Dictator.' The plaintiff claims that Chaplin's balloon dance in the film infringes on his 'comedy balloon dance,' which is part of 'Mulligan and Mulligan.' An injunction, accounting of profits and damages are asked.

Colors 'Strings'

Bernard Herzbrun has been assigned art director post on 'Scattergood Pulls the Strings,' second in the series being produced by Pyramid for RKO release. Paul White has also been signed for the role of Hipp, replacing Willie Best who is tied up at Warners. Picture is slated to start shooting tomorrow at RKO-Pathe.

'Cargo' for Considine

'Cargo of Innocence' is the next production for John W. Considine, Jr., at Metro. Screen play, just completed by R. C. Sherriff and Commander H. Haislip, deals with British destroyer of first World War being used in present conflict.

Mura at Biltbowl

Corinna Mura, Latin-America's gift to American niteries, opens April 3 in Biltmore Bowl. Singer makes her first Coast appearance after a round of the New York night spots.

Ill in Pix

DOROTHY LAMOUR suffering from a light attack of influenza, causing shift in shooting schedule on 'Aloma of the South Seas' at Paramount.

Marion Orford Here

Marion Orford, of Universal's New York publicity office, in from the east yesterday for a two-week visit to the studio.

Small Names Nelson As Whelan Aide On 'G-Man,' Going (21)

Sam Nelson has been set by Edward Small as assistant director to Tim Whelan on 'G-Man Versus Scotland Yard,' going into work (21). Nelson just completed similar chore for Howard Hughes on 'The Outlaw.'

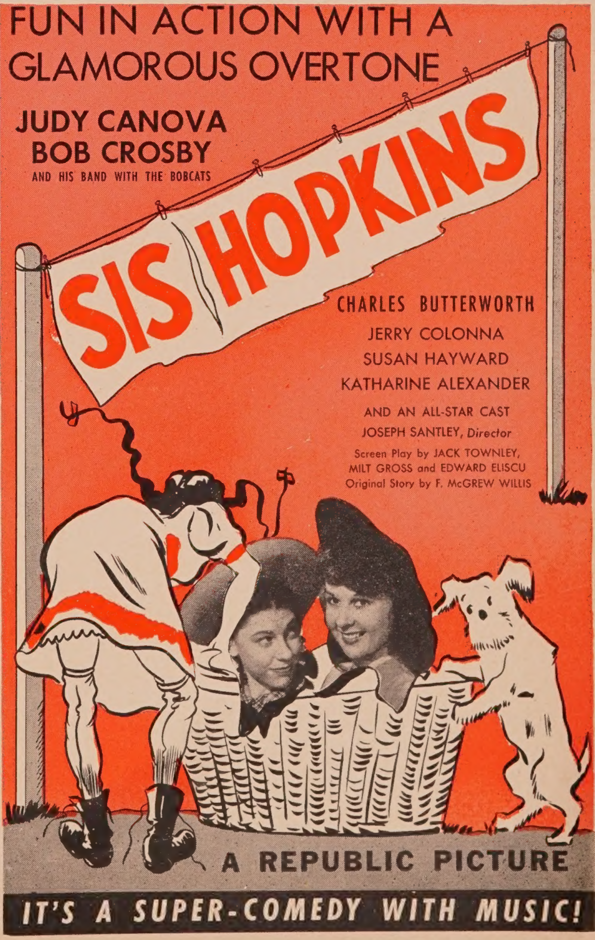
Writers E. Lloyd Sheldon and Jack DeWitt turned in the first script on the Small production yesterday and expect to complete the final shooting script within the next 10 days.

Havens Havana Crew Out for 'Cruise'

Director James Havens and five technicians leave for Havana tomorrow to shoot Technicolor backgrounds for 20th-Fox's 'Caribbean Cruise.' Producer William LeBaron may send several members of the cast to Cuba later, including Betty Grable and Carmen Miranda. Who will get dramatic directorship has not yet been set, nor exact starting date, although it is on the slate for May.

Marriott in Films

John Marriott, Negro butler in the stage production of 'The Little Foxes,' has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn to repeat the role in the play's picturization.


FUN IN ACTION WITH A GLAMOROUS OVERTONE
JUDY CANOVA
BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND WITH THE BOBCATS
SIS HOPKINS
CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA
SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER
AND AN ALL-STAR CAST
JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director
Screen Play by JACK TOWNLEY, MILT GROSS and EDWARD ELISCU
Original Story by F. McGREW WILLIS
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
IT'S A SUPER-COMEDY WITH MUSIC!

New Negotiators Will Handle Demands of Directors Guild

Demand of the Screen Directors Guild for minimum salary scales for directors is being taken out of the hands of the Producer-SDG Conciliation Committee, and will be negotiated by committees representing the two groups. George Stevens is chairman of the Guild committee, while Y. Frank Freeman is expected to head the Producer delegation.

The following statement was handed out by the SDG yesterday: 'The Producers Conciliation Committee (B. B. Kahane and Roy J. Obringer) asked that further meetings be postponed as they have been advised by Y. Frank Freeman that the Producers signatory to the Basic Agreement would appoint a negotiating committee to meet with such representatives as the Screen Directors Guild might designate to discuss a minimum contract for directors. (We understand that Y. Frank Freeman will be chairman.)

'The board of directors instructed the president, Frank Capra, to appoint a committee, and he selected George Stevens, chairman; Frank Capra, Philip Rosen, George Marshall, Lesley Selander and Felix Feist. Action has been held up on account of Freeman's trip to New York, but as soon as he gets back about the beginning of this week he will immediately set a date for the two committees to meet.'

At the Producers Association it was stated that if Freeman arrives in time, a meeting of the Association will be called for Monday night (7). Freeman, however, would have authority to name the committee prior to this meeting.

The Directors are asking minimum salaries ranging from $250 to $500 per week for directors on small budget pictures, a 90% Guild Shop, and guaranteed terms of employment.

VICTOR H. CLARKE PUSHED AS TOP FOR CENTRAL

● Continued from page 1 ●

ard R. Philbrick expires this month.

The players who have contacted Producers insist that employment of Clarke would result in immediate settlement of the disturbances that have surrounded Central since Philbrick was retained. They pointed out that Clarke is an expert on public relations, knows picture operations from his former connections as studio manager and is popular both with executives and extras.

Clarke formerly was employed as a Producer-Labor contact in the office of Pat Casey. He is engaged in the building business, and could not be reached to learn whether he would accept if the Central job were offered him. He also was a studio executive with Paramount and Metro.

DON WILSON
as "SHERIFF SLIM"
"THE ROUND-UP"

MANAGEMENT
NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO.

LESLEY SELANDER
DIRECTOR

★

"Lesley Selander socks over his character direction, ably gallops his action sequences and generally balances the many ingredients in Harold Shumate's neatly written screenplay."
—Daily Variety

"Direction—just as is his custom with the Hopalong Cassidys, Lesley Selander displays fine balance in blending romance, lots of six-shooter action and lovely scenery."
—Jimmy Starr

"Sherman's 'The Round-Up' quality entertainment . . . Lesley Selander's excellent direction . . . "
—Hollywood Reporter

Management
Lichtig and Englander Agency

"THE ROUND-UP"

A HARRY SHERMAN PRODUCTION
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

A
HARRY SHERMAN
PRODUCTION

"All the experience gained by Harry Sherman in producing the Hopalong Cassidy Westerns for Paramount, a class series in the field, is brought into play to fetch 'The Round-Up' to the screen . . . A virile drama that merits the 'Western' brand only because of its locale."

—Daily Variety

"THE ROUND-UP"

Paramount Pictures

RICHARD THORPE

DIRECTED

"THE BAD MAN"

STARRING
WALLACE BEERY

●

PREPARING

UNTITLED "TARZAN"

STARRING
Johnny Weissmuller

METRO - GOLDWYN - MAYER

Copy 1

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS RLD

Vol. 31 No. 20 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, April 2, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

STRIKE CALL AT DISNEY MAPPED

MEX. PREXY BIDS BIZ TO 'GOLD' FETE

Receipt of an invitation from the President of Mexico for the picture industry to participate in Mexico's Motion Picture Festival in Mexico City from April 12 to 14 was announced last night by Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association. The affair will be highlighted by the world premiere of Capt. James Roosevelt's 'Pot o' Gold.'

In announcing acceptance of the invitation, Freeman stated:

'The President of Mexico, through

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Chas. Pathe Believed In Nazi Trouble

New York, April 1.—No word has been received from Charles Pathe, pioneer film man, who was slated to arrive from Lisbon more than two weeks ago. Pathe News, which he founded, and RKO, which releases Pathe News, had planned various honors for the Frenchman, now 66. Pathe News had cabled three weeks ago that the film-maker was flying here, but he was not on the plane as scheduled. Although transportation delays are thought possible, there has been a hint that Pathe might be in trouble with Nazis in France.

Roosevelt Sees Dad

New York, April 1.—Capt. James Roosevelt, who arrived here from the Coast over the weekend, went directly to Washington on his arrival. He is due here for the opening of his 'Pot o' Gold' at the Roxy theatre next Friday. Roosevelt then returns to the Coast prior to his departure for Mexico City.

Brandes Gets Break

Alaine Brandes, one of the featured girls in Metro's 'Ziegfeld Girl,' will have the femme lead opposite George Houston in Producers Releasing picture, 'The Lone Rider Gallops to Glory.'

Smith Guides 'Shanghai'

Noel Smith has been signed to direct Universal's 'Half Way to Shanghai,' on his first job away from Warners in past four years.

Spot Withers, Banta

Grant Withers and Jack Banta go into RKO's 'Parachute Battalion.'

LOMBARD, RKO STYMIED

RKO and Carole Lombard are at an impasse on a new contract. Miss Lombard talked with George J. Schaefer several times on a new deal during his recent stay here, but nothing materialized. Studio, however, told her they had several scripts in mind for her. On other hand, she informed Schaefer that the only way a new deal could be made would be to have it stipulated for Gregory La Cava and Alfred Hitchcock to direct the pictures she appears in.

Likely, however, if nothing eventuates at RKO and Columbia holds back starting date on 'Bed Time Story,' Miss Lombard will agree to play lead in the latter film.

TWO-REEL COMMERSH PIC BUDGET'S ABOUT LIKE B'S

Elizabeth Arden is producing a two-reel commercial pic in Technicolor which, it is understood, will cost almost as much as some of the B product that major companies are turning out. Picture has been in production on the Fine Arts lot for three days and is already day and a half behind schedule. It has five art directors, three stages cluttered with sets and a horde of talent.

Director on job, Will Jason, is being paid $4,000 for the chore, which is tops in compensation for making a two-reeler.

SOEG HITS CLOSED SHOP LEGISLATION

Members of the Screen Office Employes Guild, meeting at the Roosevelt hotel last night, went on record as being opposed to adoption of legislation outlawing the closed shop and to the anti-sabotage bill. The report on pending labor legislation, both state and national, was made by George Macon, head of the research committee. Reports on Producer negotiations also were made by the various committees. Eldred Cocking, survey analyst of the Wage-Hour Division, spoke.

RINGLING CIRCUS STRIKE HINTED IN NEW YORK

New York, April 1.—A general strike against the Ringling-Barnum-Bailey Circus prior to its opening Monday (7) in Madison Square Garden looks likely unless the show signs a new contract with the American Guild of Variety Artists. The union fortified itself last week by

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Hellinger Sets Meehan On 'Nightingale'

John Meehan has been signed by Mark Hellinger to script 'Bowery Nightingale' at 20th-Fox from an original by Oliver H. P. Garrett. Hellinger also has John Balderston working on 'Fifth Avenue' and John O'Hara on 'God's In His Heaven.' Which of these goes into production first has not yet been decided.

NY LEGIT OPENING

WATCH ON THE RHINE

New York, April 1.—Climaxed by a powerful third act, Lillian Hellman's new play, 'Watch On the Rhine', pitches to a terrific finale under the top flight histrionic performances of Paul Lukas, Mady Christians, Lucile Watson and George Coulouris. It's really Lukas' moment, the plentitude of salvos after the last of a series of some dozen curtain calls attesting to the generous and well earned approbation of a sterling characterization.

It's a different sort of anti-Nazi play, with Lukas depicting the honorable German who rebels at the madness that came with Fascism. It is localed in what he, his wife and their three children at last felt was

♥ Continued on page 7 ♥

INDIES' AID IS TOSSED TO AFofL

A strike call involving hundreds of workers at the Walt Disney Studio was being readied by union leaders last night. While it was said the initial call would apply only to groups affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, it is understood that pledges of full support have been received from independent crafts with members employed on the lot.

Plans for the walkout were completed yesterday at a conference of AFofL leaders, with only the date re-

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Wesley Ruggles, Metro Talk One-Pic Deal

Wesley Ruggles was at Metro yesterday discussing the possibility of his coming to that lot on loanout from Columbia to direct one picture. Discussion was in preliminaries with nothing accruing from the talk last night. Ruggles has two pictures to make at Columbia where he has his own production unit. Difficulty in casting the properties he wants to make is holding back start of the pictures. The Metro proposition would give him a chance to go into immediate production. Should Ruggles make the Metro deal it is likely that Claude Binyon, who scripts his pictures, would go along.

Allenberg, AMG Prexy

Bert Allenberg was re-elected president of the Artists Managers Guild last night at a meeting of the AMG board of directors. John McCormick was elected vice-president; Ralph Blum, secretary, and Harry Friedman, treasurer.

Vincent in Tucson

Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings branch of the Wage-Hour Administration, checked out last night for Tucson. Will be in Arizona about two weeks.

PREVIEWED

MEN OF BOYS TOWN (MG)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Arthur Zellner has joined Columbia publicity staff.

Howard Duff, NBC stock actor, called to the colors.

Evelyn Ankers motored to San Francisco yesterday.

Nancy Carroll aired in from New York on the Stratoliner.

Syd Dixon up the coast next week on NBC red network biz.

Red Golden assigned as assistant director on 'The Yearling.'

Director Frank Borzage has started tests of supporting cast for 'Smilin' Through.'

Forty-six child actors have been signed to appear in the Marx Brothers comedy.

Everett West and Carl Hoff have completed a new romantic song, 'Thoughts of You.'

Eleanor Powell has started rehearsals on Metro's 'Fascinating Rhythm' dance number in 'Lady Be Good.'

Harold Knox of Pathe laboratories en route to Fort Monmouth, N. J., to serve his lieutenancy in the Signal Corps.

Director Gordon Douglas, who piloted 'Broadway Limited' for Hal Roach, leaves tomorrow on three weeks' vacation in New York.

James Edwards, indie theatre circuit operator, has pulled out for a three weeks' vacash in Mexico City. His wife and two daughters accompany.

Sidney Bowen, assistant director on the 20th-Fox 'Belle Starr' company, leaves for Pineville and Noel, Mo., tomorrow to set up preliminaries for locations.

Phil Regan, just back from Denver, picked up a story there called 'Athens Direct', which he has submitted to Buddy DeSylva at Paramount. Yarn is of war correspondent in Greece.

Sam Comer is interior decorator on Paramount's 'Nothing But the Truth.' Frank Tuttle has similar spot on Columbia's 'Our Wife.' Ditto Ted Offenbecker on Universal's Abbott and Costello comedy, 'We're In the Navy Now.'

J. L. Warner yesterday sent a check for $10,000 to Lord Beaverbrook, head of the British Air Ministry. Money was part of $35,000 taken in on 'London Can Take It' and 'Christmas Under Fire,' documentaries made in England. All money from rentals goes to British.

Benny the Gouge sez—You can find a lot of in-and-outers at the hoss track, but none of them has anything on California Sunshine.

Hollywood Inside

MAX AND DAVE FLEISCHER have written President Roosevelt offering to make technical cartoon shorts for the training of American soldiers. In the first World War the Fleischer brothers made 20 one-reel cartoon shorts graphically illustrating numerous phases of training and gun operation. Pictures were made at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, with Major O. O. Ellis and Major Gary of the War Department general staff assisting. Prints are still in use and include shorts on 'Theory of Five Unit Firing Order,' 'Operation of the Lewis Machine Gun,' 'Operation of the Stokes Mortar,' 'Operation of the Rifle and Hand Grenade,' and others. New shorts of the kind to illustrate recent radical changes in U. S. armaments may be needed.

☆ ☆ ☆

REPUBLIC PICTURES has issued a novel press book in connection with its Judy Canova film, 'Sis Hopkins.' Attached to the inside cover is a reproduction of a miniature phonograph record, with recordings of Canova songs on either side of the platter. Outer covers of the press book are done in a slate design with caricatures of the star and others of the cast making up most of the text matter. Inner pages are in color with reproductions of scenes from the picture, star photographs, etc. Ideas for exploitation are also included.

☆ ☆ ☆

OFFICIAL ratings on network commercial programs are beginning to hit the skids now that gasoline weather has descended on the land. All the leaders are on the downbeat with the latest release and considerable anxiety is felt in agency circles over the next issue of Cooperative Analysis of Broadcasting report. Change of frequencies by nearly 800 stations is expected to account for a precipitate drop, radio men figuring that it'll take a month or more to educate listeners to the new dial positions.

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REPUBLIC'S new Crafts building, costing $200,000, is now under construction and will be finished about May 1. Structure will house miniature shops and shooting stage, carpenter shop, assembly stage, paint shop, drafting rooms, art directors and construction department offices. Quarters adjacent to the new building will later be built to accommodate plaster, blacksmith and special effects departments. Charles Lootens is in charge of construction.

☆ ☆ ☆

A REQUEST for an early meeting to complete negotiations on a contract for employes of Central Casting Corp. will be submitted to Producers today by Elma Goodwin, business representative of the American Federation of Office Employes. Goodwin said conferences were stymied during the Wage-Hour hearings, but that she would contact Pat Casey today and urge an immediate meeting to see if the two groups could agree on a minimum basic agreement.

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AS PART of the advance newspaper campaign for 'That Night in Rio,' soon to be released generally over the Southern California area, Dean Hyskell of the Fox-West Coast home office advertising department has compiled a five-column art mat with story on Carmen Miranda and the Samba dance. Mat is available for use by all circuit managers with advance reports being that newspaper editors in the smaller towns at least are grabbing the subject.

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RICHARD HIMBER cancelled out two days before close of his engagement at the St. Francis in Frisco to prepare for his engagement at the Palladium here tomorrow night. Hotel put in a local band to fill out the Himber stand. Bandman denied reports that he 'took a powder' in Frisco, declaring that Manager Dan London of the St. Francis gave him his release two days in advance of his contract's expiration.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS premiere of 'The Great Lie,' at Littleton, New Hampshire, Saturday is sold out and second showing will be held to accommodate those unable to see initial screening in the 800-seat house. Proceeds go to the Golden Room Farm for Boys and the Littleton Hospital, charities chosen by Bette Davis. Birthday ball honoring the star will also turn its take over to the two charities.

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HEAVY newspaper advertisers have picked up exploitation angles on 'Meet John Doe' and are tying up with Warners picture by addressing readers as John Doe. Stunt was first executed by the Los Angeles Daily News. Now department stores, furniture houses, electrical appliance groups and other home service companies in a score of cities are making use of 'Doe.'

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BOBBY COCHRAN AND FRANK LEYVA, casting directors at Central Casting Corp. were reported to have been given 30-day layoffs without pay starting yesterday in line with a recently announced retrenchment policy. Ralph Acton and Dave Landauer returned to their jobs after similar layoffs.

Muzak Opens Branch

Muzak Corp., New York outfit providing music by wire, has expanded to the Pacific coast, with new offices on Wilshire blvd. Subsidiary is known as Pacific Network, Inc. Marc Sessions is general manager.

Wm. Wright Spotted

William Wright was cast by Paramount yesterday for a featured spot in 'World Premiere.'

Harry Kaufman Will Undergo Operation

New York, April 1.—Harry Kaufman, associated with Lee Shubert in the production of 'Hellzapoppin' and other musicals, and with the Tyson Ticket agency, is in New York hospital for an operation for an intestinal obstruction. He was given a blood transfusion to give him strength for the coming ordeal.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

At break of dawn the troops lined up to fight the hated foe,
To brave the storms of shot and shell that soon would lay them low.
For they were bold and hardy vets in tattered uniforms
Who had no fear of leaden hail and laughed at shrapnel storms.

They gazed upon the sombre clouds that gathered in the sky
And as they were about to charge, prepared to do or die,
The film director stopped them, and his heart was full of pain.
'No war today,' he told his men. 'It looks too much like rain.'

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'Through the Thin Wall' will be a pushover for Charles Laughton, who is robust enough to push over a thick one.

★ ★ ★

'That's one fairy tale I overlooked,' said the shade of Hans Christian Andersen when he heard that Sam Goldwyn and Walt Disney were teaming up to film his life story.

★ ★ ★

Frank Capra is thinking of hauling 'The Flying Yorkshireman' out of its hangar for a long distance flight. Strangely enough, it is not a story of the R.A.F.

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The wide world wonders if 'Citizen Kane'
Is half as hot as its flack campaign.

★ ★ ★

Helen Gilbert performed so well as a cellist that now she has a film contract and no cello.

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Those versatile warriors, Abbott and Costello, have leaped from the Army to the Navy, and presently you will hear that they have landed in the Marines and the situation is well in hand.

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That one-black-and-one-white-glove fad is not going very far in Hollywood. Nobody looks at a gal's hands unless they are covered with emeralds.

John Archer has resumed his original name, Bowman, which means the same thing, for shooting purposes.

Generous husband is Alexander Korda, who is gifting Merle Oberon with four leading men in her next picture.

★ ★ ★

When Spring comes tripping down the dell
The actor feels its magic spell
And hears an urgent call to stray
Over the hills and far away.

He yearns to scram from picture lots
And toil in far sequestered spots
Where strawhats bloom in rural glens
Among the cows and geese and hens.

Looks like a photo finish in the Louisiana Handicap, with 'The Lady of New Orleans' and 'The Flame of New Orleans' galloping down the stretch toward the marquee.

Preview

★

Men of Boys Town

(*Drama*)

Metro release of a John W. Considine, Jr., production. Stars Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney. Features Bobs Watson, Larry Nunn, Mary Nash, Henry O'Neill, Darryl Hickman, Lee J. Cobb. Balance of cast: Sidney Miller, Addison Richards, Lloyd Corrigan, George Lessey, Robert Emmett Keane, Arthur Hohl, Ben Weldon, Anne Revere. Directed by Norman Taurog. Original screenplay by James Kevin McGuinness. Photography, Harold Rosson. Music score, Herbert Stothart. Film editor, Frederick Y. Smith. Previewed April 1. Running time: 105 mins.

This is the second picture Metro and Producer John W. Considine, Jr., have made about Boys Town, the Nebraska institution founded and shepherded by Father Edward J. Flanagan, the priest who maintains there are no 'bad' boys and who has sheltered, counseled and sent out as good citizens thousands of neglected and misguided youngsters of assorted creeds and races. Like its predecessor, 'Boys Town', this one, 'Men of Boys Town', deals dramatically as well as documentarily with that now widely-known institution. And like the first one, the second has the humanity, the vitality, the inspirational quality to boost it high among the year's box office leaders.

'Men of Boys Town' is frankly and artfully a sentimental picture. It will tear the heart of the toughest audience. And its unquestionable audience appeal as sheer absorbing entertainment may serve to remind Hollywood that unalloyed sentimental dramas are still a theatre demand, despite the reluctance and shame of many producers and writers to acknowledge such hokum taste.

Spencer Tracy in the Father Flanagan role, and Mickey Rooney as the reconditioned tough who becomes mayor of Boys Town, carry on the sequence started in the film which introduced the men and boys of the school. Now Rooney is in a spot where he must do something for others, even for Father Flanagan in a crucial hour, rather than being himself an object of salvage. An embittered lad with a broken back, victim of reformatory brutalities, comes as a challenge to the efficacy of the priest's methods. If the men and lads of Boys Town can make that hopeless kid laugh again they will account themselves worthy and successful. Almost half the picture is taken up in bringing out that hard-won laugh. And every foot of it is absorbing, tense, by turns humorous and pathetic, because the story is sound and warmly human and the performances strong with conviction and the importance of the material.

The picture blasts the set-up and methods of state reformatories, basing the shocking chapters of its narrative upon brutalities of guards and callous inertia of executives as exposed in recent newspaper accounts. And this dramatic indictment, purposefully contrasting the methods and results of the divergent institutions, brings out some of the most persuasive acting by youngsters in the cast, Larry Nunn, a sensitive lad with intelligence and skill, in the role of the unsmiling waif, and little Darryl Hickman in the cocky role of a seven-year-old stick-up, said to be

★ Continued on page 6 ★

Publicists Will Session Soon on NY Guild Request

A membership meeting of the Screen Publicists Guild will be called soon to act on a request from the New York Guild for support in its fight for recognition. It is probable that the new national constitution also will be ratified at the meeting. Various articles in the Constitution are now being discussed at unit meetings in order to avoid delay when the general session is called.

Both matters were taken up Monday night at a meeting of the SPG executive board. While board members were heartily in favor of extending every aid to the Easterners, it was felt the situation should be placed before the general membership before the Guild was officially placed on record.

RKO Sales Executives Ogle Product Here

Cresson Smith, RKO western division sales manager; Leo Devaney, captain of the 1941 Ned Depinet sales drive, and Harry Michalson, short subjects sales manager, checked in at the studio yesterday to look over new product. Devaney and Michalson leave today for New York. Smith will go to Palm Springs for a two-week vacation.

Pickford in Hospital

Mary Pickford is in St. Vincent's hospital under observation and treatment for what is regarded as 'nothing serious' by those speaking for her last night. She will probably remain there for at least a week.

'Corn Is Green' to WB

Warners yesterday purchased the screen rights to 'The Corn Is Green,' play by Emlyn Williams now running on Broadway. Deal was signed in New York. Bette Davis and Ida Lupino will appear in the film.

Pizor, Prez of UMPTO, Sues Partner On Fraud Charge

Philadelphia, April 1.—Suit was filed in Common Pleas court today by Lewen Pizor, exhibitor and president of the United Motion Picture Theatre Owners, against his partner, Charles Segall. Latter is charged with defrauding the partnership. Named as defendants along with Segall are Louis Segall, a son, and Katherine Segall Sablosky, a daughter. Suit involves the Eastern Theatres Corp., through which Segall and Pizor operate four theatres, the Apollo, Ace, Chelten and Tioga. A hearing was set for April 7 before Judge Louis E. Levinthal.

Segall, at the same time, obtained a judgment of $55,000 against Pizor for alleged non-payment of rents by the corporation on the Apollo, which property Segall owns.

Archibald Due in U. S. On UA British Biz

New York, April 1.—George Archibald, co-managing director for United Artists in England, is expected in the United States via Clipper within the next two weeks. Following his return, Teddy Carr, co-managing director, comes to New York for talks with Walter Gould, foreign manager, and other UA execs on British problems and on UA product for next season.

PLAY REVIEW

ROSE MARIE

The old Mason opera house on lower Broadway raised its curtain last night to what might be called an evolution in show business. What a good sized audience saw on the creaky old boards was a full-blown presentation of the perennial operetta of the mountie country played by a cast of close to 50 and with 14 musicians in the pit.

But get these prices: matinees, 15c to 29c; nights, 25c to 49c.

There it is and well may one ask, how can they do it?

Arthur Spitz, who is personally bankrolling the venture, said he did it successfully in Europe and it can be done here. It's show biz in the Woolworth way—if the turnover is populous enough there'll be plenty of sauce to go around. 'Rose Marie' and succeeding light operas ('Merry Widow' is next) will be done 15 times a week, which means mats daily and an owl show thrown in on Saturday night.

Considering the tariff, the mounting and cast is very much okay. Virginia Card has the title role and in very few performances of this popular Friml-Hammerstein nostalgic piece has 'Indian Love Call' and some of the others been sung better. Her voice has a wide range and loses none of its melodic sway in the higher registers. She also does a forthright job of acting. John Hendrik is a bit too stiff as the romantic lead but he manages the songs in good tenor voice. Others contributing acceptable support are Dick Horn, Pat Dooley, George Eldredge, Lemoyne Redmund, Sonja Levkova, Robert Winton, James Westerfield, Thomas Glynn, Warren Christian, Lenore Rae, Grace McKaig, Johnny Pelletti, Paul Craik, Elm Halprin, Alexandra Hamilton, Virginia Lotito, Laurie Darling and Anna Verite. In the ensemble are 22 girls and 10 mounties. Production is staged by Theodore Bachenheimer and Fritz Berens directs the music. House, a 1,600-seater, must run close to capacity at all performances if Spitz is to make a go of it. There's a pretty husky nut there considering that no one is working under minimum union scale.

Interesting adjunct to the poor man's Biltmore is the five-cent buffet in the lobby. All sandwiches and drinks are priced at a nickel.

Spitz's experiment will be watched closely by legit showmen. If it clicks the era of three-thirty operettas will pass into limbo.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

BASIL RATHBONE, Aline Rhonie, former ambulance driver in France, and Jane Russell will head the program for Army Day, April 6, to be broadcast coast-to-coast from Camp Roberts near San Miguel, Calif. More than 15,000 soldiers will be present . . . Invitation came from Brig. Gen. C. H. White . . . Rathbone will emcee . . . Miss Russell, who makes her screen bow in Howard Hughes' 'The Outlaw,' will take part in a radio sketch with a supporting cast of Army men. . . . Manuel Reachi, writer, who recently returned from a tour of the Latin-American countries, will address the Brentwood Writers Forum Friday night on the importance of films in the LA locales as goodwill gestures. . . . Around 300 guests, including church dignitaries, execs of all studios and city officials will attend a luncheon today at Metro in honor of Bishop James H. Ryan and Father Edward J. Flanagan of Boys Town, Neb. . . Program in connection with studio's 'Men of Boys Town' will be broadcast nationwide . . . It will be heard locally over KECA at 1:15 p.m. . . . Douglas Evans, KFI-KECA producer, has been cast at Universal as an announcer in 'Too Many Blondes'. Film barker's purely coincidental name is Don McNamara, which is the monicker of a spieler at KFI-KECA.

More than 300 pedigreed pooches are being sought by Columbia for dog show sequence in 'Blondie in Society,' which goes Friday.

ANNUAL benefit dance of the Film Exchange Club, to be staged at the Riverside Drive Breakfast Club the night of April 18 likely will draw a capacity attendance. Club averages two people per month of its 400 odd members who are hospitalized, with many of them emergency cases, and it is to provide funds to help care for these workers that annual dance is given. . . . Committee helping Guy Gunderson this year is made up of Jack Dillon, Clayton Lynch and Francis A. Bateman. . . . George Thomas Morgan's new orchestral suite will be heard for the first time tonight at the Embassy auditorium with James Sample conducting the WPA Symphony orchestra.

Kay Kyser was speechless through yesterday's rehearsal of his Luckies broadcast. Throat trouble put him out of vocal comish but he expects to be back in top form tonight.

ROSEMARY LANE, vacationing at Victorville, is reading the script of a musical she has been asked to be in. Show is titled 'And Homer, Too,' and James Miller will produce it on Broadway. . . . Big list of picture names has been lined up for the debut of Richard Himber's ork and the Merry Macs at the Palladium tomorrow night. . . . Kathryn Adams and Hugh Beaumont, featured players in 'Unfinished Business' at Universal, will be married in the picture by the Rev. Neal Dodd, who has been signed to perform the ceremony. They'll actually be wed in May.

Miranda Leads Frisco Gate To Records On Birthday

San Francisco, April 1.—An all-time attendance record at the Golden Gate theatre was broken Saturday (29) when $6,100 was taken at the b.o. Gate is celebrating its 19th birthday. Manager George Boles credits his stage show with Carmen Miranda, Billy Gilbert and The Hartmans for the record-breaking business. Sunday (30) was second biggest day in the history of the house with a take of $5,658. Week is expected to end with approximately $31,000 in the till, which will be just under Kay Kyser's record here.

RINGLING CIRCUS STRIKE HINTED

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

joining the recently formed Combined Theatrical and Amusement Crafts Council, consisting of all 33 craft unions in the New York show business.

By joining the Council, AGVA gets the support of the stagehands, musicians, teamsters and sundry other unions necessary to playing, loading and unloading of the circus. Should the circus management fail to reach an agreement with AGVA, a strike vote would be taken by the Council.

Col. Herron Tops Army's Picture Service

New York, April 1.—Col. Frederick Herron, formerly manager of the Hays office foreign department, has been appointed head of the Army Motion Picture Service as his initial assignment in active service with the adjutant-general's office in Washington. Herron was in New York today checking with the local office. He will be in Washington mostly, with occasional trips around the country.

Lombard, MacMurray Set for Guilder 13th

Carole Lombard and Fred MacMurray will be paired in Screen Guild Theatre's broadcast (13) of 'True Confessions.' Following Sunday's program winds up current season.

Perlberg Dates 'Aunt'

Associate Producer William Perlberg has set May 5 as starting date for 'Charley's Aunt,' Jack Benny starrer, as his first at 20th-Fox. Perlberg also has ready, except for complete cast lineup, 'Remember the Day.'

Ill in Pix

JEFFREY LYNN suffered a badly split lip and cheek yesterday when he fell against the steering wheel of an automobile on the set of 'Underground' at Warners. Actor plays the role of a one-armed man, and he lost his balance when he attempted to leap into the car during a scene. His wounds were treated at the studio hospital, where six stitches were taken in his lip.

MABEL BOWEN (Kennison) of the Fox West Coast auditing department is recovering from a major operation at Methodist hospital.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT BIDS INDUSTRY TO 'GOLD' FETE

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

Mr. James Roosevelt, has extended to the motion picture industry in Hollywood an invitation to participate in Mexico's forthcoming Motion Picture Festival, to take place in Mexico City, April 12 to 14.

'The industry is gratified to receive this invitation from the President of Mexico and is today notifying President Camacho that Hollywood has accepted the gracious invitation. It is planned to send a delegation of Hollywood personages to Mexico City to attend the festival being arranged there by the Mexican government.

'Mr. James Roosevelt originally had planned to take a party to Mexico City for the premiere of a motion picture he has produced. However, in view of the proportions to which the occasion has grown, and in view of the personal invitation to the industry from the President of Mexico, Mr. Roosevelt has expressed his wish to withdraw his own plans in favor of the industry's participation. Therefore, Mr. Roosevelt has been asked to act as one of the committee in charge of arrangements.

'Mr. John Hay Whitney, director of the motion picture division for the Office of the United States Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the American Republics, is working very closely with the committee and plans to accompany the Hollywood delegation on its visit to Mexico City.'

First Under Wire

First of the recruiting songs to come out of the Coast's Tin Pan Alley is the collaborative effort of Jimmy McHugh and L. Wolfe Gilbert. Ditty is called 'A Grand Vacation With Pay,' and will be tried out at one of the stations to drum up volunteers for the nation's armed forces.

Irving Berlin Heading To H'wood for Sesh On Crosby Film

New York, April 1.—Back from a Florida vacation where he worked on new tunes for the forthcoming Bing Crosby filmusical at Paramount, Irving Berlin heads for the Coast this weekend to huddle with Producer-Director Mark Sandrich.

Mary Martin probably will be in the film and Fred Astaire also is being dickered for.

Berlin will be west for two weeks.

Walter Hampden Goes Into 'Wild Wind'

Paramount has signed Walter Hampden for Cecil B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Hampden will come out during the month. This will be his fourth film role.

Buddy Rogers in Chi

Buddy Rogers moves into the State Lake theatre, Chicago, for the week opening April 11. Deal set by Bob Oakley.

Set Harry Hayden

Harry Hayden has been added to the cast of Harry Sherman's 'Parson of Panamint' at Paramount.

Oliver Morosco Sues To Quiet Title On 20 Plays, Stories

Suit to quiet title to 20 plays and stories for which he holds the production rights, was filed in Superior court yesterday by Oliver Morosco. Defendants are Selma Paley Morosco and Helen McRuer Morosco, both divorced wives of the former legit producer. George Bentel, a literary agent, also is named as a defendant.

Action asks that defendants be brought into court and state the nature of their claims and that court then issue a decree quieting title to the properties.

Plays mentioned in the Morosco suit include 'The Humming Bird,' 'Cappy Ricks,' 'The Cinderella Man,' 'The Brat' and others.

Sam Moore Resuming Radio Production

Sam Moore has completed his writing assignment at Metro and checked off the lot to resume in radio as writer-producer. He worked on the screenplay of 'The Merry Merriweathers,' which Louis K. Sidney produces, with Frank Morgan in the featured bracket.

Walter Long a Colonel

Walter Long, former Screen Actors Guild checker, has received a commission as colonel in the United States Army and will be placed in charge of camp entertainment. He leaves for Washington this week.

Retie Larry Williams

Larry Williams, until recently under contract to Warners, has again been tied to one-picture deal with studio to appear in short, 'Soldiers in the Saddle.' Leo Morrison officiated.

Newsreel Profits Leap

New York, April 1.—Both gross business and net revenue are up for newsreels over last year. With former rental scales still in effect, some of the reels are reporting as high as $1,800 added revenue weekly. Net is being aided by reduction in expenses originally budgeted for covering the European war. Reels feel a fee increase is necessary and separate selling of them under the consent decree may be the solution. In the past they have been regarded by exhibs and sold by the companies as some extra service theatres get if they buy feature product from the distributor.

Zanuck's Return Sees Action on 'Starr,' 'Yank in R.A.F.'

Darryl Zanuck, returning tomorrow from Sun Valley vacation, will settle casting impasse on 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr,' which has been awaiting naming of title role player for start. Zanuck also will take personal hand in selecting supporting cast with Tyrone Power in 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

'Belle Starr,' first picture on the 1941-42 slate, now has starting date next Monday. More attention has been paid to obtaining accurate detail for 'Yank' than any picture made by 20th in several years.

Ross, Krasna 'Miss Jones' Preem in Miami 4th

'The Devil and Miss Jones,' which Frank Ross and Norman Krasna produced for RKO, will have its premiere at Miami, Fla., Friday, in the Paramount, Beach and Sheridan theatres. Picture will be previewed here the same evening at the Academy theatre in Inglewood. RKO will have 32 previews of the film in 32 key cities for the press and the trade. Charles Coburn planed for Miami last night to make a personal appearance at the preem. Actor will make six other appearances with the picture, one of which will be in Savannah, Ga., his home town.

Selznick-Russell Case Postponed to 22nd

A Superior court hearing in the Myron Selznick-Rosalind Russell case was postponed yesterday until Tuesday (22), because certain witnesses were not available. Selznick, through his attorney, Barry Brannen, is seeking to enjoin an arbitration board from putting into effect an award holding that the actress was entitled to cancel her contract with the agency. It is claimed that one of the arbiters was not qualified to act.

Adele Rowland's 'Town'

Adele Rowland, former musical comedy star, has been added to 'Big Town' cast for tonight's etherized dramatization of 'False Witness.'

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing eight and one-half pounds, was born March 29 at Mercy hospital, Bakersfield, to Mrs. Jack Haskins. Father is assistant manager of the California theatre there.

BOY, weighing seven pounds, eight ounces, born Sunday to Mrs. Don McNamara. Father is announcer at KFI-KECA.

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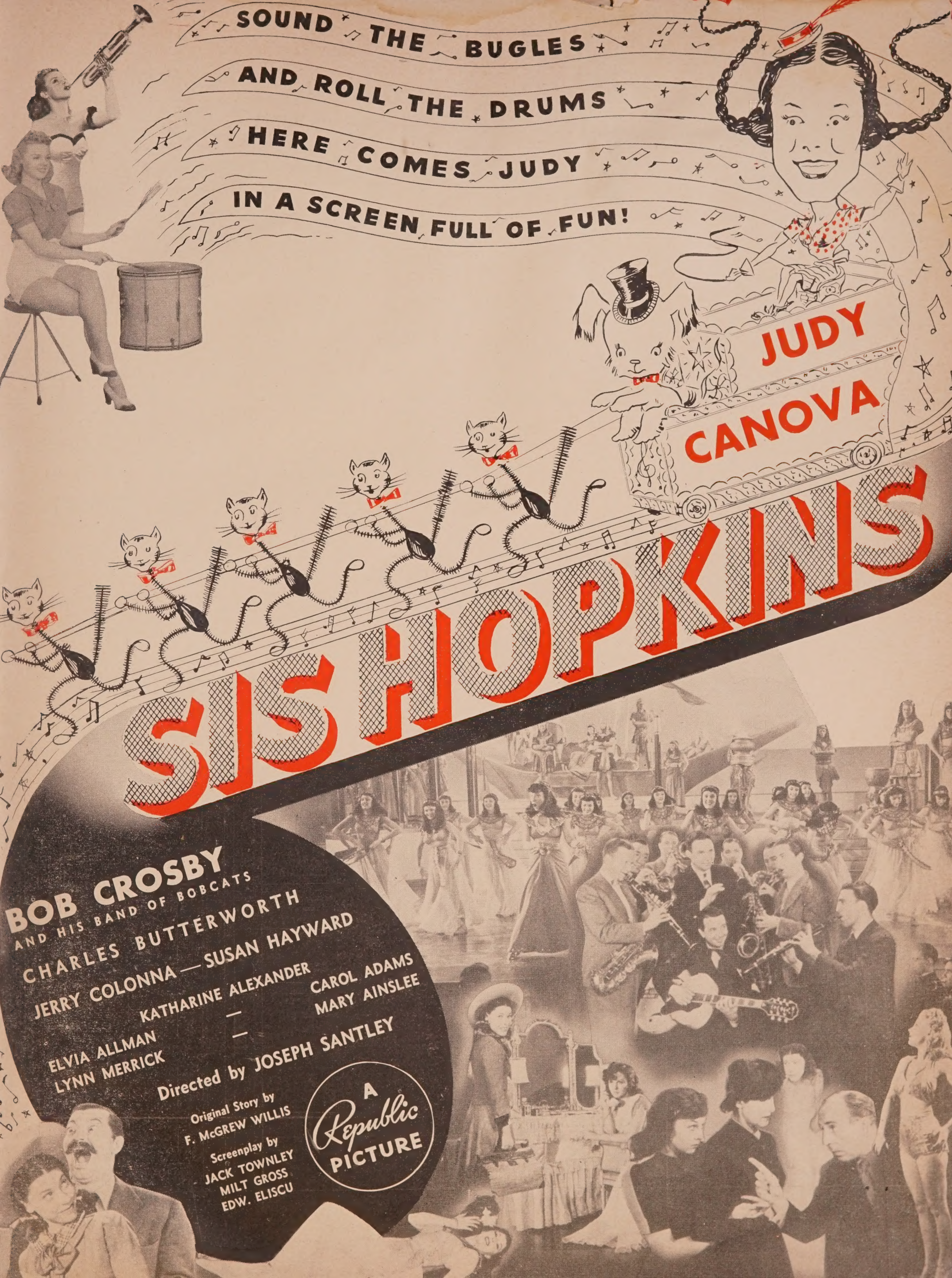
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AND ROLL THE DRUMS
HERE COMES JUDY
IN A SCREEN FULL OF FUN!

JUDY CANOVA

SIS HOPKINS

BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND OF BOBCATS
CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA — SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER — CAROL ADAMS
ELVIA ALLMAN — MARY AINSLEE
LYNN MERRICK

Directed by JOSEPH SANTLEY

Original Story by
F. McGREW WILLIS
Screenplay by
JACK TOWNLEY
MILT GROSS
EDW. ELISCU

A Republic PICTURE

Henry Duffy Leases Frisco Alcazar For Opening 17th

San Francisco, April 1.—Henry Duffy has leased the Alcazar theatre here for 10 years, with opening set for (17). Otto Kruger in 'Libel,' Francis Lederer in 'Noah,' Joe E. Brown in 'The Show-Off,' Billy Burke in 'Vinegar Tree' and Edward Everett Horton in 'Springtime For Henry' are some of the stars and plays to be brought here by Duffy at $1.25 top.

Dick Marshall will be house manager, and Henri Caubisens stape manager.

Preview

★ Continued from page 3 ★

based on a case of record in Father Flanagan's school.

Tracy, playing with his customary restraint, impersonates the head of Boys Town with strength, humility and dignity. Mickey Rooney shows an emotional power beyond anything he has previously done in the pathos of his devotion to the priest and his responsibilities to his younger schoolfellows. Bobs Watson carries on his role as Pee Wee, turning on his old faithful tear gushers when needed, most effectively. Sidney Miller has a noteworthy juve role as the Jewish boy who is one of the priest's most trustworthy helpers. Numerous other boys are interesting in flashes.

Mary Nash and Henry O'Neill are individually outstanding as the would-be adopters of Rooney to replace their own lost son. Scenes which they share with Tracy and Rooney when the boy has to make up his mind whether to go to a home of luxury or remain with his priestly benefactor and inspiration are among the most heart-tugging in the film. Fine also is the performance by Lee J. Cobb, the business manager of the institution, whose job it is to coordinate Father Flanagan's yearning to expand his quarters to house the endless stream of kids, and the hard realities of getting the coin for more dormitories. Addison Richards is a good judge; Lloyd Corrigan a banker; Arthur Hohl a shockingly brutal reformatory guard. George Lessey, Robert Emmett Keane, Ben Weldon, Anne Revere capably complete the cast.

Norman Taurog's direction finds a sure way to the heart of any audience through the guidance of the youngsters, playing with irresistible sincerity and scoring with vivid portrayals, coupled with equal devotion from the older members of the cast. Taurog's combined artistry and sensitive feeling for the full dramatic value of his subject are up to his best proved standard.

Major responsibility for this fine production, its content and its worthy presentation, belongs to John W. Considine, Jr., who originated the Boys Town idea for pictures, ventured with it strikingly in the initial film and scores increasingly with this sequel. He has excellent technical support from Herbert Stothart in a distinguished musical score, first class photography by Harold Rosson, and contributions from the art and sound departments.

James Kevin McGuinness is author of the deeply moving, significant and expertly crafted screenplay.

Exhibitors who did well with 'Boys Town' may bank on this successor. The same exploitation elements still are good, even better than with the first and cumulatively so, with several top screen names to decorate the marquee.

UNION LEADERS READY STRIKE CALL AT DISNEY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

maining open. Several leaders were in favor of immediate action, but others suggested the company first be given a time limit in which to meet with the unions.

It is probable that an ultimatum will be sent to Disney officials today giving them until some time Friday to arrange meetings with the various crafts. While there was some talk of ordering a walkout tomorrow, general feeling was that no actual strike call would be issued until Monday in order to give officials every opportunity to arrange an amicable settlement with the unionists.

The drive will center around the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which recently signed a contract with Metro, and which claims to represent a big majority of approximately 700 Disney employes. However, the teamsters and other AFofL crafts have since organized the lot and are ready to move in when the go signal is given. The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors, with a 100% majority on the lot, recently filed unfair labor practice charges against the studio with the National Labor Relations Board.

Unionists said that every move possible had been made to eliminate the necessity of taking drastic action, but that Gunther Lessing, attorney for the company and spokesman for Disney, had ignored their requests for meetings. They said he had repeatedly refused to meet with them and refused to answer their telephone calls. In the meantime, they claimed that salaries are being cut and hours reduced in an effort to intimidate the workers. The SCG also has carried its fight to the NLRB, and scores of affidavits have been filed with Field Examiner George Yager.

Move to unionize the Disney lot has been headed by Aubrey Blair, AFofL international representative and spokesman for Meyer Lewis here; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644; George E. Bodle, attorney for the Screen Cartoonists Guild, and business representatives from half a dozen other AFofL crafts who have pledged their support. A move to place the Disney products on the labor unfair list has already been authorized by the Glendale Central Labor Council.

Friends of Walt Disney were busy last night trying to avoid a walkout. Several of them urged him to take over the labor negotiations himself or call in somebody who was familiar with the situation. There was some talk that Victor E. Clarke, who is favored by certain executives for appointment as general manager of Central Casting Corp., might be asked to step in and conciliate the differences with the unions.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Universal)

'Too Many Blondes'
Dir.: Thornton Freeland
Asst.: Vernon Keays

Autry Talks Rodeo At Texas Expo

Dallas, Tex., April 1.—Gene Autry, Republic's singing cowboy, made a flying trip here to confer with Lloyd Rust, company's district manager. They discussed the prospects of staging a rodeo here during the State fair next fall.

Reynolds to London

New York, April 1.—Quentin Reynolds sails this week for 'somewhere in Canada' in convoy, returning to his correspondent assignment in London for Collier's. He has been here since Christmas and plans returning again around the 1941 holidays. On his way back he will finish his book, 'Don't Think It Hasn't Been Fun.'

MAYO CHAIRMANS EXTRAS COUNCIL

More than 125 extras turned out last night for the meeting of the Extras Advisory Council, which is sponsoring a vote for Class B members in the Screen Actors Guild and a better break for 'old time extra players.' Harry Mayo, chairman of the former SAG Council, has been elected chairman of the new group. He made a report on communications with Secretary Perkins and other Washington officials.

It was announced that another meeting will be held April 15, and that film cowboys will be invited. It also was stated that about 2,500 extras have signed petitions supporting the Council in its move to better conditions for atmosphere players, particularly the 'old timers.'

Sues Technicolor in NY On Patent Charge

New York, April 1.—Percy Douglas Brewster filed suit for $100,000 damages in U. S. District court today against Technicolor, Inc., and Technicolor Motion Picture Corp. He charges infringement of a patent called 'method and apparatus for color cinematography' by the defendants, who are accused of the manufacture and sale of apparatus using the patent.

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Managerial Shifts Announced By Fox-West Coast

A number of house managerial changes were announced yesterday by Fox West Coast, following a realignment of district managers. Mort Goldberg moves from the Belmont to the Westlake to fill the position vacated by Spencer Leve, who becomes an assistant to Cullen Espy of the Los Angeles No. 1 district.

Ralph Hathaway shifts from the Parisian to the Belmont to replace Goldberg, and is succeeded at the Parisian by George Biederman, presently assistant manager at the Uptown.

Ernest Sturm goes from the Hermosa to the Redondo, and is replaced by Robert Dean, who moves from the Alta at Bell. Latter is replaced by Charles Ellsworth.

In the Citrus district Ed Penn has taken up his new duties as city manager at San Bernardino. He is replaced at the Arlington, Santa Barbara, by Ernie Martin, shifted from the Fox at San Bernardino. Cliff Reid transfers from the State, Pasadena, to the State, Pomona.

Several other house managerships are still open, with these likely to be filled within the next day or two.

'Boys Town' Here 9th

'Men of Boys Town' gets its Los Angeles first run at the State and Chinese theatres week starting April 9. It will be coupled with Metro's 'Free and Easy.' Booking for the day-date houses for week of (16) will be 'That Night In Rio' and 'Jennie,' both 20th-Fox.

Hewitt at New Loma

Paramount theatre on Hollywood blvd., long operated by Fox West Coast, has been renamed the Loma, with Gordon Hewitt, manager of the circuit's Larchmont, recently destroyed by fire, appointed as chief.

Artists Agency Opens

Artists Studio Agency has opened offices on Hollywood blvd. for the distribution of films for the coin machine industry. Agency is headed by Jeff Creig and W. Gerdes-Testa.

Herbel to Frisco

Henry Herbel, Warners exchange supervisor, planes today for San Francisco to set California playdates on 'The Great Lie.'

Story Buys

Schreyer, Adelman and Morrison have obtained the screen rights to 'Men In Her Life,' by Loraine Fielding, Cosmopolitan writer.

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Hays, Fowler, Miggins Laud Schenck At New York Trial

New York, April 1.—Will Hays, Gene Fowler and Ben Miggins were the character witnesses presented today by the defense in the Government case against Joseph M. Schenck and Joe Moskowitz in the United States District court before Judge Grover Moscowitz and a jury.

Hays testified he met Joe Schenck in 1922 when he became head of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America. He testified that Schenck always cooperated in establishing high standards in moral, educational and artistic advancement of the screen, and his reputation for honesty, integrity and square-shooting is fixed as good in the film industry.

Hays further said that it made no difference whether Schenck associated with gamblers or Willie Bioff, as his reputation would not change.

Gene Fowler gave Joe Moskowitz a big sendoff, declaring the latter's reputation in the industry is 'the best.'

Ben Miggins, Continental manager for 20th-Fox, testified that Schenck made business trips to Paris and London in 1936-37 and addressed the company convention in 1936. He said that in 1937 Schenck received the decoration of the French Legion of Honor from Paul Bonnet, French foreign minister; also that Schenck was in daily contact with Hollywood, New York and London while in Paris, that he signed Gracie Fields and Monte Banks in London, negotiated for Jean Gabin, whom his company has just signed, and discussed possibilities of bringing the Marx Brothers into the company production group with him.

The defense established that Schenck spent far more on business expenses while in Europe than 20th-Fox reimbursed him for.

Carol Hall, an accountant, goes on the stand tomorrow, with James Farley scheduled to be called Thursday.

The defense will take 10 days to two weeks before it concludes its side of the case.

Revise Vallee Routine

In Universal's 'Too Many Blondes,' which starts shooting today, Rudy Vallee will sing two numbers alone, 'San Antonio Rose,' by Bob Wills, and 'The Man on the Flying Trapeze.' With Helen Parrish and Jerry Cowan he will sing 'Whistle Your Blues to a Bluebird,' by Everett Carter and Milton Rosen, and 'Didn't Say It Before,' by Herman Hupfeld. He and Miss Parrish will make a duet on 'Let's Love Again,' by Carter and Rosen.

'Skylark' Washing Up

Producer-director Mark Sandrich finishes 'Skylark' at Paramount tomorrow.

Obituary

MRS. JANE MORRIS

Funeral services were held yesterday for Mrs. Jane Morris, wife of Ed Morris of the Fox West Coast auditing department, who died Saturday night of a cerebral hemorrhage following a fall down a flight of stairs. The husband and one son survive.

Indie Outfit Gets Go Sign From SAG After Pact Sigging

The ban on Sunshine Productions, Inc., was lifted yesterday when the company sponsors signed a contract with the Screen Actors Guild. The SAG boom was lowered Monday when it was learned the company, said to be fronted by Ted Lloyd, New York radio tradepaper columnist, was shooting a newsreel version of a radio program at Columbia Broadcasting studio without paying the wage minimums required for actors.

The SAG, in announcing the settlement, stated: 'Sunshine Productions, Inc., has signed a contract with the Screen Actors Guild. The Guild on Monday, March 31, halted production work by this company on a newsreel version of a radio program in which Jimmie Fidler was the announcer, which was being shot at a Hollywood radio studio. The Guild withdrew all actors from the production because of the failure of the company to sign a contract. Under the contract just signed, Sunshine Productions, Inc., will respect the Guild-Producer contract minimums and other conditions of the basic agreement which covers all motion picture production.'

Lloyd is understood to have produced a similar version in New York and to have stated he had made arrangements for Paramount release.

Mayberry Joins Group Battling Legislation Aimed at Labor

Lynn Mayberry is chairman of a committee appointed yesterday by the board of directors of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists to work with similar committees from the Central Labor Council in urging defeat of state legislation aimed at labor. Other members of the committee are Frank Mitchell, Eddie Davis, Saretta Raye and Jessie Cryor.

C. J. Hyans reported on the Federated Amusement and Allied Crafts, and how membership in the organization has aided AGVA in organizing night spots that could not have been reached otherwise. He read a long list of houses that have signed with AGVA since the working agreement with other amusement crafts was formed.

'Serenade' Decish Soon

New York, April 1.—A decision by Columbia Pictures on the proposed roadshowing of 'Penny Serenade' is to be made here next week when company's execs get together.

Direct U's 'Raiders'

Ford Beebe and John Rawlins will co-direct Universal's next serial, 'Sea Raiders,' which starts shooting April 14. Henry MacRae will be associate producer.

Taylor Guides 'Law'

Universal has assigned Ray Taylor to direct Johnny Mack Brown's next western, 'Martial Law,' and the picture will start April 14.

Byrd in 'Saddle'

Ralph Byrd will have one of the two top roles in Warners short, 'Soldiers In The Saddle.' Mitchell Gertz handled.

Heyburn's 'Redhead'

Monogram has signed Weldon Heyburn for a featured role in 'Redhead,' which I. E. Chadwick is producing.

Helps Marquee

'Lady From New Orleans,' Republic starrer for John Wayne and Ona Munson, has been changed to 'Lady of New Orleans.'

Buck Jones To Make Octet for Mono On '41-'42 Sked

Monogram yesterday signed Buck Jones for eight cowboy pictures on its 1941-42 schedule. Jones will be one of three personalities in a new 'Rough Riders' series. Studio also will make eight with the Range Busters, Ray Corrigan, John King and Max Terhune.

Eight westerns made some time ago with John Wayne starring also will be reissued for the 1941-42 season.

NY LEGIT OPENING

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

sanctuary, a retreat some 20 miles from Washington. The scene is skillfully intertwined with a sub-romance. The heavy is a penniless house guest, a Rumanian count, which Coulouris so expertly portrays.

Bronchial audience made a slow first act a bit of hazard. But once the play swung into its stride, with its strong second act and socko third stanza, it almost parred the rave enconiums 'Watch On the Rhine' elicited in Baltimore last week. True, the buildup was a shade too much, but then few shows come to Broadway so heavily touted and match the advance raves. Nonetheless, 'Watch On the Rhine' is a worthy new drama and Herman Shumlin has a hit. It's a cinch for pictures.

Others in the cast are John Lodge, Helen Trenholme, Eda Heinemann, Anne Blyth, Peter Hernandez, Frank Wilson and Eric Roberts. Setting was done by Jo Meilziner. Helene Shumlin did the costumes.

Rep Dates 'Cyclone'

'Kansas Cyclone' starts Monday at Republic, with George Sherman producing and directing. The Don Barry western was not slated to roll until April 25, but Barry is planing back from the St. Louis premiere of 'Sis Hopkins' Friday night to be on hand Saturday.

Rogers Blurbs 'Wife'

Universal has retained Henry C. Rogers to do special pubicity and exploitation on 'Model Wife,' which Leigh Jason directed with Joan Blondell and Dick Powell starring.

Kaper on Garbo Pic

Bronislau Kaper has been assigned as music conductor on score for the Metro Greta Garbo starrer to be directed by George Cukor.

Cartoonists, Geo. Pal Will Start Pact Sesh Today

Negotiations between the Screen Cartoonists Guild and George Pal Studio get underway at 4 p.m. today. Attorney George E. Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative for the Brotherhood of Painters, will represent the Guilders, with Attorney Homer Mitchell appearing for Pal.

The SCG is seeking minimum wage scales, hours and conditions for the employes who voted 100% to designate the Guild as their collective bargaining representative. One of the major points to be decided will be in limiting the number of apprentices to be used.

Dates for opening negotiations with Leo Schlesinger and Screen Gems will be fixed the first of next week.

Louise Named Hayden's 'Street' Vis-a-vis

Columbia yesterday signed Anita Louise for the femme lead in 'One Way Street,' picture which will mark Russell Hayden's first appearance in a straight role since he left Harry Sherman's Hopalong Cassidys. Robert Florey will direct starting Friday, with Irving Briskin supervising. Noah Beery, Jr. and Dick Purcell have supporting roles.

Palmer Drops 'Bucket'

Stuart Palmer has finished script for 'Jason, the Bucket!', an Armand Schaefer production at Republic, and has checked off the lot. Palmer's new novel, 'The Puzzle of the Happy Hooligan,' hits bookstalls here Saturday.

Dmytryk Starts 'Co-ed'

'Betty Co-ed,' Columbia musical, starts shooting today with Edward Dmytryk directing. Ruby Keeler heads a cast which includes Harriett Hilliard, Ozzie Nelson and his band, Gordon Oliver and Byron Foulger.

a.m. Dailies

Writer Sues Paramount—

Paramount Pictures Corp. was sued in court here yesterday for $50,000 damages by Jack O'Donnell, writer who claims to be author of 'Arise My Love.' O'Donnell's suit said he sold the story to Paramount for $3,000 in 1936 with understanding he would get screen credit. Instead, credit went to Benjamin Glazer and John S. Toldy, according to his complaint, and they won an Academy award.

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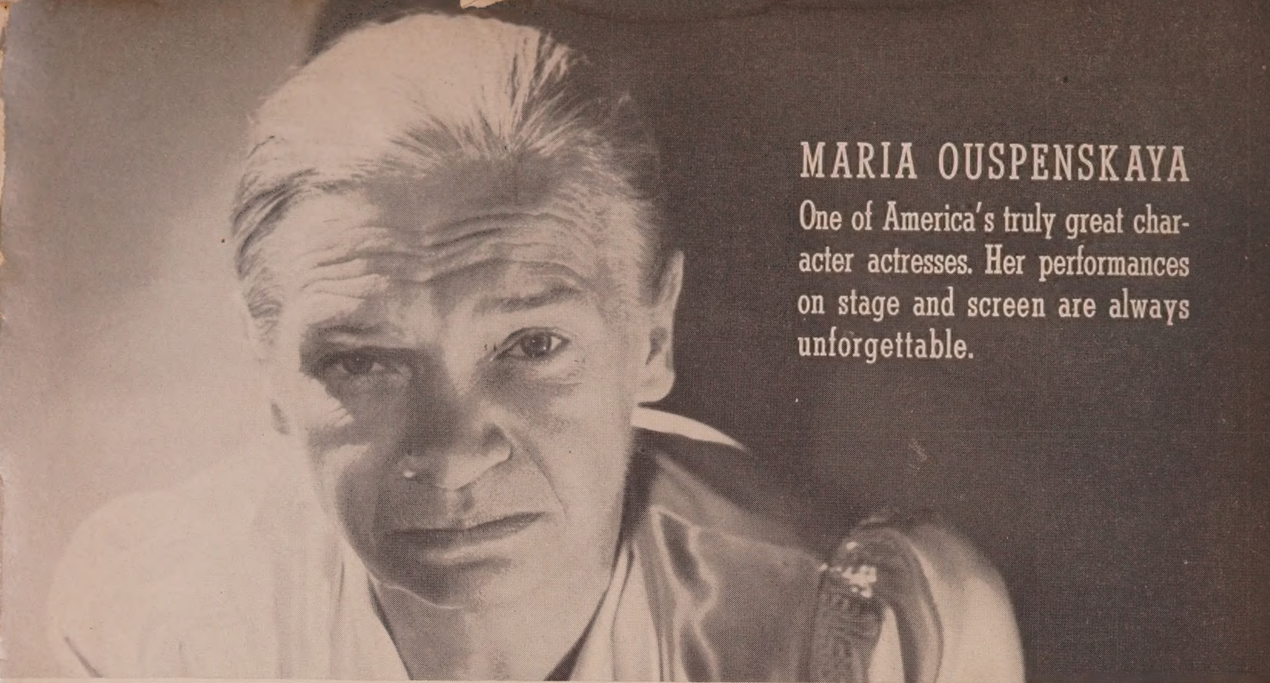

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Vol. 31 No. 21 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, April 3, 1941 5 Cents

KELLY SETS NEW UA SALES PLAN

NLRB STEPS INTO DISNEY SQUABBLE

The National Labor Relations Board stepped into the Walt Disney Studio picture yesterday, and it appeared last night that this action might prevent a strike call being issued by American Federation of Labor crafts with members employed on the lot. Union tops meet today, however, and unless executives agree to negotiate, an ultimatum will be drafted giving company officials a certain time in which

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

Playwright Sues Metro Over 'Ninotchka'

New York, April 2. — Stephen Tamas, Hungarian playwright, filed suit in Supreme court for $200,000 against Metro, the distributing corp. and Loew's, claiming plagiarism of his scenario, 'Moscow, Paris and Return' in 'Ninotchka.' Loew's admits receiving and rejecting the scenario but denies the piracy charge.

Baccaloni, Met Basso, Set for U's 'Hats'

New York, April 2. — Salvatore Baccaloni, Metropolitan opera comic basso, has been signed for Universal's 'Hold On To Your Hats.' He receives $5,000 weekly for four weeks, with production getting underway in the summer.

Hays Due In By Monday

Will H. Hays, prexy of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, is due on the Coast in time to attend the meeting of the Producers Association Monday.

La Cava to Manhattan

Gregory La Cava will leave for New York next week to shoot a final street scene for Universal's 'Unfinished Business.'

MG Ties Harry Ruskin

Harry Ruskin has been handed a term writing contract by Metro.

At Whose Mike?

Eric Sevareid, CBS war commentator, was set yesterday by NBC artists service to play himself in Warners 'Underground.'

VOGEL REPS BIZ AT MEXICAN FESTIVAL

Robert Vogel, chairman of the Foreign Publicity Directors Committee, planed for Mexico City yesterday to officially represent the motion picture industry at the Motion Picture Festival to be held in Mexico City April 12 to 14. Vogel will consult with President Avila Camacho

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Buckner Heads West

New York, April 2.—Robert Buckner, scripter who is adapting the life story of George M. Cohan for Warners, leaves for Hollywood tomorrow after conferring here with Cohan on plans for the picture.

SLIDING COMPENSATION FIGURED ON B. O. TAKE

United Artists producers yesterday at a meeting with Arthur W. Kelly, company sales head, agreed to a new sales plan for the 20 pictures on the 1941-42 slate. The plan is similar to that of Metro, under which the majority of pictures to be turned out by the UA producers will be compensated for on a sliding scale commensurate with the business done at the box office. Adjustments, under the plan, will be made with the exhibitors when the pictures do not come up to the anticipated take—while those doing biz in the top coin brackets will not have their percentage permanently set at booking time, but

★ Continued on page 5 ★

PCC Convention Committee Here (15) To Frame Program

Initial program details of the second annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, to be held at the Ambassador hotel here June 8-11, will be mapped out at a meeting of the convention committee to be held here around April 15. This committee comprises Hugh Bruen and Jack Berman, of Los Angeles; Rotus Harvey and Ben Levin, of San Francisco, and Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of the association.

As exclusively announced in Daily Variety an invitation has been ex-

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Bette Davis Planing In After 'Lie' Preem

New York, April 2.—Bette Davis plans to fly to Hollywood next week after the premiere of 'The Great Lie' at Littleton, New Hampshire. She's skedded to lead the grand march with Governor Blood at her birthday party there following the preem Saturday.

Versatile

Joe E. Brown will toss the first ball April 12 at Atlanta, Ga., to open the season for the Southern Baseball Association. Comedian will fly from ball throwing to bull throwing after the game, going immediately to the 'Pot o' Gold' premiere at Mexico City.

Padway East Today

Joseph A. Padway, general counsel for the American Federation of Labor, trains out today for Washington. Padway came here to represent studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes at the Wage-Hour hearings.

SPIES? WHO, ME?

Warners research department yesterday telephoned to the German consulate downtown to check a technical detail for 'Underground,' anti-Nazi film currently in production. The question was:

'Does the Gestapo use women for its dirty work?'

'What scene do you want it for?' came the reply from the consulate attache.

'Well, I don't know. We just want that information. Why?'

'If I knew what scene you wanted it for, I could look at our copy of the script and tell you.'

VARIETY ACTORS GET TILTS (15)

New minimum wage scales for variety actors will be put into effect Tuesday (15) by the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists, it was announced yesterday. Rate for club dates is being tilted from $8.50 to $10.

The minimum scale for Class A

♠ Continued on page 3 ♠

Hans Jaray Assigned For Korda Film

Hans Jaray is the third of four leading men unfamiliar to American picture goers signed by Alexander Korda to play opposite Merle Oberon in 'Illusions.' Other two already signed are Joseph Cotten and George Reeves, known on the New York stage and on English screen.

Rep Upps Kaye

Gordon Kaye, in the production department at Republic for the past two years, has been promoted to assistant to Al Cohen, taking over the spot left vacant when Doug Yates went into the Signal Corps.

Mayo's Havana Vacash

New York, April 2.—Director Archie Mayo, who has been in New York for one week doing preliminary work on 'Charley's Aunt' for 20th-Fox, leaves tomorrow for Havana.

Sorrell at Conclave

Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, headed for San Jose yesterday to attend State Painters Conference. Will return Sunday.

U Terms Marcia Ralston

Universal yesterday signed Marcia Ralston to a term contract. Actress has been away from films for the past three years.

PREVIEWED

POWER DIVE
(Par)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Franz Planer will lens 'Betty Co-ed'.

Tom Revere trains back to New York Sunday.

Virginia Van Upp returns from Nassau tomorrow.

Claude Rains flies in from Philadelphia tomorrow.

John Barclay cast in Paramount's 'Aloma of the South Seas'.

Dick Marvin back to New York after a brief stopover in Chicago.

Jacques Deval back from Manhattan and settling down to writing new play.

Loraine Fielding left New York yesterday for South America on a story hunt.

Gene Lockhart's ditty, 'Mrs. Tommy Atkins,' written for actor British aid charity revue, has been grabbed by New York publishers.

Cliff Lewis, who was on the road exploiting for Paramount, is through at the studio and probably will take a theatre publicity job in Texas.

Bob Roberts, Daily Variety circulation department, was married to Mary Desmond, daughter of old time actor William Desmond, last week.

Tay Garnett driving his station wagon to Miami to get background stuff for 'Unexpected Uncle' which he will direct as an Erich Pommer production.

June Adams, unknown to screen but with several strawhat circuit plays to her credit, is being interviewed at 20th-Fox as possibility for role in 'Belle Starr.'

Fanchon (and Marco) is spending a few weeks at the New York offices of the producing concern, and incidentally lamping some of the current Broadway shows.

Irving Reis to Las Vegas on combo vacash and business trip. He will do polish job on untitled RKO yarn he wrote and is scripting in collaboration with Ian McLellan Hunter.

Jimmy Ellison trained last night for Kansas City where he will be joined today by Ona Munson and Lois Ranson. Then they'll go on to the 'Sis Hopkins' premiere at St. Louis. Actresses plane out today.

George Sawley will do the interior decoration job on Paramount's 'World Premiere'. Al Fields does the same chore for RKO's 'Parachute Battalion.' Ray Moyer has the assignment for 'Henry For President.'

Benny the Gouge sez—These are dangerous times for the boys around Hollywood and Vine. I know a guy who asked for a job and got one.

Hollywood Inside

HUGH HERBERT is the only man on the Universal lot who can park his car wherever he pleases. Top executives have spaces reserved for their automobiles, but haven't got the freedom of the grounds. Herbert, currently in 'Hello Sucker,' has been violating the strictest of studio rules, parking his car in front of his bungalow, the stage, or any place but the parking lot. Irate studio cops, if the key was left in the lock, drove the car to the lot; if it wasn't they hunted out the actor and made him fork over the key. Yesterday Herbert approached David S. Garber, manager of operations. Herbert buttered Garber with compliments about the neatness of the studio, then produced pen and paper and asked for his autograph. Garber, proud of the actor's request, complied. Herbert then had the rest of the sheet filled with instructions, typed by a conspiratorial stenographer, to all cops, ordering them to allow the actor's car to have the run of the studio.

☆ ☆ ☆

TITLE of 'In The Navy' has been switched by Universal to 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy.' Names of the comics are figured to be sure fire at the box office after the reception of them in 'Buck Privates.' 'Oh Charlie,' which they recently completed, will not be released until after release of 'Navy,' the studio believing that it should follow the two military pictures. Budget on 'Oh, Charlie' has also been increased and several scenes will be added, including one production number based on George Gershwin's 'Rhapsody In Blue.' Warners recently announced plans for making a story of Gershwin's life, to include all of the American composer's music. 'Rhapsody In Blue,' however, has been owned by Universal for some time.

☆ ☆ ☆

AN IMPORTANT production problem solved by Ted Reed in directing 'Her First Beau' at Columbia, is being utilized by a number of other studios. Reed figured a way to get around the expense involved in making long shots of street scenes, or shots out of office windows. He also found a method that put people into these scenes so the scenes wouldn't look static and false. Although painted backdrops or miniature buildings were retained for the scenes Reed used midgets to walk through, keeping the long shots with humans in perfect perspective. Universal adopted the idea for 'The Flame of New Orleans,' then Lewis Milestone annexed the technique for scenes in 'My Life With Caroline' at RKO.

☆ ☆ ☆

ACTION of the Producers in removing standby painters and placing them on a six-hour basis is causing considerable jealousy among picture directors and cameramen. It is claimed that top ranking directors and cameramen on major productions are being given standby painters, but that lensers and directors on smaller productions are required to get along without a standby painter, having to call the paint shop and wait until a man can be sent over whenever a set has to be touched up. Boys not in on the gravy claim they do not get painters as familiar with the situation as the regular standbys, and have to spend considerable time explaining how the work should be done.

☆ ☆ ☆

NEGOTIATIONS between the Screen Writers Guild and Producers will be resumed tomorrow. The Scriveners are anxious to complete the deal and get a real basic agreement to replace the current skeleton contract which expires Thursday (10). There was a possibility, however, today's parley might have to be postponed because of the absence of certain executives.

☆ ☆ ☆

ONE of George J. Schaefer's chief weapons in dealing with the RKO board of directors tomorrow on 'Citizen Kane' will be results of a Gallup survey showing that stories on 'Kane' have had the greatest publicity penetration in the history of films, with the single exception of 'Gone With the Wind.'

☆ ☆ ☆

CECIL B. DeMILLE is still set to produce and direct Ernest Hemingway's 'For Whom the Bell Tolls' at Paramount despite persistent rumors that other producers on the lot and outside directors will handle the biggie.

Cocking Quits H'wood To Draft Survey At San Francisco

Eldred M. Cocking, who made an extensive survey of the picture industry for the Wage-Hour Administration, trained out last night for San Francisco to draft plans for a similar survey of the lumber industry.

Inspectors will be detailed to the Portland and Seattle areas, but Cocking expects to still maintain his headquarters in Los Angeles.

Loew's Pay Divvy

New York, April 2.—Loew's, Inc., directors today paid the regular $1.62½ dividend on preferred, payable May 15 to stock on record April 29, maintaining regular $6.50 annual rate. There was no other business.

SCG, Pal Agreement Near Except On Wage Provisions

Negotiations between the Screen Cartoonists Guild and George Pal got underway yesterday, with the two groups reported near agreement on most contract provisions exclusive of wages. Another meeting has been set for 4 p.m. Monday, at which time the question of minimum pay scales will be taken up.

Attorney Homer Mitchell is representing Pal, with Attorney George E. Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, appearing for the Cartoonists.

Frazee at Republic

Jane Frazee reports to Republic today for a singing role in 'Angels With Broken Wings.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

They taught the kids the hard old way in simple days of yore
When primal education was a tough and thankless chore.
Arithmetic and spelling kept the lads at work all day
While sparrows chirped outside the door and lilacs bloomed in May.

There was no relaxation then to soothe the youthful brow
Nor cinematic training, as the kids are getting now.
Your old man trudged his weary way to school with spirits low,
But now the pupils romp to see a motion picture show.

★ ★ ★

Mark Hellinger's first production at 20th-Fox is 'The Bowery Nightingale' and the second is 'Fifth Avenue.' What ever happened to Broadway?

★ ★ ★

Doug Fairbanks, Jr. is coming back to Hollywood, full of vim and vigor after his long absence. As a starter he will rassle a couple of Corsican Brothers for Eddie Small.

Metro will have an easy time casting 'Babes in Hollywood.' The town is full of them, and all stars according to their mothers.

Turmoil in Culver City. Metro has 46 kids and the Marx Brothers in one picture.

★ ★ ★

Reinhold Schunzel opened the door and in walked a personal property tax appraiser.

'Same layout as last year?' asked the ppta.

'Absolutely,' said Reinhold.

The ppta took another look and asked:

'How would you like to buy some furniture?'

★ ★ ★

Appropriate title for the new war picture on the 20th-Fox roster. 'Fraternity.'

★ ★ ★

On the other hand, 'Thunder Over the Ozarks' may sound like war but means nothing but rain.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood is feeling repercussions of the fall of France. Now we are going to get some more pictures about Devil's Island.

★ ★ ★

Back in the days of Forty-Nine they trekked across the land
To prowl the California hills and dig the gold by hand.
Today they hang around at home and write a Broadway show
While film producers hasten east to hand out sacks of dough.

★ ★ ★

20th-Fox winds up its 1940-41 shooting schedule with 'The Man With the Shovel.' That guy is always there at the finish.

★ ★ ★

A picture cowboy rides the plain
In daily occupation.
And does he climb aboard a train
When he is on vacation?
Instead, he mounts his hoss again
And rides for recreation.

Preview

★

Power Dive

(*Melodrama*)

William Pine and William C. Thomas production for Paramount release. Stars Richard Arlen and Jean Parker. Supporting cast: Helen Mack, Roger Pryor, Don Castle, Cliff Edwards, Billy Lee, Thomas Ross, Louis Jean Heydt, Pat West. Directed by James Hogan. Produced by William C. Thomas. Associate producer, John Rogers. Screenplay by Maxwell Shane and Edward Churchill, based on a story by Paul Franklin. Camera, John Alton. Sound recording, Farrell Redd. Edited by Robert Crandall. Art direction, F. Paul Sylos. Previewed April 2. Running time: 68 mins.

William Pine and William C. Thomas have no need for apologies for their initial Paramount feature. In 'Power Dive', first of a series of three pictures of the flying game, produced under the banner of Picture Corporation of America, they have turned out a down-to-earth film, replete with thrills and containing enough suspense, coupled with romance, to satisfy even the most exacting of cinema fans.

Produced on a very nominal budget, 'Power Dive' merits rating with some of the much more expensive pictures released on the Paramount program, and while there are no real 'draw' names in the cast, the personnel comprises seasoned players who give everything they possess to make the finished product one that exhibitors everywhere will find an excuse for playing.

This picture marks the screen debut of Don Castle, who has been entrusted with the second male lead, and he more than makes good, auguring well for future plans which Par has in store for him. Dick Arlen and Jean Parker are given star billing, and rightly so, but several of the supporting cast run a close race for top honors.

Yarn is built around the airplane test game, with Arlen as the ace of plane testers and Castle as his younger brother who aspires to the glory and plaudits which flying of this nature brings. Miss Parker portrays the enthusiastic daughter of a blind inventor of a plastic machine which is constructed by Roger Pryor, the plane builder, only after another of his ace testers, Louis Jean Heydt, has crashed and met death in a ship of his own invention.

Arlen is loath to have his kid brother take up the flying game, but the youngster has fallen for the charms of Miss Parker and finally emerges with plenty of honor heaped upon him. Most of the comedy is provided by Cliff Edwards, Arlen's mechanic, and Thomas Ross does a capable job as the blind designer who lives to see his invention accepted by the government.

Helen Mack, seen on the screen for the first time in many moons, portrays the wife of Heydt, and gives a restrained, though highly acceptable performance, and Billy Lee, as their son, is satisfactory. Pat West has a small bit as a mechanic at the flying field, and as usual handles the part adequately.

Performances of Arlen, Miss Parker and Castle are outstanding, particularly the latter, who not only has an exceptional personality to offer screen fans but is long on looks and histrionic ability. He should go a long way. Roger Pryor is the plane manufacturer, and while his performance tends somewhat toward the lighter vein, he is satisfactory in the portrayal.

An excellent directorial job has been turned in by James Hogan, who has overlooked nothing to give the production everything that a small-budget picture can possibly have. Not once does he slip up on even the most minute detail, and the result is screen entertainment of the first degree.

Maxwell Shane and Edward Churchill turned in a convincing and comprehensive screenplay of Paul Franklin's original yarn, and John Alton has done a superb job of photography. Editing job of Robert Crandall is without a flaw.

Summed up, 'Power Dive' is the sort of screen material that exhibitors, once they have gotten behind it and given it the proper selling angles, should cash in on and at the same time give patrons plenty in the way of screen entertainment.

PCC Convention Committee Here (15) To Frame Program

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

tended to the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, headed by Ed Kuykendall as prexy, to meet simultaneously with the Pacific Coast group, the first time in the industry's history locally that two exhibitor bodies, with, however, somewhat divergent ideas, will unit for a good-will gathering such as is proposed.

Program as tentatively set, and which will in all probability be carried out to the letter, calls for the PCCITO to hold its individual business and open forum sessions of its conference on the mornings of June 9-10-11, while the MPTOA sessions, which will be more in the nature of talks by industry leaders, will be held on the afternoons of those days. Social activities of both organizations will be combined. Thus the viewpoints of both organizations on all matters affecting independent exhibitors will be individually expressed during the separate business sessions.

The trustees of the PCC have developed a definite, concrete program which, together with the recent appointment of Albert J. Law as general counsel, is expected to develop to the best interests of all indie theatre owners on the Pacific Coast, and their business sessions therefore will be devoted to that undivided interest.

The consent decree, together with other matters of vital interest to indie exhibs on the Coast is the objective of Law's current trip to Washington and New York. It is the intention of the PCC trustees to give all indie theatre men on the Pacific Coast a complete report at its convention on the results accomplished by Law, the officers and trustees of the exhibitor organization.

Writer Sues Cowan, Ronell for $15,000 On Par's 'Music'

Arthur Robinson, writer on musical subjects, filed a $15,000 damage suit yesterday in Superior court, charging piracy of his story in the Paramount picture, 'There's Magic In Music,' formerly 'The Hard Boiled Canary.' Defendants are Lester Cowan, independent producer, and his wife, Ann Ronell, song writer.

Robinson contends he wrote the original story, based on the activities of youngsters in the musical camp at Interlochen, Mich., and turned it over to Cowan. Later, he charges, it was sold to Paramount and credited to Ann Ronell, who was in Europe at the time, according to the complaint.

Plaintiff states he collaborated on data for the story with Joseph E. Maddy, musical director at the Interlochen camp. He is represented in the suit by Morton E. Feiler.

Del Ruth Reaches MG

Roy Del Ruth reported to Metro yesterday after hurried trip to New York to ogle plays, and immediately begins preparations for his next director assignment, 'The Chocolate Soldier.'

Zanuck Starts New Contract; Rushes 'Starr' and 'R.A.F.'

Darryl F. Zanuck, upon his return from Sun Valley yesterday, began working under the new contract to which he was signed last fall by Sidney R. Kent and the 20th-Fox board of directors. He will, under terms of the pact, remain vice-president in charge of production until April, 1947.

'Belle Starr' will be his first picture into production, starting Monday. 'A Yank In the R.A.F.', which rolls the following week, will be his second.

Yesterday he worked on the cutting of 'Blood and Sand.'

VARIETY ACTORS GET TILTS (15)

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

theatres and night spots will be increased from $50 to $60 per week, for Class B houses from $40 to $50 per week, and for Class C spots from $30 to $40 per week. The rate for neighborhood spots classified as Special D will be lifted from $5 to $6. This applies to single shows for one day or night.

Editors Mull Disney

The board of directors of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors meets tonight. The situation at the Walt Disney Studio with reference to film cutters is expected to be the main topic of discussion. Prexy Edmund D. Hannan will preside.

ASC Election 14th

The American Society of Cinematographers board of directors meets April 14 to elect officers. In addition to the officers, five places on the board are filled each year. Ballots on election of board members will be canvassed Monday (7).

'Blonde' Cincy Record

Cincinnati, O., April 2.—'Strawberry Blonde' goes into its seventh week in Cincinnati, starting tomorrow at the Lyric. This marks a new high for downtown picture engagements for one picture here.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

KATE SMITH and Ted Collins fly to San Diego today to look over the Naval base as guests of Admiral C. A. Blakely, commander of the 11th district. They'll pass the week-end at Catalina and upon their return audition comics for the Grape-nuts program. . . . Jackie Miller, Kate's ork leader, was tendered a party at Victor's last night. Attending were Herman Nelson, Joe Stauffer, Lester Linsk and Sammy Fuller. . . . Jerrie Kruger, singer, opens at Charlie Foy's tonight. . . Bette Davis will receive a long-distance call Saturday night from 100 girls at the Hollywood Studio Club. Actress will be east for the premiere of 'The Great Lie,' and the day is also her birthday. Studio Club girls will sing 'Happy Birthday To You' over the wire, paying for the call themselves. . . . Dorothy Kilgallen starts her coast-to-coast radio program, featuring film news out of New York, April 5.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—
Barbara Stanwyck, dining at Bob Murphy's with husband Robert Taylor, in a white crepe dinner suit designed by Edith Head. The floppy hip pockets of short-fitted jacket were embroidered in large jeweled strawberries. The very straight, slim skirt was slit up the front just below the knee. Ruby and diamond earrings and bracelet matched the strawberry trim. Her slippers were white crepe and her wrap a short white ermine cape, to which was pinned one large mystery gardenia.

LELAND STOWE, war correspondent, was guested at Dave Chasen's by Thornton Sargent. . . . Max Gordon, Burgess Meredith, John Howard Lawson and Harold Clurman will take part in a forum on The Theatre in the United States at the Roosevelt hotel, Hollywood, tonight. Forum is being held under the auspices of the Hollywood chapter of the League of American Writers. Jerome Chodorov will act as chairman. . . . After four weeks, the Ambassador hotel yesterday picked up the option on Mary Parker and Billy Daniel and they'll dance at Cocoanut Grove for the next six weeks. . . . William Saal, Republic special representative, has appeared on programs at all seven St. Louis radio stations this week plugging the premiere Friday night of 'Sis Hopkins.' Bill's breezy inside chatter on Hollywood has brought him 250 fan letters and he's been asked to appear next week (even after the preem is all over) on several St. Louis stations for interviews.

Rosita Moreno and Mel Shauer met for the first time six years ago at luncheon. Yesterday they celebrated their sixth anniversary by having a quiet feed for two. Miss Moreno leaves April 16 for Buenos Aires to appear in a picture for Baires Films and on the stage.

Toronto Arrangements Being Completed For Neagle B'cast

Anna Neagle's brother, Stuart Robertson, leaves today for Toronto to set talent and conduct rehearsals for Miss Neagle's Easter Sunday 'Queen Victoria' broadcast going across the United States and Canada on coast-to-coast hookup and to England and the British empire by short wave. Broadcast is for British war effort. Robertson also will be narrator.

Herbert Wilcox and Miss Neagle train out of here for Toronto next Tuesday.

Fairbanks, Jr. Will Do 'Brothers' for Small

Edward Small has signed Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., to play the twin roles in the Alexander Dumas adventure tale, 'The Corsican Brothers,' which is slated as the producer's most ambitious undertaking for United Artists release this season. Start will be in mid-June. Howard Estabrook is writing the script.

Cuff Airs Lowdown

New slant on analyzing the war news will be presented twice a week on KECA by Sam Cuff, confidential aide and interpreter with the British and Turks in the last World War. He'll be heard on Wednesday and Friday at 6:55 p.m.

Ogle Healy Show

Frank Healy yesterday auditioned a half hour variety show at CBS for Young & Rubicam. Program is billed 'Jack Carson, Supported By Relatives and Vice Versa.'

Kraft Guests 10th

Guests in Kraft Music Hall (10) will be Bob Hope, John O'Hara, author of the Broadway hit, 'Pal Joey', and the Kraft Choral Society.

Obituary

FIFI O'BRIEN

Mass will be celebrated at Blessed Sacrament church at 9 a.m. today for Fifi O'Brien, 52, former vaudeville actress and picture bit player, who died Tuesday at the Cedars of Lebanon. She is survived by her husband, William John, actor. She and her husband toured together in vaude until 1926 when they came to Hollywood. She began her career in 1909.

JOHN K. SUN

John Klotz Sun, 84, one of the former owners of the Sun Brothers circus, died yesterday in Tampa, Fla.

NATIONWIDE—BUT NOT TOO BIG FOR FRIENDLY SERVICE!

Postal Telegraph

CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

DELEGATES EN ROUTE FOR MONO CONFABS

More than 125 delegates will attend the franchise holders' annual convention of Monogram Pictures Corp., when it gets underway at the Roosevelt hotel tomorrow. Intensive study and discussion of sales planning, production methods, franchise problems and details of the 1941-42 program will occupy the attention of the delegates during the three-day meeting.

Opening day activities will center largely on conferences with W. Ray Johnston, Trem Carr, members of the board of directors and other Monogram executives. Samuel 'Steve' Broidy, general sales manager, will reveal the sales program for the new year, and Carr will give a general analysis of studio plans.

ARTHUR MAYER SPEAKS

Arthur Mayer, operator of the Rialto theatre in New York, will speak on motion picture exploitation and advertising Saturday. William Gell, managing director of Pathe Films, Ltd., Monogram distributor in England, will discuss the effect of the war on American product. Harry J. Thomas will analyze the eastern sales situation and Howard Stubbins will speak on the western.

Scott Dunlap, George Weeks, Paul Malvern, Lindsley Parsons, I. E. Chadwick and Sam Katzman will tell of their production plans for 1941-42. Saturday evening Chadwick will host the delegates at the Florentine Gardens and Friday night Katzman will take the group to the Hollywood Legion fights and to Charley Foy's club.

Sunday will be 'Western Day' sponsored by George Weeks at the Range Busters ranch. Horseback riding, a rodeo and outdoor sports will be on the program. 'Roar of the Press', Scott R. Dunlap production featuring Wallace Ford, Jean Parker and Jed Prouty; 'The Invisible Ghost,' Bela Lugosi starrer with Polly Ann Young and John McGuire, produced by Sam Katzman, and 'Break the News,' Rene Clair musical with tunes and lyrics by Cole Porter and with Maurice Chevalier, Jack Buchanan and June Knight in the cast, will be screened for the delegates on Saturday.

REPS OF 36 EXCHANGES

Representatives from Monogram's 36 exchanges in the United States and Canada are attending the convention, with a large number of home executives and directors of the company. Among the exchangemen are Nathan Sodikman, Albany; John Mangham, Atlanta; Ben Welansky, Boston; Harry Berkson, Buffalo; Henri Elman, Chicago; William Onie, Cincinnati; Nate Schultz, Cleveland; Ed Blumenthal and John Franconi, Dallas; F. E. Judd, Des Moines; William Hurlbut, Detroit; William Benjamin, Kansas City; Howard Stubbins, Los Angeles; Charles Trampe, Milwaukee; Ben Nathanson, Minneapolis; Harry H. Thomas, New York; Carr Scott, Oklahoma City; S. J. Francis, Omaha; George West and Robert Taylor, St. Louis; Mel Hulling, San Francisco, and L. T. Fidler, Denver.

In addition to Johnston, Carr and Broidy, the home office contingent includes Herman Rifkin, vice-president; Ray E. Young, treasurer; Joseph Lamm, comptroller; Louis S. Lifton, director of advertising and publicity; John S. Harrington, manager of the print and accessories department; Lloyd L. Lind, head of the contract department; Russell M. Bell, art director, and J. P. Friedhoff, office manager.

VOGEL REPS BIZ AT MEXICAN FESTIVAL

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

and other officials of the Mexican government regarding plans for the event.

Vogel was accompanied by Irving Rubine, of Warners, and Frank Fouce, local expert on Mexican pictures. They will remain in Mexico City at the Hotel Reforma until the arrival of the Hollywood delegation which will attend the Festival. A bureau also will be established here to handle the Hollywood angles and act as a clearing bureau for the Mexico City representatives.

The major attraction of the Festival will be the world premiere of James Roosevelt's 'Pot o' Gold.'

Par Ties Webb

Richard Webb, former U. S. Army aviator who played a bit in 'I Wanted Wings,' has been signed to stock contract at Paramount.

Story Buys

Paramount yesterday purchased 'Out of the Frying Pan,' the Francis Swann comedy which has had a Broadway run, for a reported $50,000. Studio has engaged Swann to come here to write screen adaptation. He reports in during next two weeks.

Anders for 'Truth'

Glenn Anders is importantly cast in Paramount's 'Nothing But the Truth.' This will be Anders' second film role. Leon Belasco also has been cast.

MARGUERITE GERARD

Native Parisian Teacher

Special coaching for screen players, singers, radio performers. In diction, conversation, dialect, grammar, songs and operas.

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Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!

★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★

COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Veronica Lake Tops Par 'Blonde Venus' After 'Pass' Job

'Blonde Venus' will be starrer for Veronica Lake at Paramount, following 'China Pass' on her schedule.

'China Pass' will be produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr., from an original by Jacques Thery.

Ketti Frings, novelist who wrote 'Hold Back the Dawn,' will do the screenplay for 'Blonde Venus'.

Shane, Murphy Collab On 'Flying Blind'

Maxwell Shane has been signed by William Thomas-William Pine organization to collaborate with Richard Murphy on script for 'Flying Blind,' third picture the independent producers are making for Paramount. First, 'Power Dive,' was press-previewed yesterday at Paramount studio, and the second, 'Forced Landing,' is set to hit cameras (18).

Gene Lockhart Benefit Revue Will Tour

Gene Lockhart's Revue for the British War Relief at the Beverly Hills Hawthorne theatre will go on tour at conclusion of its Sunday evening run in May. Show will go to San Diego, Dallas, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, Portland, Seattle and Vancouver.

Metzger Seeks Heater

Ross Metzger, radio head of Ruthrauff & Ryan agency in Chicago, is still shopping around for an emcee to take back to the Windy City to head a summer variety show for Holland furnace. Program goes on NBC for an eight-week period.

Lantz Ending Pair

Walter Lantz this week completes two cartoons for Universal, 'Salt Water Daffy' and 'Andy Panda's Pop.'

'York' for Douglas

Don Douglas has been cast for an important spot with Gary Cooper in Warners 'Sergeant York.'

Canova Ethers 'Sis'

Judy Canova re-enacts her 'Sis Hopkins' film role on 'Hollywood Premiere' (11).

Miranda's Java'er

Carmen Miranda does a repeat guest shot on Chase & Sanborn (13).

Ill in Pix

WIFE OF JACK YOUNG, cameraman, in Hollywood hospital with a fractured arm, sustained in a fall at the Roller Bowl.

LA CONGA
1551 VINE HO 6346
OPENING TONIGHT
LEON NAVARA
and his
11-Piece Continental Orchestra
12 yrs. Hotel St. Moritz, N. Y.
•
THE THEODORES
•
PHILLIP LOPEZ
and His Conga-Rumba Band

Industry Tributes Father Flanagan At Studio Fete

Father Edward J. Flanagan, founder of Boys Town, Neb., and whose work has inspired two pictures at Metro, was honored yesterday at a testimonial luncheon given at the studio by Louis B. Mayer for more than 300 picture people, church dignitaries, social workers and public officials.

Father Flanagan expressed his gratitude to the studio for making 'Boys Town' and 'Men of Boys Town'. He spoke humbly of the great work he is doing in rehabilitating errant youngsters and pleaded with those at the luncheon to heed the plight of 'the neglected, unwanted and unloved boy who has become a serious problem in our society . . . His bruised and tortured heart must be nursed back to normal health through kindness, love and sympathetic treatment, not through brutality of physical and mental cruelty that is frequently practiced by guards in our so-called reform schools.'

Bishop James Hugh Ryan, of Omaha, Neb., also was honored at the luncheon. He praised films and said that 'the cinema has done, particularly in these last few years, a great deal to promote good citizenship, worthy ideals and sound democratic thinking.'

James E. West, head of the Boy Scouts of America, also spoke, lauding the great work of Father Flanagan and tossing another bouquet at Metro and the industry. Archbishop John J. Cantwell and Mayor Fletcher Bowron were among the guests.

Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney, stars of 'Men of Boys Town', did a scene from the picture. Kathryn Grayson was magnificent in singing three numbers. The St. Luke's Boys Choir also sang. Metro's recording orchestra, conducted by Nat Finston, accompanied Miss Grayson and the choir.

Among the picture folk present were Ben Goetz, Harry Ginsberg, Samuel Goldwyn, Sam Katz, Harry Cohn, John W. Considine, Harry Rapf, Norma Shearer, Walter Wanger, H. M. Warner, Irving Asher, Fred Beetson, Pandro S. Berman, Pat Casey, Dick Goldstone, Edgar Selwyn, Victor Saville, Frank Scully and J. K. McGuinness.

Gilbert Gets 'Wings'

Billy Gilbert, who returned from a stage date at the Golden Gate in San Francisco yesterday, goes into 'Angels With Broken Wings' at Republic.

Births

DAUGHTER, seven pounds and two ounces, to Mrs. Albert Vaughn, Tuesday at the Good Samaritan hospital. Father is publicity director for Edward Small.

VICTOR'S
IN BEVERLY HILLS
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KELLY SETS UA SALES PLAN WITH PRODUCERS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

gauged upon the income that the exhib gets from playing them.

It was undecided yesterday whether David O. Selznick, who is to produce two, will release them on the new basis. Selznick was the only UA producer not at the meeting yesterday. However, he conferred with Kelly prior to the session.

Those who attended the meeting with Kelly in the Alexander Korda office lot in General Service Studios, besides Korda, were Edward Small, David Loew, Richard A. Rowland, Sol Lesser, Hal Roach, Walter Wanger and Henry Henigson, latter representing Globe Productions.

Small has five pictures scheduled for the new season besides 'Corsican Brothers,' which was a 1940-41 commitment; Wanger will make three, Korda likewise, Roach possibly three and others one or two with the possible exception of Globe whose future production policy has not been determined.

The producers do not want to give the impression that the plan is block booking, as UA has always sold each picture individually, but under new plan want to give exhib a minimum product assurance, without having him feel that he is buying a block package of the company product.

Kelly plans returning to New York today and will announce the new selling plan at the initial UA convention in New York on April 14.

Auditors Tell Court Government Owes Schenck Money

New York, April 2.—Testimony that Joseph M. Schenck overpaid his income tax in 1937 instead of paying too little was given in Federal court here today by two auditors, Carol F. Hall and Myron Fink. The latter testified that the government really owed Schenck $55,442.

U. S. Attorney Mathias Correa fought against admission of the figures, but Judge Grover Moscowitz allowed them, after it was shown they were based on exhibits already in evidence, including books of the 20th-Fox company.

Dr. Attilio H. Giannini, retired banker, testified as a character witness for the film executive, stating he knew Schenck for 22 years and that his reputation for 'forthright honesty and outright integrity' was 'very good'.

Dennis O'Brien, of O'Brien, Driscoll and Taftery, testified for Joseph Moskowitz. He said he knew him for 15 years and that his reputation was 'excellent'.

Hall and Fink will be cross-examined tomorrow, with James Farley, former postmaster general, appearing as a character witness.

Schenck and Moskowitz are on trial charged with failure to make proper income tax returns.

Mary Pickford, ill in St. Vincent's hospital here, stated she regretted exceedingly that she would not be able to go to New York to testify for Joseph M. Schenck. She said 'Mr. Schenck is generous and honorable and sympathetic to all those who need his support.'

Reopens Drive-In

Drive-In theatre at Tucson, Ariz., shuttered since last December, will be reopened for the season tomorrow night. B. A. Reif will again operate at a 30c top, with house again booked by Exhibitors Service, Inc.

26 Warners Cutters Rush Work On 18 Features

A new high in cutting department activities at Warners has 26 snippers and editors working full time to match production boom, including 18 features and six shorts, to be augmented with three more features starting within next two weeks.

Finished but unreleased, on which cutters are laboring, are 'The Bride Came C.O.D.', 'Miss Wheelwright Discovers America', 'Affectionately Yours', 'Shining Victory', 'A Shot In the Dark', 'Thieves Fall Out', 'Passage From Hongkong', 'The Nurse's Secret', 'Highway West', 'Singapore Woman', 'Three Sons o' Guns'.

Still before cameras are 'Sergeant York', 'Manpower', 'Underground', 'Dive Bomber', 'The Gentle People', 'The Flight Patrol' and 'Bad Men of Missouri'.

Vega at Highland

Louis Vega has been named manager of the Fox Highland theatre, to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Roy Evans to the F-WC booking department. Vega is replaced at the Lyric theatre, Huntington Park, by Jack Dabs, who has been an assistant manager in the Cullen Espy Los Angeles district.

Castle Gets 'Premiere'

Don Castle has been handed juve lead in Paramount's 'World Premiere.'

a.m. Dailies

Hardwicke to Canada—

Sir Cedric Hardwicke trained yesterday for Toronto, Canada, and a reunion with Lady Hardwicke and his brother-in-law, Walter Pickard. Lady Hardwicke has been touring with a Canadian stock company for the British War Relief. Sir Cedric returns here next week.

It's a Hit!
Sunday Nights at 8:40
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NLRB Regional Aide Steps Into Disney AF of L Squabble

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

to arrange meetings with the various unions. Monday (7) has been tentatively set as a deadline.

Studio executives, however, are known to have already contacted Joseph Tuohy, business representative of Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399, and offered to negotiate. Unionists said this indicated a switch in procedure by the studio, but added none of the unions would sign until they all had presented their contracts.

Walter Spreckels, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, spent some time in conference with Walt Disney and Gunther Lessing, general counsel for the company. It is understood that Edmund D. Hannan, prexy of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors; John W. Lehners, business representative of the group, and Attorney Leonard S. Janofsky also sat in on the parley. The Society recently filed charges with the NLRB accusing Disney of unfair labor practices.

Spreckels stated he acted merely in the hopes of bringing about an amicable agreement that would eliminate the necessity for long and costly litigation. He said it was the duty of the NLRB to arrange such a settlement wherever possible.

It is reported, however, that Disney and Lessing were advised their knowledge of labor affairs was so slight as to make it difficult for them to handle negotiations in the present cases. It was suggested to Disney several times yesterday that he call in some labor expert in whom he could place confidence to handle relations with the unions.

Lessing is understood to have stated that reports that he had ignored the union were erroneous. He was quoted as having stated he was perfectly willing to talk with the crafts, but that his time had been so occupied with other matters he had not had time to arrange meetings with them.

While it was generally felt that yesterday's conferences had somewhat cleared the atmosphere, the showdown will come today when the union leaders ask the studio executives for conferences. Aubrey Blair, AFofL international organizer and representative here for Meyer Lewis, western director of the AFofL, is acting as contact for the unionists. He is being aided by George E. Bodle, attorney for the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which claims to represent a big majority of the Disney workers; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and other AFofL tops.

Puglia, Rasumny Set

Paramount assigned Frank Puglia to 'Parson of Panamint' yesterday. Mikhael Rasumny goes into 'Forced Landing.'

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

BERT WHEELER

IN

"LAS VEGAS NIGHTS"

WITH

HANK LADD

AND

FRANCETTA MALLOY

✶

LEO FITZGERALD
Manager

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

Vol. 31 No. 21 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, April 4, 1941 5 Cents

SELZNICK, GOLDWYN, WB ALIGN?

MONO SKEDS 53 FEATURES FOR 1941-42

Program of 53 features to be produced and distributed by Monogram for the 1941-42 season will be announced today by W. Ray Johnston, president of Monogram Pictures Corp., at the opening session of the annual franchise holders' convention which starts this morning at the Roosevelt hotel, to continue through Sunday.

Two of the pictures will be top-budget films, titled 'Premier Produc-

★ Continued on page 10 ★

Planes Get U. S. Okeh For Mexican Flite

The Producers Association announced yesterday that special government dispensation has been secured for three American Airline planes to fly directly to Mexico City for the Motion Picture Festival there April 12 to 14. The planes will leave Wednesday (9), with the advance delegation of visitors from Hollywood. A special railroad car has been chartered for those who do not desire to fly, leaving here Friday (11).

Raymond Massey Inks For DeMille 'Wind'

Raymond Massey was signed by Cecil B. DeMille, via long distance telephone yesterday, to play the heavy lead in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount. Massey is currently with Katharine Cornell in 'The Doctor's Dilemma,' on Broadway.

WB, Smith Talk Deal

Warners is dickering with Kate Smith to take a role in 'Navy Blues.'

Motherhood

'Life Can Be Beautiful' is something more than the title of a radio program to Mrs. James L. Hays, of Portland, Ore., mother of two children, who goes on the air this morning at 10 o'clock at KNX. Mrs. Hays, as the winner of a CBS contest, was offered $100 a month for life or $20,000 in cash. She took the $100 a month.

ARMISTICE IN AFofL BATTLE AT DISNEY

The American Federation of Labor blitzkrieg to organize the Walt Disney Studio resulted in an armistice yesterday, when Gunther Lessing, attorney for the company, agreed to talk with union leaders. He spent some time in conference with Aubrey Blair, AFofL international representa-

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Freeman at Desk

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president in charge of studio operations, returned yesterday from two-week business trip to New York and Hot Springs, Va., for the Par theatre convention.

REPORT 'LITTLE FOXES' ONE OF FIRST IN DEAL

There is a likelihood that both Samuel Goldwyn and David O. Selznick will align with Warners for the latter to release their output of pictures. Goldwyn likely will start with the new season, 'The Little Foxes' being his first picture, while Selznick would fulfill his United Artists commitment of two pictures before entering into any contractual relations with Warners.

Though there has been considerable talk since Goldwyn relinquished his UA holdings that he might continue to release his forthcoming productions through that company, it is known that Goldwyn, who had tenta-

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

SOUND TECHNICIANS BOOST DUES TO FILL WAR CHEST

A special assessment levy and an increase in dues has been voted by Sound Technicians Local 695 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. It was stated the funds will be used to pay off current indebtedness and to create a war chest for future operations. The dues boost will be graduated, with top men carrying the biggest portion.

Present dues are $3 per month for all classifications. Under the new schedules First Soundmen will pay $5 per month, $15 per quarter or $60 per year; Second Soundmen

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Spingold Back to NY

Nate Spingold, Columbia eastern executive, heads for New York Monday after week's stay at the studio looking over forthcoming product.

Renaldo in 'Missouri'

Duncan Renaldo has been cast by Warners in a featured part in 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Gloria Swanson Starts RKO Tests Tomorrow

Gloria Swanson will start making clothes and scene tests at RKO tomorrow for femme lead in 'Father Takes a Wife' opposite Adolphe Menjou. Tests will run several days. Picture calls for 18 costume changes with Miss Swanson to have half a dozen or more to display during test making. J. R. McDonough will produce the picture which is slated to start April 14, but to date no director has been assigned. Should the Swanson deal not go through, RKO, it is said, would use Signe Hasso in the role.

Chick, the RKO Hirsute Snipper, Does a Lip Preview of 'Kane'

'Citizen Kane,' which has had the longest projection-room engagement of any picture to come out of Hollywood, now numbers its audience of select names between 1,200 and 1,500. Wednesday night picture played to another free audience of around 170, using two projection rooms to reveal the screen appearance of Producer-director-writer-actor Orson Welles to the invitees, which included production names, actors, flacks from other lots and Chick, the RKO barber who plies his shears on the Wellesian locks.

Getting his invite by virtue of practicing his tonsorial trade on Welles, Chick also proves a discerning critic of screen entertainment

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

PIC-A-TUNE LISTS MILLION CAPITAL

Sacramento, April 3.—Pic-a-Tune, Inc., company formed to manufacture motion picture machines and produce pictures for the projectors, was chartered here today by William R. Bloom, Jack L. Rau, Bernard A. Neches, Evelynne Fox and Helen Goldring, all of Los Angeles. Company is capitalized at $1,000,000.

Neither Bloom nor Rau, local attorneys, could be reached last night for additional information regarding the setup.

Ann Harding May Do 'Yearling' at Metro

Ann Harding may return to films after a four-year siesta. Miss Harding yesterday made tests at Metro for part of 'Ma Baxter' in 'The Yearling,' which is part opposite Spencer Tracy. Victor Fleming will direct. Last appearance on screen for Miss Harding was in the spring of 1937 when she appeared opposite Basil Rathbone in 'Love From a Stranger,' released by United Artists.

Hays Believed Coming On Wage Question

New York, April 3.—Will H. Hays trained to the Coast hurriedly late last night, being due in Hollywood by the end of the week. It was hinted that the question of retroactive pay for studio labor might have inspired his sudden trip, because there are plenty of pressing matters in the east.

PREVIEWED

POT O' GOLD
(UA)

SCOTLAND YARD
(20th-Fox)

THE GREAT LIE
(WB)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Harold Flavin here from New York.

George Givot in from New York on the Stratoliner.

La Conga is featuring the Theodores in the rhumba floor show.

Bill Hebert checks in as publicity director for Samuel Goldwyn Monday.

Jock Whitney, the David Selznicks hoppers-over on the Mercury tonight for Phoenix.

Pete Dailey back at his Columbia publicity desk after a month's tour of the country.

Gregory Ratoff trained in from New York to start work on 'Tonight Belongs To Us.'

Park Avenue Girls, all femme orchestra, opened at Cafe Lamaze for an extended run.

Milton Berle resumes work on 20th-Fox's 'Sun Valley' after three-day rest at Palm Springs.

George Fisher's film gabber for Maro oil over the Don Lee-Mutual chain has been renewed for another 13 weeks.

Carmel Myers has submitted to Broadcast Music her own composition, 'I'm Waiting For Something to Happen.'

Erman Pessis, freelance press agent, will be inducted into the army for one year's service today from the Hollywood board.

Maxine Gray, radio chanter, has been signed for a series of soundies by Sam Coslow. Her accompaniment will be directed by Dave Rose.

Rita Hayworth reported at Columbia yesterday after vacation to prepare for her next assignment, 'He's My Uncle,' with Fred Astaire.

Willard Lochridge, account exec on the Kraft and Wrigley biz in Chicago for J. Walter Thompson, here for parleys with Danny Danker.

George Brown and Murphy McHenry left for Fort Ord yesterday to talk preliminary plans with Major General Joseph W. Stilwell for the preview of 'Caught In the Draft' there May 2.

Opening of Richard Himber, his orchestra and the Merry Macs at the Palladium last night drew out many of the film names. Glimpsed among the attendees were Rudy Vallee, Edgar Bergen, Ken Murray, Kay Harris, Milton Berle, Barbara Kent, Lana Turner, Tony Martin, the Andrews Sisters, Hugh Herbert, Billy Gilbert and Parkyakarkus.

Benny the Gouge sez—Suggested as the title for Jimmy Walker's life story on the screen: 'What a Life.'

Hollywood Inside

NETWORK and agency production execs are not taking too kindly to the enterprise of a New York radio columnist who made a deal with Paramount to deliver a series of one-reelers showing the inner workings of radio. Two of the shorts have already been made, the last at CBS here which had a few unpleasant repercussions when the promoting lad tried to cuffo the talent but was stopped cold by Screen Actors Guild. Idea behind the series is to expose the inner workings of radio, such as script preparation, sound effects and production tricks. Radioites hold that illusions of dialers may be shattered if they are shown too much of what goes on behind the mikes. They hold that it would be equivalent to exposing the trick shots and miniatures used in film making. Understood that representations will be made to Paramount if the series verges too close on trade secrets. Presently Paramount is the most radio-minded of the picture plants, being in the midst of a four-picture tieup with the Kate Smith airshow.

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DESPITE the heavy loss of European markets due to the war, 20th-Fox is able to report, according to W. J. Hutchinson, manager of its foreign distribution, that foreign revenue is going up. Hutchinson says it reached its highest point last week since early last fall. This is largely due to accelerated attendance in South American and Asiatic countries. China, particularly, has proved an excellent market since the withdrawal of Japanese troops and concentration of Nippon's forces in smaller areas, thus lifting minimum screening restrictions. Although 'Down Argentine Way' met heavy going in Argentina, it did well in all other Latin American countries. 'The Mark of Zorro' also brought large foreign returns.

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WILLIAM KOENIG this week called all 20th-Fox unit managers to his office and gave them orders to eliminate horseplay on the sound stages while pictures are shooting. Koenig told them that a certain amount of gentle joshing might be permissible between takes, but that rough stuff that might lead to expense for the company had to be stopped. It is understood that an incident recently reported in Daily Variety, in which two top-flight actors participated, led to the nix on jesting. While one actor was singing the other went to a monitor mike, turned on the current, spoke into the sound track and ruined a perfect recording.

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MEMO has been passed around to all employes in a major studio publicity department that there will be no more eating of breakfast after a flack has reported for work. Penalty is instant dismissal. Practice of stepping out in the afternoon for a cup of coffee or a soft drink also must be stopped, memo stated, unless flack is accompanied by a news correspondent, and only then if permission is obtained first. Understood that spotter has been placed where any infractions can be quickly reported.

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JOHN ROGERS, associate producer on 'Power Dive,' Par picture, is the son of Charles R. Rogers, Columbia producer, who made his debut as an a.p. at 21, this being his first chore of this sort. Rogers worked close to Bill Thomas on the picture production as well as handling the financial end of the deal. Day following completion of the picture last month Rogers got married.

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AFTER changing the title on 'Lady From New Orleans' to 'Lady Of New Orleans,' Republic has now abandoned the whole idea and renamed the film 'Lady From Louisiana.' Universal has completed 'The Flame Of New Orleans,' with Marlene Dietrich and Bruce Cabot and it will be released a couple of days following Republic's John Wayne-Ona Munson starrer.

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FOR the first time Warners is repeating a picture at its San Pedro first run theatre, at the same terms received for original run of the picture. Film is Universal's 'Buck Privates' which is set for a repeat at the house April 9-11. Original booking was for four days.

Kelly to NY Tonight; Chaplin Pic Off

Arthur Kelly, United Artists sales head, leaves for New York tonight after completing production conferences with the company contributing and member producers. Charlie Chaplin, who had previously announced he would go to work soon on a new picture, will not have a production on the new releasing schedule.

Rhodes, Meeker Chored

Betty Jane Rhodes was signed at Republic yesterday to play the femme lead opposite John Archer in 'Thunder Over the Ozarks.' George Meeker has been signed for supporting role.

De Mond at Republic

Albert De Mond has been signed by Republic to polish the script of 'Saddlemates,' a Three Mesquiteers picture which goes (11).

Foreign Managers Discuss Taxes

Foreign managers of major companies huddled yesterday in the Hays office to discuss possibilities of effect of new taxation and restriction threats, particularly in Puerto Rica and Cuba. There is an anti-block booking decree pending in Cuba. The foreign chiefs also discussed the matter of establishing plans for the getting of American films to the military forces of the British Empire on field duty.

Pichel Directs 'Hall'

Irving Pichel will direct 20th-Fox's 'Dance Hall,' in which Cesar Romero and Carole Landis will play the leading roles.

Lewis, Deslys Assigned

Mitchell Lewis and Kay Deslys were signed by Metro yesterday for roles in the new Marx Brothers comedy.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

One of the world's oldest problems, 'Which comes first — the chicken or the egg?' is still puzzling Hollywood, where chickens are plentiful and too many producers lay eggs.

Translated into Hollywoodese, the question is: 'Does a star make a picture or does a picture make a star?'

Many a star, who has galloped along on a succession of good stories, suddenly stumbles over a colossal B production and finds himself tainted with b.o. which does not mean box-office. On the other hand, a good actor who has been bowed down by weight of woeful scripts, suddenly awakes in a sleeper and finds himself hunted by autograph hounds who didn't know his name last month.

Shakespeare contended that 'the play's the thing' but a lot of Juliets have laid eggs, and so have a lot of Romeos, contrary to biological laws. In pictures it has developed into a three-way combination of play, player and exploitation, with exploitation often romping home seven lengths in front of its wobbly brethren.

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Double header at the opening of Hollywood's baseball season, April 15:
Abbott vs. Costello.
Portland vs. Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

Sunshine is coming back to Hollywood boul in spite of the weather man. Cliff Nazarro, the old boulevard glimpser, reports glimpsing 30 gals who are dyeing to be Veronica Lake, the 'Blonde Venus.'

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Reported on a nabe marquee:
'Who Killed Aunt Maggie?'
'Seven Sinners.'

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'The Corn Is Green' ain't that kind of corn as far as Hollywood is concerned. It will have to be ripened before it is ready for the cornbelt trade.

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Laboratories are not the only spots where research work is going on. Film boys and gals discover each other nightly in night spots and generally wind up in the same film.

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Opera at the Mason for 29c and hot dog sandwiches in the lobby for a nickel. America the blessed.

★ ★ ★

After her long stretch of idleness, Greta Garbo is about to make up for lost time by putting on a double-header. In her next picture Greta plays twins.

★ ★ ★

Barbara Jo Allen is Barbara Jo Allen again, after a brief spell as Barbara Allen. She dropped the Jo from her name but it bounced right back like a rubber check.

Barton MacLane, once a top sarge in Uncle Sam's army, is keeping right up with modern military progress. He has invented a new name for the cootie—mechanized dandruff.

The jewel robbers prowl again in
dear old Hollywood,
Which demonstrates that flacks
must earn their daily livelihood.

Film Previews

Pot o' Gold

(*Comedy With Music*)

United Artists release of a James Roosevelt production. Stars James Stewart, Paulette Goddard, Horace Heidt and His Musical Knights. Features Charles Winninger, Mary Gordon, Jed Prouty. Supporting cast: Frank Melton, Dick Hogan, James Burke, Charlie Arnt, Donna Wood, Larry Cotton, Henry Rockquemore, William Gould, Aldrich Bowker. Directed by George Marshall. A George Marshall Production. Story by Andrew Bennison and Monte Brice. Screenplay, Walter DeLeon. From an idea by Haydn Roth Evans and Robert Brilmayer. Music director, Lou Forbes. Dance director, Larry Ceballos. Set designer, Hans Peters. Photography, Hal Mohr. Dance cinematographer, Harry Jackson. Film editor, Lloyd Nosler. Costume designer, Helen Taylor. Set decorator, Howard Bristol. Musical arrangements, Basil Adlam and Frank Devol. Songs by Henry Russell; Mack David and Vee Lawnhurst; Hy Heath and Fred Rose; David Franklin; Henry Russell and Lou Forbes. Previewed April 3. Running time: 85 mins.

James Roosevelt has a hit show in 'Pot o' Gold' as his initiation into the motion picture business. Lively, tuneful, amusing and frequently hilarious, the filmusical is a prime audience entertainment package. In James Stewart it has a top money name; the support is quality; Horace Heidt, the band man, comes through with excellent impression for his screen bow; direction by George Marshall is tops, and altogether the offering can be boomed and sold by United Artists among its choicest product.

James Stewart is posed as an impractical musician who gives lessons to kids in his music shop and is quite content with life as translated through his harmonica. His uncle, Charles Winninger, a hard-fisted money maker, accounts the boy a complete failure, and, for sake of the family name, pleads with him to come into his own business, health foods. Ludicrous circumstances drive Stewart into association with his uncle, where eventually he takes charge of the latter's 'happiness hour' broadcast. Stewart also steps into a feud between Winninger and his neighbor, Mary Gordon, a boarding house keeper, whose property the uncle covets and seeks to acquire. The neighbor tribe, including Horace Heidt, and their pals comprise a noisy but very efficient band whose housetop concerts just below the tycoon's office drives Winninger to the point where he thinks he's lost his reason. In the family also is Paulette Goddard, who quickly reciprocates Stewart's interest until she discovers his family identity. From then on, this discovery serves to keep alive the antagonism. Stewart and the girl finally hit on the 'Pot o' Gold' idea, taken from the Heidt radio broadcasts, to bring reconciliation between the two feuding groups and to iron out their own romance.

Stewart has a fat role and plays it with his customary ingratiating manner, his character winning unusual sympathy and chuckles for its whimsical contrast to Winninger's blustering toughness and irascibility. Winninger loads his role with skillfully managed comedy, highlighted in scenes where he is finally persuaded by ruse that he needs a rest because he believes the real music he hears is wholly imaginary. It is while the uncle is in the wilderness that the boy and the girl cut in to change

■ Continued on page 5 ■

Scotland Yard

(*Melodrama*)

20th-Fox production. Features Nancy Kelly, Edmund Gwenn, John Loder. Cast: Henry Wilcoxon, Melville Cooper, Gilbert Emery, Norma Varden, Leyland Hodgson, Lionel Pape, Lilian Bond, Leo Carroll, Frank Dawson, Eugene Borden, Edward Fielding, Robert De Bruce, Denis Green, Jimmy Aubrey, Yorke Sherwood, Lester Matthews, Doris Lloyd. Directed by Norman Foster. Sol Wurtzel, executive producer. Screenplay by Samuel G. Engel, John Balderson, from play by Denison Clift. Photography, Virgil Miller. Art direction, Richard Day, Lewis Creber. Film editor, Al De Gaetano. Costumes, Herschel. Musical director, Emil Newman. Previewed April 3. Running time: 68 mins.

As ploddingly British in pace as any mystery tale ever made in England, but with just about everything in the way of plot, circumstance and twist in it, is 20th-Fox's 'Scotland Yard', the last picture Norman Foster directed for the studio before he took off for Mexico. Sol M. Wurtzel's production should do well in the secondary spots with the excitement of high drama against today's war background as strong selling points.

There is the angle of an imposter who is able, through the blessing of plastic surgery, to masquerade as another woman's estranged husband. There is a splendid portrait of the dogged, stubborn Scotland Yard man who never gives up the chase.

Story opens with a daring bank robber fleeing a Scotland Yard inspector and his men. Henry Wilcoxon is the gunman. Edmund Gwenn is the inspector. Wilcoxon creeps to the home of a bank director, John Loder, and his wife, Nancy Kelly, while they are expressing their mutual hatred. Loder is in uniform, ready to go to France with the British Expeditionary Forces. Wilcoxon commandeers the family car and steals a locket in which the pictures of the banker and his wife are pasted. Gwenn captures him, but he manages to get away, with amusing humiliation to the inspector.

The robber joins the Army, distinguishes himself under fire, is shot in the face and turns up in a military hospital. The artistic skill of a surgeon who copies the portrait in the stolen locket, gives him the face of Loder. Before the end of the picture the banker's wife discovers he is a fraud, but a charming and gentle fraud, and she goes on with the deception. The real banker is in a Nazi prison camp. A spy ring in London discovers the masquerade and threatens exposure unless the bandit cleans out the bank vaults for them. In a last minute denouement, amid the crash of an air raid, the reformed robber and his old enemy, the detective, capture the gang.

Edmund Gwenn does a clean job in the role of the clerkish but sharp-witted little detective. Loder has polish and plenty of masculine charm in the dual role, and Miss Kelly is more than competent. She does complete justice to the costumes, particularly to a pair of breath-taking lounging pajamas. Henry Wilcoxon, as the bandit before the face-lifting, is excellent in his brief appearance.

Herschel's costumes are splendid. Photography by Virgil Miller, and art direction by Richard Day and Lewis Creber, are excellent. Samuel G. Engel and John Balderston wrote the story from a play by Denison Clift.

The Great Lie

(*Drama*)

Warners release of a First National Picture. Stars Bette Davis. Features George Brent, Mary Astor, Hattie McDaniel and Lucille Watson. Supporting cast: Grant Mitchell, Jerome Cowan, Charles Trowbridge, Thurston Hall, Russell Hicks, Virginia Brissac, Olin Howland, J. Farrell Macdonald, Addison Richards, Sam McDaniel. Directed by Edmund Goulding. Executive producer, Hal B. Wallis. Associate producer, Henry Blanke. Screenplay, Lenore Coffee. From the novel by Polan Banks. Photography, Tony Gaudio. Art director, Carl Jules Weyl. Film editor, Ralph Dawson. Special effects, Byron Haskin and Robert Burks. Gowns, Orry-Kelly. Music director, Leo F. Forbstein. Orchestral arrangements, Hugo Friedhofer and Ray Heindorf. Music by Max Steiner. Previewed at Warners Beverly, April 3. Running time: 110 mins.

'The Great Lie' provides roles which are an actress' delight. There are two, about equally apportioned for emotional leeway and skillful requirements. And the film is a triumph of acting—and direction—over the basic material. Superficially, it poses the kind of problem women are interested in, having to do with maternity and husbandly love under strange circumstance; with jealous rivalry for a child born to one and reared by another of women who have been wife to the same man. This kind of story substance, plus the marquee magnet of Bette Davis' name, bolstered with good support, portends the kind of grosses which steadily support the Davis vehicles in the key runs.

The problem posed in the Polan Banks novel and the screenplay by Lenore Coffee is what a young father and husband will do when he is finally told, under anguished compulsion by the wife he loves, that not she but the other woman, to whom also he was married for a few weeks illegally, is the mother of his son. The situation is the result of a strange bargain made between the two women during the time when the husband, George Brent, a civilian aviator, is lost and reported dead in Brazilian jungles. When he returns, as one from the dead, his child, which he assumes was born to Bette Davis, is almost a year old. And now, still in love with the man, Mary Astor, a temperamental and expedient concert pianist, wants the child back because it will give her an advantage in the attempt to win Brent again in the long, bitter battle between the women.

The contest, the shifting advantage between the legal wife and the one who, finding herself illegally wed, returns to her career, provides some intense scenes but also shows the highly contrived and theatrical story structure here and there, despite all the artistry of the performers and the director. The narrative begins with comedy treatment of a drunken party interval, revealing the fact that Brent and Miss Astor are not actually married because her divorce had not become final. Brent then weds Miss Davis, and there is a period of idyllic happiness, beautifully stated on the screen by the lovers themselves and the reaction of their household servants, headed by Hattie McDaniel. From then on, the story treads more swiftly around the brink of tragedy, with some humor oddly realized from the hys-

● Continued on page 5 ●

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HENRY HENIGSON and Phil Goldstone will weekend at Lone Palm, Palm Springs. . . . Joe Nolan, RKO exec, relaxing at the Springs. . . . Art Carter, NBC official photographer, is working on book, 'Flash Bulber,' which Simon & Shuster will publish. . . . Those studio and band musicians who enlisted in the local Marine Battalion, figuring on couple hours a week rehearsals here are now doing it down Panama way. . . . Willis Hunt, Jr., ex-hubby of Carole Landis, recent heir to the large estate of his father, is working out at Douglas airplane plant for $20 a week. . . . Jack Briggs, young stage actor recently brought out from the east by RKO and assigned to 'Parachute Battalion,' is making sure of future roles. He has written story outline titled 'Southpaw' and submitted it as a possible vehicle. . . . Robert Taylor came over from Metro yesterday to have lunch at Paramount with the missus, Barbara Stanwyck.

Suggested worthwhile reading is Hobe's review of the Louella Parsons air opus, 'Hollywood Premiere,' in this week's VARIETY, out tomorrow.

WHEN Y. Frank Freeman first took up his duties at Paramount studio he kept his dog in a wire enclosure outside his office. Now the Par v.p. will have some new pets to gaze at. Workmen are busy erecting steel cage on same spot to house two tigers from the Gay Lion Farm while they are working in 'World Premiere.' . . . Marchie Schwartz, coach of the Stanford tennis team, lunches with Bob Hope at Paramount today. He is also backfield coach of the football squad so comic should get some advance tips on the coming season. . . . After conferring with John Considine, Jr. at Metro on release plans for 'Men of Boys Town,' Bishop Hugh Ryan, Father Edward J. Flanagan and a party of 12 left yesterday for Boys Town, Neb.

Ralph Bowman is again John Archer at Republic after brief name-changing session whereby he was to be known as Ralph Bowman after being signed under the handle of John Archer. Press time tag is 'John Archer.'

THE Dave Rectors (he is an independent theatre operator in these parts), will toss a shindig night of (26) to celebrate 27 years of wedded life. . . . Ralph Pearl, newspaper correspondent, who has studied conditions in Europe, Asia, Africa, and the tropical islands, is in town writing a tale about the modern Utopia. That, he says, is what America means today. . . . Casey Johnson, six-year-old, has been signed at RKO to play the son of Anne Shirley in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster.' . . . There will be a total of 617 prints competing for the eight gold medals to be handed out by the Public Relations Institute of the Academy at its first annual still photography show to be staged at the Academy's Review theatre from April 14 to 27.

Armistice Declared In AFofL Battle On Disney Lot

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

tive; Joseph Tuohy, business representative of the Transportation Drivers; Ben Martinez, business head of the Studio Plasterers, and Dave Lory, business representative of Film Technicians Local 683. It was announced that dates for further meetings would be arranged the first of next week.

After the conference yesterday it was announced that much of the misunderstanding between Disney and the AFofL had been cleared up. Unionists said that Disney executives had expressed a desire to go along with the AFofL program along the lines of other studios. It was explained officials had been hesitant to move until they ascertained the desires of the employes, some of whom are affiliated with an independent federation on the lot.

Labor leaders were preparing a time ultimatum yesterday for Disney to open negotiations when Lessing agreed to a preliminary conference with heads of the various crafts. The situation now is expected to remain in status quo until the first of the week when Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, returns from San Jose where he is attending a state conference of the Brotherhood of Painters.

Blair, Sorrell and George E. Bodle, counsel for the Screen Cartoonist Guild, are expected to contact Lessing the first of the week to reach some agreement on opening negotiations with the Cartoonists and other crafts. Plans for a strike have already been drafted by Unionists, but all plans were shelved, at least temporarily, when Lessing agreed to talk with the leaders.

The SCG claims to represent a majority of approximately 700 Disney employes. The Cartoonists are now seeking certification from the National Labor Relations Board, but have expressed a willingness for a cross-check of their membership against the Disney payroll to determine whether they represent a majority.

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors, an independent group, is seeking to set a deal with Disney. The Society has already filed unfair labor practice charges against Disney with the NLRB. The SCG charges Disney with sponsoring a company union, and claims officials have tried to intimidate employes to keep them from joining the Guild. William Littlejohn is president of the SCG.

It was reported last night that the studio might call in Victor H. Clarke as labor contact.

Teagarden at Par

Jack Teagarden arrived yesterday from Cincinnati and reported at Paramount to talk over band leader's forthcoming chore in 'The Birth of the Blues.' Teagarden and his musical group open an engagement at the Casa Manana tonight.

CBS DEAL BLAZES AGAIN FOR KJBS AFFILIATION

Reopening of negotiations between CBS and Ralph Brunton looking to a network affiliation with KJBS in Frisco was reported yesterday following a hasty trip here from New York by Herbert Akerberg, Columbia's station relations head. Brunton came down from Frisco for the conference, after which Akerberg stratolined back to New York!

Deal has been in the works for some time, following refusal of Federal Communications Commission to okay CBS buy of KSFO in the Bay City. Both KSFO and Brunton's KJBS have applications before the comish for power hike to 50,000 watts. It is generally conceded that the chain will play along with the site that gets the nod. Akerberg's quick trip here to confer with Brunton is taken by some as an indication that the latter's station will get the favored wattage.

Fox Case East to Talk Agricultural Defense

Fox Case trained out for Washington last night in the dual role of CBS exec and president of Sixth Agriculture District to confer with Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard and other officials on the participation of agriculturists and Coast radio in the defense program. He makes a call on the CBS biggies in New York before returning in two weeks.

Benny Troupe in Sat.

Jack Benny, accompanied by his writers, Bill Morrow and Ed Beloin, and his Sunday guesters, the Quiz Kids, pull in tomorrow morning on the Union Pacific from Chicago. Benny did a benefit in the Windy City for Greek war relief.

Technicians Sesh 20th

General membership meeting of Film Technicians Local 683 has been shoved back to Sunday (20) because of Easter.

GN Trustee Seeks 500G In Suit Against 20th, DeLuxe on Negatives

New York, April 3.—Harry Fromberg, trustee in bankruptcy of Grand National Pictures, Inc., has filed suit in Supreme court against 20th and De Luxe Laboratories, Inc., asking $500,000. Suit claims the loss of 2,200 negatives of Educational Film Corp., of whom plaintiff is the assignee, in a fire at the Fox plant in Little Ferry, N. J., July, 1937, after negatives were given to De Luxe for safekeeping.

Answer to action makes a general denial and claims plaintiff is backing out of an agreement whereby De Luxe was willing to make duplicates of all destroyed negatives for nothing.

Vic Connors Organizer For Radio Artists

Vic Connors, who was being boosted for the post of national president of the American Guild of Variety Artists, has been appointed a national organizer for the American Federation of Radio Artists. Connors has resigned as executive secretary of the San Francisco local of AGVA and will assume his new duties Monday. He had been with the Bay City group for four years.

WB Group Leaving

Gradwell Sears, Sam Schneider, Carl Leserman and Mort Blumenstock head for New York tomorrow following two weeks of confabs with Warners studio executives.

Chick, the RKO Hirsute Snipper, Does a Lip Preview of 'Kane'

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

and yesterday delivered himself of some pertinent remarks anent Mr. Welles' maiden venture into films.

'A picture entirely different in technique from anything that has yet been brought to the screen,' he declared. Another point that Chick made was that 'the acting and the photography surpass description when trying to compare it to what we usually see in pictures.'

There was an unquotable phrase or two used by Chick when asked if he thought the picture was a portrait of William Randolph Hearst. 'What the —— difference is that going to make to the majority of the present-day theatre audiences, who, particularly among the younger ticket buyers, have heard little of Hearst and care less,' he said. 'In my opinion the story doesn't take any offensive liberties, and beside other men have been portrayed on the screen before this.'

Chick went on to say that 'when I walked out of the projection room I carried a deep impression with me of having seen something well worth-while.' Getting back to the Hearstian angle, Chick said, 'Of course, the picture should never have been made under the circumstances, but now that it is, what's all the shouting about. Go ahead and release it, but not under the title of "Citizen Kane," but as "The Picture Hearst Didn't Want Shown".'

Chick says that instead of having to sit through a whole string of titles and credits, picture opens immediately with action and all credit lines are used at the end.

Studio is now swaying between Monday or Wednesday as the date for a West Coast press preview with decision expected this weekend.

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Jack Campbell Sales Promotion Mgr. At Frisco KGO-KPO

San Francisco, April 3. — Jack Campbell succeeds Gene Clark as sales promotion manager of KGO-KPO. Clark has been transferred to the production department of the two NBC stations.

Another new addition to the KGO-KPO staff is Forrest Barnes, author of a score of radio plays. 'Great Gunns', a serial dealing with a theatrical family, is being written and produced by Barnes for a ride over KGO on Sunday nights.

Arbiters Rule Schunzel Agency Washup OK

Discharge by Reinhold Schunzel of his agent, Ad Schulberg, Ltd., was ruled legal by board of arbitration yesterday and the award made in his favor. He was, however, ordered to pay $1,280 in commission for the job of directing 'New Wine' for Gloria Productions. Sitting as arbiters were Karl Levy, Maurice Seato and Erwin Stalhmaster. Schunzel was represented by the law firm of Simon and Garbus.

Strotz Trots to NY

Sidney Strotz, NBC vice prez in charge of programs, flew to New York last night after passing two weeks here and in Frisco to coordinate network production. He was accompanied on his return east by John MacDonald, NBC assistant treasurer.

Helga Moray Debuts

Helga Moray (Mrs. Tay Garnett) makes her American radio debut on KFI Sunday night in a dramatization with Richard Hayden of 'Cynara' on the 'This Was My Inspiration' program.

'Jekyll' Washup Tues.

Metro winds up production on 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' next Tuesday. Victor Fleming is directing.

a.m. Dailies

Pickford's Condition Okay—

Mary Pickford's condition at St. Vincent's hospital, where former screen star is being treated for a kidney ailment, was yesterday reported as 'very good' by her physician, Dr. Verne Hunt. Miss Pickford may have to undergo an operation.

Nell O'Day Divorced—

Nell O'Day, film player, was granted a divorce yesterday from Theodore Fetter, song writer. Couple were married Aug. 31, 1935, and separated Nov. 1, 1939.

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'Abbott and Costello' Starts Production At U Next Week

Arthur Lubin, who will direct Universal's 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy', returned from San Diego yesterday by plane after checking background shots for the picture. Filming begins next week.

Chief Petty Officer Hank Harris, from the San Diego Naval Base, has checked in at the studio to serve as technical advisor. Six songs by Gene de Paul and Don Raye were completed and turned in. The Andrews Sisters will sing four: 'Bring On the Navy', 'Gimme Some Skin', 'Hula-Ba-Luau' and 'You're Off to See the World'. Butch and Buddy will give out with 'Flotsam and Jetsam' and 'Starlight, Starbright' will be sung by the male lead, as yet unselected.

TECHNICIANS BOOST DUES FOR CHEST

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

would pay $4.50 per month, $13.50 per quarter, and $54 per year; Third Soundmen, $4 per month, $12 per quarter, and $48 per year; Fourth Soundmen, $3.50 per month, $10.50 per quarter and $42 per year. It is estimated this would bring in more than $30,000 per year from dues, with operating costs now running around $26,500.

The special assessment, a flat amount per member, together with the increase in dues above operating expenses will provide sufficient money to pay off all current debts, including the $14,000 salary compromise which Harold V. Smith, 695 business representative, agreed to accept. When this indebtedness is wiped out, the new schedules will enable the union to put aside several thousand dollars each year for an emergency.

Notice of the assessment received by sound technicians this week states:

'Although you have been previously notified, this is to call your attention that the second half of the assessment levied against each member is due and payable. According to classifications now due and payable are the following amounts: First Soundmen, $12.50; Second Soundmen, $10; Third Soundmen, $8; Fourth Soundmen, $5.' Those failing to pay are liable to be assessed a like amount for delinquency under a resolution approved by the membership.

It also is understood that members have directed that about 100 members be dropped from the rolls for failure to pay dues over a long period of time.

Rains, Gleason Signed For Col's 'Heaven'

Claude Rains and James Gleason have been signed at Columbia for top roles in 'Heaven Can Wait,' Robert Montgomery starrer to be directed by Alexander Hall and produced by Everett Riskin.

Moran Orgs Outfit

Jackie Moran, Monogram actor, has formed the Jackie Moran Enterprises and will shortly produce a comedy by Nick Francis, 'Maybe? Baby!' He has signed Patricia Van Cleve for the play.

Film Previews

Pot o' Gold

■ Continued from page 3 ■

the nature of his broadcast and to give the McCorkle band its chance. Paulette Goddard carries her part ably, sings and dances well. Horace Heidt, introduced casually as the leader of the amateur band, is easy and natural throughout and, with his band, gives out captivating music and displays an interesting screen personality. Mary Gordon carries on her violent feud with Winninger with amusing vehemence. Marked for good performances in support are Frank Melton, Jed Prouty, Dick Hogan, James Burke, Charlie Arnt, Donna Wood, Larry Cotton, Henry Rockquemore, William Gould and Aldrich Bowker.

George Marshall scores with all his seasoned directorial skill in seesawing the comedy and the musical numbers for full entertainment values, and, together with the cameramen, Hal Mohr and Harry Jackson, and the dance director, Larry Ceballos, gives the offering pictorial distinction.

Music is of top merit. There are several distinct hits among the numbers, which are equally divided, three and three, for Ascap and BMI. 'Broadway Caballero', by Henry Russell, is a pretentious reprise piece, used for rhumbas, tangoes and other terpings in the radio broadcast scenes. 'When Johnny Toots His Horn', a military number dealing with the throes of early army training, is bound to be vastly popular. It is by Hy Heath and Fred Rose. 'A Knife, a Fork and a Spoon' is, so far as this reviewer knows, the first song dedicated to the boarding house and extolling its 'homey' virtues. It has the swing and nostalgic note of a good college song, and Dave Franklin is the author. Choice also and novel, carrying out an exceptionally meritorious collection of numbers, are 'Do You Believe In Fairy Tales?' by Mack Gordon and Vee Lawnhurst; 'Hi, Cy, What's Cookin'?' by Henry Russell and Lou Forbes, and 'Pete the Piper' by Henry Russell. Music gets fine direction by Lou Forbes; arrangements by Basil Adlam and Frank Devol; recording by P. J. Townsend.

Stewart, as well as Miss Goddard, sings—and pleasingly.

Walter DeLeon has the screenplay credit, with story by Andrew Bennison and Monte Brice, from an idea by Haydn Roth Evans and Robert Brilmayer. Composite writing is a smart and well-knit job, standing up all the way, bright in dialog, amusing in situation, ably dovetailing the musical and comedic elements.

Larry Ceballos handles the dance direction, climaxing in the 'Broadway Caballero' number, with marked excellence.

James Roosevelt demonstrates in 'Pot o' Gold' that he has the precise kind of executive ability and the showman's slant and knowledge to qualify him for top rank among picture producers.

In addition to its own distinguished merits as a production, the picture has the added exploitation advantage of the 'Pot o' Gold' radio program by Horace Heidt after several seasons of continued popularity.

The Great Lie

● Continued from page 3 ●

teria of approaching motherhood by the pianist and the careful nursing and coddling of the expectant matron by the childless wife in a desert hideout.

It is in these scenes where the one woman rations the other's cigarettes, brandy, food and guards her like a precious prisoner that much of the picture's novel comedy is engendered. This same novelty and freshness of detail is notable throughout the picture, a distinction shared by the scenarist, Lenore Coffee, and the director, Edmund Goulding.

Miss Davis delivers one of her most thoughtful and skillful enactments. Matching her, foot by foot and scene by scene, is the fine performance of Mary Astor as the hard, glittering career woman. The complementary job is a brilliant duet of difficult roles. If there is any flaw in either, it is that the innuendo during the duel of wit is unnecessarily broad in spots.

George Brent is equally effective in shading his role to meet the counter thrusts of the two women at his exclusive affections. Hattie McDaniel gives one of her memorable performance as the servant whose unfettered emotions are oddly utilized to express what is in her mistress's apprehensive heart. Lucile Watson gives dignity and sincerity to the role of Miss Davis' aunt. Grant Mitchell has an important part as the pianist's manager. Ably completing the supporting group are Jerome Cowan, Charles Trowbridge, Thurston Hall, Russell Hicks, Virginia Brissac, Olin Howland, J. Farrell Macdonald, Addison Richards and Sam McDaniel.

Director Goulding with admirable finesse guides the drama with just the proper pace to create the required conviction, even where it threatens to become obviously theatrical. He creates beautiful love scenes. His feud between the two women keeps up its edge. The comedy is smart and adult. The conclusion doesn't slop over.

Lenore Coffee's screenplay adroitly capitalizes all the dramatic entertainment elements in Polan Banks' original situation, provides fascinating episode, brilliant dialog and generally honest reactions amongst the characters. Tony Gaudio does a capital job with the camera. Max Steiner's score also is away above the usual.

Hal B. Wallis as the executive producer and Henry Blanke as the associate put showmanship behind a piece of exploitable merchandise attractively presented.

NY Suit Against 7 Pic Outfits Ends Out of Court

New York, April 3.—Suit filed by the River Theatre Corp. against the Skouras Theatres, 20th-Fox, RKO, Warners, Columbia, Paramount and United Artists was settled out of Federal court today. Anti-trust action charged defendants with having raised the clearance against the plaintiffs' Central theatre, Pearl River, Rockland county, N. Y., from seven days to 52-70 days after the Nyack theatre. A court ruling setting the original seven-day clearance had been asked.

Plaintiff had claimed the Central was losing $200 weekly and was a 'junk' house as the result of the raised clearance.

B. V. Sturdivant Shifts F-W Coast Managers

Additional managerial changes were announced yesterday by Fox-West Coast, with B. V. Sturdivant shifting several house pilots in his Citrus Belt area. R. W. Richards has been engaged to manage the State, Pomona, replacing Cliff Reid who goes to the Sunkist there. David Lackie, presently at the Sunkist, is transferred to manage circuit's California theatre there.

Mr. George E. Phair
Daily Variety,
Hollywood.

Dear Mr. Phair:

In a recent issue of Daily Variety, in effect you wrote, . . . "The path of a professional model often leads to a motion picture studio . . . but how does one become a model?"

You will recall my answer.

Now you say . . . "Simplest way to break into motion pictures is to break out on a magazine cover. How to break out on a magazine cover is another problem."

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10 MONOGRAM MONEY MAKERS

Jack London's crashing TRAIL OF THE WOLF • James Fenimore Cooper's mighty classic, THE SPY • Bela Lugosi in NIGHT OF HORROR • Exciting romance DOWN MEMORY LANE • Swashbuckling drama of the Devil Dogs, HERE COME THE MARINES • YOU CAN'T BEAT THE LAW, Famous novel by Al Jennings • SWEETHEART OF THE CAMPUS, Leona Dalrymple's Woman's Home Companion story • TOP SERGEANT MULLIGAN, Explosive escapades of two-fisted soldiers • AUNT EMMA PAINTS THE TOWN, a gay lady steps out • Bela Lugosi in THE KISS OF DEATH.

10 SHOWMEN'S SUCCESS SERIES

FALSE COLORS, Saturday Evening Post racing thriller • SUNSHINE SAL, Rollicking musical comedy of Kentucky • THE FIGHTING CADET, Rip-roaring salute to today's youth • LAW OF THE JUNGLE, Savage drama of the Dark Continent • James Oliver Curwood's GOD'S COUNTRY AND THE LAW • MAN FROM HEADQUARTERS, Daring crime-smasher • HILL-BILLY WILLIE, Scream-lined comedy • LIL LOUISIANA LADY, glamorous biography of a shady lady • FLAME FIGHTERS, Expose of national arson ring • ISLE OF LOST MEN, Frederick Nebel's stirring magazine story.

8 RANGE BUSTERS

Those gun-toting fighting fools, RAY CORRIGAN, JOHN KING and MAX TERHUNE in another riotous series of action smashes!

8 ROUGH RIDERS

A great new series with **BUCK JONES** and two more famous outdoor stars in bullet-streaked dramas of the bad lands!

8 JOHN WAYNE

RE-ISSUES

The thundering successes that made him famous! The star of "Stage Coach" and "Long Voyage Home" in 8 of his greatest hits!

Government Taking 10% Taxes From Benefit Shows

New York, April 3.—All benefit shows will be subject to the 10% amusement tax, it has been ruled by Internal Revenue Bureau. Charity shows, heretofore, have been exempt from government tax. Ruling states 'all benefits that pay any part of the gross for anything or to anybody in connection with the show must pay the tax either by adding 10% to the face value of the tickets or absorb it and pay the government the percentage on the total receipts.'

Action by the revenue bureau is the outcome of Treasury Department's investigation into the plethora of benefits of late, mostly for war relief agencies, and into Theatre Authority's and talent unions' disbursement of charity funds. Spokesmen for TA declared they are in accord with the move, contending that some of the coin collected for war charities should remain in this country. At a scheduled hearing will be determined the effect of the ruling on the Greek relief campaign sponsored by Spyros Skouras. Point has been raised that receipts from these shows should be tax free.

Strebe Opens Newport

Earl Strebe, who during the winter months operates three film theatres in Palm Springs, reopens his Newport theatre at Newport Beach tonight. House has been closed since Jan. 28. Strebe will suspend operations at Palm Springs late in May and shortly thereafter open his summer theatre at Arrowhead.

Fanchon Directs Ice'er

Returning unexpectedly from her eastern trip, Fanchon of Fanchon & Marco, revealed yesterday that she had closed a deal whereby she will produce and direct the 'Ice Follies of 1942.' Details were set at a conference in Chicago, where Fanchon stopped off to see this year's revue.

Gore, Sims on Trek

Mike Gore (Gore Bros.) and Herman Sims, theatre realty broker, pull out (25) for New Orleans and Washington, en route to New York, on business. They will be accompanied by their wives, with the Gores being away possibly three weeks.

Goldfarb Expansion

Harry Goldfarb, who operates in National City, near San Diego, is making plans for expansion, due to unprecedented activity in the border town as a result of defense contracts, and likely will build a new theatre.

FIRST TIME SHOWN!

A beautifully landscaped 2½ acre level knoll—a modern 9 room home—a million dollar view—a choice district. This lovely home has 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, large panelled study with fireplace, sundeck, outdoor kitchen-barbecue, enclosed patios, etc., etc.; 2 acres are planted to assorted fruit trees. To close an estate this property may be purchased for only $14,500.

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STUDIO CITY
Stanley 71742 or SU-20256

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Betty Co-ed'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Edward Dymtryk	April 2
'Obituary'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Charles Barton	April 2
'I Was a Prisoner On Devils Island'	Columbia	Wallace MacDonald	Lew Landers	April 3
'One Way Street'	Columbia	Irving Briskin	Robert Florey	April 4
'Blondie In Society'	Columbia	Robert Sparks	Frank Strayer	April 4
'Redhead'	Monogram	I. E. Chadwick	Edward Cohn	April 2
'Nothing But the Truth'	Paramount	Arthur Hornblow, Jr.	Elliott Nugent	April 3
'World Premiere'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Otis Garrett	April 1
'The Lone Rider Gallops to Glory'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sigmund Neufeld	Sherman Scott	April 4
'Thunder Over the Ozarks'	Republic	Armand Schaefer	Nick Grinde	April 3
'Scattergood Pulls the Strings'	Republic	Jerrold Brandt	Christy Cabanne	April 2
'The Man With the Shovel'	20th-Fox	Walter Morosco & Ralph Dietrich	Ray McCarey	April 1
'Too Many Blondes'	Universal	Joseph G. Sanford	Thornton Freeland	April 2

14 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Our Wife'	Columbia	John Stahl	John Stahl	April 7
'Heaven Can Wait'	Columbia	Everett Riskin	Alexander Hall	April 8
'Henry For President'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Hugh Bennett	April 7
'Paper Bullets'	Prod.-Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Phil Rosen	April 10
'Angels With Broken Wings'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Bernard Vorhaus	April 7
'Kansas Cyclone'	Republic	George Sherman	George Sherman	April 9
'Saddlemates'	Republic	Lou Gray	Unassigned	April 11
Tim Holt No. 5	RKO	Bert Gilroy	Edward Killy	April 7
'Belle Starr'	20th-Fox	Kenneth Macgowan	Irving Cummings	April 7
'Abbott and Costello in the Navy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	April 8
'Beyond the Law'	Universal	Unassigned	George Waggner	April 7
'Half Way to Shanghai'	Universal	Marshall Grant	Noel Smith	April 7
'Rhapsody In Stripes'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Unassigned	April 10
'King Rubber'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	William K. Howard	April 10

19 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	April 15
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Unassigned	April 15
'Enemy Within'	Metro	J. Walter Ruben	Richard Rosson	April 15
'Birth of the Blues'	Paramount	B. G. DeSylva	Victor Schertzinger	April 14
'Forced Landing'	Paramount	Pict. Corp. of America	Gordon Wiles	April 17
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	April 21
'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	April 28
'Murder in Uniform'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	E. B. Derr	Unassigned	April 17
Untitled Tim McCoy	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sigmund Neufeld	Peter Stewart	April 28
'Puddin' Head'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Joseph Santley	April 14
'A Yank In the R.A.F.'	20th-Fox	Lou Edelman	Henry King	April 14
'Illusions'	UA	Alexander Korda	Julien Duvivier	April 15
'The Little Foxes'	UA	Samuel Goldwyn	William Wyler	April 15
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	May 10
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corporation	Unassigned	May 15
'Sea Raiders'	Universal	Henry MacRae	Ford Beebe & John Rawlins	April 14
'Martial Law'	Universal	William Cowan	Ray Taylor	April 14
'Smiling Ghost'	Warners	Harlan Thompson	Lew Seiler	April 14
'Navy Blues	Warners	Unassigned	Lloyd Bacon	April 15▲

Hearing Over Lennox Theatre Monday

Hearing is set for Monday before Superior Court Judge Emmet Wilson on demurrer to action filed by two partners interested in the operation of the Lennox theatre, at Lennox, to have the corporation dissolved. Attorneys A. L. Wrum and Samuel Blum, representing Dave Rector, the other partner, will move to dismiss the suit on the ground of fraud and conspiracy, and on the application of the owners to order a repossession of the lease.

COUNTRY HACIENDA

15 minutes from Hollywood. Not new, but charming. Trees, barbecue, badminton. Fenced, workshop. Two bedrooms, den with bar, two baths. If you like comfort, this is it. Price, $6950.

DAVID H. BACKUS
SUnset 23682 SUnset 29990

Hawaii's 'Horror' Twins

Universal twin bill of 'horror' pictures has been booked for early screening at the Hawaii theatre. Pictures are 'Horror Island' and 'Man Made Monster,' both of which will be given a Los Angeles first run.

Halop at Fairfax

Billy Halop will make a personal appearance at the Fairfax theatre at tomorrow's matinee performance, in conjunction with his screen appearance in 'Sky Raiders,' Universal serial.

$5,000 PUBLIC HANDICAP PRIZE
Sunday at CALIENTE
15 RACES ★ FIRST POST 11 A. M.
2 EXCITING STEEPLECHASES
13 OTHER THRILLING EVENTS

EASTER GREETINGS

TO ALL OF THE SHOW WORLD

HARRY HOLMAN

Small town mayor in

Frank Capra's "MEET JOHN DOE"

Management **Al Kingston & Co., Inc.** CR. 1-8161; GL. 4085

Residence: 3475 N. Knoll Drive — Hollywood, Calif.

Writers, AMG Huddle On Agreement (10)

Committees representing Screen Writers Guild and the Artists Managers Guild will go into a huddle Thursday (10) to discuss various details of the Guild's proposed franchise agreement with agents handling film scriveners. The AMG has been studying the plan for several weeks, and the two groups are now ready to sit down and talk turkey. Lester Cole is chairman of the Guild delegation.

Sets Chill Wills

Chill Wills was signed by 20th-Fox yesterday for a featured role in 'Belle Starr.'

DORSEY vs. ELLINGTON!
SCREEN! "LAS VEGAS NIGHTS" with TOMMY DORSEY and ORCH. Constance Moore Phil Regan
Paramount Picture
ON OUR STAGE! ★ Duke ELLINGTON AND HIS ORCH. IN PERSON HEADLINE ACTS
30¢ TO 1
PARAMOUNT • FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND • Direction Fanchon & Marco 6th & Hill VA-2041
THURS. KAY KYSER IN PERSON

Silverberg Going East On 'Wine' Release

Herbert T. Silverberg leaves Sunday for New York to confer with United Artists execs on distribution of 'New Wine,' produced for UA by Gloria Pictures, of which he is a member of the board. Silverberg, representing Dr. William Sekely, producer of 'Wine,' attended the meeting here Wednesday of United Artists producers, and goes to New York for additional conferences on the forthcoming release.

'Broadcast' Finale

Recording on the finale number of 'The Great American Broadcast' has been completed at 20th-Fox by Alfred Newman.

NOW! TOTAL FUN!
ALL at REGULAR PRICES
30¢ to 1 P.M. 40¢ to 6 P.M. 50¢ NITES
GEN. ADM. WEEK DAYS • All plus tax
Charlie Chaplin
He TALKS in
The GREAT DICTATOR
★ Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse in "THE LITTLE WHIRLWIND"
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE AND LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND 7th and BROADWAY

SELZNICK, GOLDWYN, WB TALK RELEASING DEAL

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

tive negotiations on with Warners to release 'The Westerner' until UA notified that company it would take legal measures to prevent the deal, has been interested in having Warners release his type of product, and credence to the releasing agreement is given by the fact that studio has loaned Bette Davis for the lead in 'Foxes'.

Besides her the cast will include Richard Carlson as male lead, Teresa Wright from the New York stage and Carl Benton Reid, Dan Duryea, Charles Dingle and John Marriott, who appeared in the New York company of 'Foxes'.

William Wyler is to direct, with production set to start April 15. This would enable Goldwyn to deliver his picture in the early fall for the start of the 1941-42 releasing season.

NO PERIOD DETERMINED

It is not known as to the period for which Goldwyn would enter into contractual relations for handling of the product, or number of pictures he would make each year. He has four or five stories ready for casting and possibly might make all those for the new season. It is known that Goldwyn, should he make the deal with Warners, who likely would participate in financing part of the productions, would continue to make the pictures at his own studio on Santa Monica boulevard. Understood that the possibility of the Goldwyn proposition was discussed at the current executive conclave in the Warners studio and indications are it may be inked within the next few weeks, after lawyers go over the various phases of the contract.

SELZNICK TALKED LONG AGO

Selznick first started talking with Warners several years ago when he planned 'Gone With the Wind.' Deal was almost at consummation point when a switch was made to Metro, with whom Selznick had been negotiating previously.

Warners is said to have offered both Selznick and Goldwyn a most attractive releasing plan. In addition both Selznick and Goldwyn would have further advantages in the arrangements by being able to borrow from Warners top flight names which might be required to head the casts of their pictures. The Selznick talking is more or less in the embryonic stages with Warners, and if it should lead to consummation it might take a period of several months to complete the deal.

St. Louisans Prepared For 3-Theatre Preem Of Rep's 'Hopkins'

St. Louis, April 3.—Herbert J. Yates and James R. Grainger have arrived here as the vanguard of the Hollywood party coming in tomorrow for the premiere of Republic's 'Sis Hopkins,' at the Fox, St. Louis and Missouri theatres. Judy Canova, John Wayne, Ona Munson, Jerry Colonna, Mary Beth Hughes, Lois Ranson, Don Barry and James Ellison are among those who plane in tomorrow morning.

Welcome at the Lambert airport will be followed by an official greeting at the City Hall, radio broadcasts, social events, the premiere and a ball that night at the Coronado hotel. Group will remain over Saturday for additional appearances for benefit of the Greek War Relief drive.

Picture's opening has been subjected to an intense exploitation campaign, covering two-sheets posted in all towns within a 100 mile radius; theatre trailers; cards in railway and bus stations; display announcements in downtown and suburban houses and nearby communities; plus cooperative ads in the Star-Times and other newspapers locally and in the surrounding towns. Five radio stations will broadcast arrival and other special events, including the Friday afternoon Greek War Relief show.

1000 By Hec

Hector Sarno stepped into his 1000th film role yesterday when he was assigned to a featured spot in 20th-Fox's 'The Man With a Shovel.' Ray McCarey is directing. John Larkin wrote the screenplay on Dalton Trumbo's original.

HOLIDAY HONORS BETTE DAVIS

Tomorrow, birthday of Bette Davis, has been declared a state holiday by Governor Robert O. Blood of New Hampshire in conjunction with the premiere of 'The Great Lie,' actress' latest Warners picture at the Premier theatre, Littleton, N. H., her home town.

Birthday ball at the Littleton Town Hall will follow a day of civic events and preem will be broadcast by the Colonial Network from the lobby of the 800-seat house. Press representatives and photographers are being trained in from Washington and New York to cover opening and Miss Davis and Mary Astor will attend from Hollywood.

Campaign for 'Wine'

Buchanan & Co. have been set by Gloria Pictures to handle the ad campaign on 'New Wine,' United Artists release starring Ilona Massey and Alan Curtis.

It's a Hit!
Sunday Nights at 8:40
FOR BRITISH WAR RELIEF
GENE LOCKHART'S
REVUE
BEVERLY HILLS HAWTHORNE THEATRE
624 No. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills
"Delightful" Every Critic
RESERVATIONS HO. 5111
Tickets: $2.00 - $1.50 - $1.00 - (Tax free)

Moskowitz Declares Schenck Never Was Dishonest

New York, April 3.—Joseph Moskowitz took the stand in his own defense in Federal court today, denying the government's income tax charges, and attacking the government theories on tax returns. He traced his history from 1918 when at 18, he became an $18-a-week clerk with Joseph M. Schenck, who is being tried with him, up to today when he receives $1,000 weekly on a five-year contract.

The witness declared he knew Schenck well, that he esteemed him highly, and that Schenck never suggested in any manner, shape or form that they try to cheat the government or anyone else. Pointing out Schenck's generosity, he said, 'No one else could pick up a check when with him.' The witness declared that in arranging income tax returns it was impossible to secure accurate figures, since so much was spent that was never entered on the books, and that it could not be determined where business expenses began and pleasure ceased.

CITES EXAMPLE

He said that in all returns an estimate is used, using cash disbursements for example. The witness showed Schenck spent $38,000 in California, $18,000 in New York. Half of the California expenditures was deducted, none from the New York. Moskowitz pointed out that he might have erred in taking a little more off California than the government was willing to allow, but stated this was more than made up for by not deducting anything in New York and London.

Asked by Judge Grover Moscowitz if vouchers from California would not have given the exact figures, Moskowitz retorted the government worked on the figures for two years and still did not have them accurate. Moskowitz said John Codd, Dolph Schadler, of 20th-Fox and Loew's, respectively, made up the actual returns on figures he gave them from weekly studio reports on cash disbursements and yearly estimates.

Moskowitz said he has yet to see any classification of figures, adding: 'In all cases I took an estimate which I still believe to be correct on expenses not reimbursed by the company. I did nothing wrong. I had no intention of trying to cheat the government, nor did I cheat the government. No one ever suggested any such thing to me.'

FARLEY ON STAND

Prior to Moskowitz, who continues on the stand tomorrow, James Farley testified Schenck's reputation for honesty, integrity, squareshooting is 'excellent', and Martin Quigley testified as to the same for Moskowitz. Quigley denied any thoughts of advertising influenced his opinion of Moskowitz.

Other witnesses were Lester Mohne, 20th-Fox manager in Mexico; Myron Fink and Carol Hall, accountants. Fink disclosed that Schenck on March 12, 1941, filed an application with the government for return of his entire 1937 tax of $202,621. He said this action was based on a decision by the Treasury Department ruling dividends received are return on capital and are not taxable.

MONOGRAM SCHEDULES 53 FILMS FOR 1941-42

★ Continued from page 1 ★

tions'. They will be 'Land of the Sky Blue Water', an original story based on the song by Charles Wakefield Cadman, and 'Navy Bound', a Talbert Josslyn story of the sea, originally published in Collier's. 'Blue Water' also will include another Cadman composition 'At Dawning', to both of which Monogram owns the exclusive film rights.

In addition to the pair of top-budget films, the diversified program will comprise four 'East Side Kids' specials, 24 Westerns and 23 additional general release features.

First of the four 'Kids' releases will be titled 'Ghosts In the Night', film featuring Bela Lugosi, Huntz Hall, Leo Gorcey, Bobby Jordan and the East Side Kids. The remaining three of the series, to be labeled 'Box Office Champions', also will feature an adult name player as well as the 'toughies'.

There will be 10 productions under the classification of 'Monogram Money Makers'. These will include 'Aunt Emma Paints the Town', a comedy drama by Harry Heruey; two Bela Lugosi starring films, 'The Night of Horror' and 'Kiss of Death'; 'The Spy', adapted from the James Fenimore Cooper novel; 'You Can't Beat the Law', bandit novel by Al Jennings; 'Trail of the Wolf', Jack London's tale about a dog and his fight against the north; 'Sweetheart of the Campus,' by Leona Dalrymple and published in 'Women's Home Companion'; 'Top Sergeant Mulligan', 'Down Memory Lane' and 'Here Come the Marines'.

SUCCESS SERIES

There are also 10 films slated under the heading, 'Showmen's Success Series'. There will be an action drama by James Oliver Curwood titled 'God's Country and the Law', and 'False Colors', a story of the race track. Others in this series will be 'Sunshine Sal', hillbilly musical comedy; 'The Fighting Cadet', 'Hill-Billy Willie', 'Lil Louisiana Lady' and 'Flame Fighters', latter based on the exploits of a big-town fire department.

Monogram will reissue three pictures of recent seasons. Mickey Rooney will be seen in 'Hoosier Schoolboy', and company will again release 'Boy of the Streets' with Jackie Cooper, and 'Siren of the South Seas' with Movita.

In the Western group Mono will again produce eight features in the Range Buster series, featuring Ray Corrigan, John King and Max Terhune. In addition, it will inaugurate a new series with Buck Jones and the Routh Riders. Completing the program will be the reissue of eight John Wayne features.

$3,000,000 ADVANCE

Predicting that the forthcoming season will be Monogram's greatest year, Johnston will reveal to the franchise holders that the company's sales quota for 1941-42 will be $9,225,000, an advance of more than $3,000,000 since the reorganized comany held its convention in 1937.

Plans have been completed, Johnston will advise, for a 50% increase in the budgets of 16 films and a 30% tilt in the appropriations for 12 others. In paying tribute to the sales force, Johnston will reveal this morning that the new sales quota and budget increases are based on the most ambitious program ever planned by Monogram.

New program, according to Johnston, will be built around down-to-earth stories with plenty of action and comedy. In an effort to capitalize on the 'friendly neighbor' policy of the Federal government, several of the forthcoming features will have South American locales and others will feature Spanish orchestras, dancers and songs. Johnston, in announcing the new program, also will reveal that a considerable number of the Westerns which company will produce for the new year will be planned to appeal to Latin-American film fans.

JOHNSTON PRESIDES

Today's activities, presided over by Johnston, will be largely given over to conferences between Mono execs and the franchise holders on distribution and production problems.

Among today's speakers will be Steve Broidy, general sales manager, who will outline selling methods, and Trem Carr, who will make a general analysis of studio plans. Tonight the conventioneers will be guests of Producer Sam Katzman at the Hollywood Legion fights, followed by a party at Charley Foy's club.

In attendance at the convention will be reps from Mono's 36 exchanges in the United States and Canada, together with a large delegation of home office and studio execs.

Castings for 'Blondes'

Jeanne Kelly joins the cast of Universal's 'Too Many Blondes,' which started shooting yesterday. Kernan Cripps and Doug Evans have also been placed in the musical.

Wm. Goetz at Desk

William Goetz returned to his desk at 20th-Fox yesterday after going to New York to testify at the income-tax trial of Joseph M. Schenck.

Hitching Post Takes Six Holt Westerns; 'Fargo Kid' First

Deal has been signed between the Hitching Post and RKO for screening of the six 1940-41 Tim Holt westerns during the coming months. Theatre opens today with the first under pact, 'Fargo Kid'. Also on the bill will be 'Wyoming Outlaw'.

Other western productions lined up for this month by theatre is 'Wildcat of Tucson' and 'Hidden Gold' (11); 'In Old Cheyenne' and 'West of Pinto Basin' (18), and 'Wagon Train' and 'Trail Blazers' (25).

Hulling in From Frisco For Mono Confabs

Mel Hulling planed in yesterday from San Francisco to attend the Monogram franchise holders meeting which opens today at the Roosevelt hotel for three days. Hulling is a partner with Howard Stubbins in the operation of Monogram Pictures of California and the Pacific northwest. Also planing in yesterday for the powwow was Don Widlund, manager of the J. M. Handy Film Co., who came from Detroit.

Reid Gets 'Scarface'

'Lady Scarface,' original by Arnaud d'Usseau and Richard Collins, has been placed on Cliff Reid's production schedule at RKO. Frank Woodruff will direct and Frances Neal and Dennis O'Keefe have been assigned the romantic leads.

Tunes for Dietrich

Frederick Hollander has completed two songs for Marlene Dietrich to sing in Warners 'Manpower.' Tunes are 'I'm in No Mood for Music Tonight,' 'He Lied and I Listened.'

Where Next?

Warners is lining up a world premiere for 'Underground' to fit the picture's title. Film is slated to debut the latter part of May at the Carlsbad Caverns, New Mexico, with party of Hollywood picture names, newspaper and magazine writers, photographers and studio executives in attendance.

English Pathe Manager Cites Calm During Nazi Air Raids

William J. Gell, Pathe manager for England, who planed in from New York yesterday to attend the Monogram franchise holders' convention, opening today, says that British film business, particularly exhibition, is going on as usual, in spite of the inconveniences caused by Nazi bomb dropping. Gell, who was given a cocktail party at the Roosevelt hotel by the Monogram contingent yesterday afternoon, stated that probably around 400 theatres in England have been closed by bombings, but that several of these have since reopened. British film audiences, he said, sit through performances virtually as they did before the war, and few patrons actually desert theatres when air raid warnings are sounded.

Only radical change from usual conditions, he said, was that in London all filmeries close at 9 p.m., but in the outlying districts houses remain open until about 10:30, the ordinary closing hour.

Norton V. Ritchey, Mono foreign manager, who planed in with Gell, is making his first trip to the Coast. He said that foreign picture business was good in spots, particularly in Sweden where there is still a lucrative market for the better grade of pictures. As regards South America, he was not as optimistic as other film execs, stating that he has found little in the Latin-American market at present to warrant undue confidence.

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 23 — 43 — Hollywood, California, Monday, April 7, 1941 — 5 Cents

ANTI-CONSENT BILL STEPPED UP

ROADSHOW OF 'KANE' DEFINITE

First official announcement from RKO regarding Orson Welles' first film, 'Citizen Kane', came Friday from Ned Depinet when he said that the picture will be roadshown and will open in Los Angeles, New York and Chicago within a month. The film will be screened in two theatres in each of these cities, one house to be on a two-a-day reserved seat policy and the other with continuous runs.

George Schaefer, RKO prexy, who went east to set details of the 'Kane'

♠ Continued on page 10 ♠

Silverstone In Today On Producer Setup

Murray Silverstone, United Artists head, is due here today from New York. He will continue the conferences held last week by Arthur Kelly, company sales head, with UA producers on the new sales plan for the 20 pictures scheduled on the 1941-42 release program. While here Silverstone will also talk with a number of independent producers with the idea of their participating in the United Artists plan of financing outside picture makers. Among them will be John M. Stahl and Clarence Brown.

Dietz At Studio

Howard Dietz, Loew's director of advertising and publicity, arrived Saturday at the studio to begin preparations on the series of short subjects to be used as part of the drive for United States Treasury bonds. Dietz is chairman of the public relations division of the Treasury department.

LEGIT OPENING

HOPE FOR A HARVEST

New Haven, Conn., April 6.—Theatre Guild's presentation of Sophie Treadwell's 'Hope For a Harvest' found approval here. Piece carries a theme offering back-to-the-soil movement as a remedy for present-day unrest. Stellar casting brings out several noteworthy performances. Combination of Fredric March and

♥ Continued on page 10 ♥

UNIVERSAL UPPS ABBOTT, COSTELLO 'CHARLIE' 25Gs

Universal is going to embellish and add more entertainment to 'Oh, Charlie', recently completed, starring Abbott and Costello. Around $25,000 will be spent to add a night club sequence which was in original script, but eliminated. Sequence will have Ted Lewis and his orchestra, also the Andrews Sisters. Will require about two weeks and work on it begins May 15. Lewis, currently playing Golden Gate, San Francisco, will do one-nighters for couple of weeks before coming here for the picture. Decision to add the scene was made following the big b.o. success that 'Buck Privates' the Abbott and Costello picture is making.

MINNESOTA MEASURE IN SENATE SHORTLY

Minneapolis, April 6.—By a vote of 104 to 3, Minnesota state legislature's lower house passed the Northwest Allied's anti-consent decree bill which contravenes the decree's groups-of-five sales plan by requiring distributors to offer the entire season's product, the same as at present, and also to grant 20% cancellation and to refrain from forced selling of shorts. Measure will reach senate floor within a few days. It carries a favorable committee report.

If bill is enacted into law, major film companies opposing it indicate they'll seek a restraining order and fight its constitutionality.

Louella's LifeBO Studio Much Too Chilly for Hedda

It was only natural that Hedda Hopper would want to see Paulette Goddard while the actress was rehearsing just a few steps down the hall from Miss Hopper's Sunkist broadcast studio at KNX. So, after signing off she sauntered over to studio C for a chat with her friend. It so happens that Miss Goddard was preparing for a dress rehearsal of her guest appearance on Louella Parsons' 'Hollywood Premiere' for LifeBO.

Up into the control booth of stu-

♣ Continued on page 10 ♣

Spot Marjorie Reynolds

Marjorie Reynolds gets the femme lead opposite Tim Holt in 'Cyclone on Horseback,' which starts shooting today at RKO under the direction of Edward Killy. Bert Gilroy produces.

AMG PUTS CHECK ON STUDIO DUNS

Artists Managers Guild, through its board of directors, has passed a resolution providing that after May 1 all advertising, donations and purchase of tickets for studio club affairs, picnics, dinners, golf tournaments, etc., shall be handled by the Guild. Resolution also provides that after May 1 no regular member of the AMG shall make any individual

◆ Continued on page 9 ◆

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, April 6.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Amapola	Marks
Wise Old Owl	BMI
Look At Me Now	Embassy
Do I Worry?	Southern
San Antonio Rose	Berlin
Walkin' By the River	BMI
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Because of You	BMI
You Are My Sunshine	Southern
Dolores	Paramount

GOLDSTONE WILL PRODUCE AGAIN

Phil Goldstone, who has been inactive in the producing end of the motion picture business for some time, is again re-entering that field, with a deal being set up for a major release of his first effort. Goldstone has signed Edmund T. Lowe to develop a screenplay around an untitled comedy to serve as his initialer, based on an aerial war theme.

Edw Robinson, Sheridan, Garfield in 'Klondike'

Edward G. Robinson, Ann Sheridan and John Garfield will play the leads in 'Klondike,' Warners production to be directed by Michael Curtiz from the original story by Vincent Sherman and Lee Katz.

Smith Catches Snow

Jack Smith heads a camera crew leaving tomorrow for Nardin, Cal., to film snow scenes for the new Greta Garbo starrer at Metro.

Brennan For 'Lewis'

Walter Brennan is first of the top players to be signed by Frank Lloyd for his next production at Universal, 'I, James Lewis.'

Holman In 'Ozarks'

Harry Holman has been cast in Republic's 'Thunder Over the Ozarks' featuring Weaver Bros.

Carrillo Joins 'Lazy'

Leo Carrillo goes to Metro to team with Wallace Beery in 'Lazy Bones.'

PREVIEWED

THE GREAT SWINDLE
(Col)

REPENT AT LEISURE
(RKO)

THE DEVIL AND MISS JONES
(RKO)

SIS HOPKINS
(Rep)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Mary Martin trained in yesterday from NY.

Leonard Smith off on three-week Arizona vacation.

Ray Milland and his wife plane for New York vacash tomorrow.

Nate Spingold airs out tonight for New York after week's visit to Columbia.

Mr. and Mrs. David O. Selznick and Jock Whitney weekended at Phoenix.

Burtis Bishop, Jr., has trained for his headquarters at the Metro exchange in Kansas City.

Patsy Doyle, stand-in, gets a regular acting part in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' at RKO.

Bob Oakley shoves off today for Chicago to catch Buddy Rogers' opening at the State-Lake.

Mark Sandrich is taking his wife and family for 10-day holiday to Palm Springs and Phoenix.

Henry DeSoto, formerly at Santa Anita and Hollywood tracks, has taken over the maitre de spot with House of Murphy.

Thomas Mitchell will do the title role in 'Unexpected Uncle' at RKO after he finishes part in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster.'

Walter Wanger will be guest speaker at the annual Conference on Children and the Theatre at Stanford university Wednesday.

Abe Shore of Max Factor's will take charge of a 10-week stage and screen makeup course at the University of Southern California.

Jim Geller of the William Morris office has left for New York for a two-week business trip talking with writers and lining up new material.

Excerpts from Warners 'The Wagons Roll at Night' will be dramatized on 'Hollywood Premiere' over CBS (18). Humphrey Bogart tops the cast.

Louis Cline has completed the dramatization of 'Lenore,' an original by Arthur Goodman and A. W. Pezet. Piece is slated for theatre tryout locally.

Harry Hayden replaces Emmett Vogan in the cast of 'A Gay Vagabond' at Republic. Vogan was unable to take assignment due to other commitments according to the studio.

Soo Yong, Chinese actress, has been signed for a featured role in 'Secret of the Wastelands,' next Hopalong Cassidy western which Harry Sherman will produce for Paramount.

Benny the Gouge sez—A character actor is a guy who makes more dough than a star and doesn't have to live up to it.

Hollywood Inside

LOS ANGELES dailies, with the exception of the Hearst Examiner, have broken down on their national amusement advertising rate, and are now affording studios opportunity to take advantage of the national advertising rate, less the regular agency commission. What the new setup virtually amounts to is that from now on this type of advertising will no longer be charged the exhorbitant rate of national amusement space, but gets the same rate as general national advertising, with its slightly higher than the ordinary amusement tariff. However, dailies have agreed to allow the customary 15% agency commission on this type of copy, so that advertisers will not only get a reduced rate but the papers will sacrifice 15% of the total. First of the majors to take advantage of this new setup is Metro, which is placing space on 'Men of Boys Town' through the Donahue & Coe agency. Amusement advertisers, heretofore, have either had to place the advertising direct, at the higher rate, or pay the agency commission in addition to the space rate.

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REPERCUSSION of music fight between American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers and broadcasters is resounding in Hollywood Bowl, where Easter sunrise services Sunday go out to the nation over the Mutual span. For the first time in years the Lord's Prayer, with original music setting by Josephine Forsythe, will not be aired due to copyright on the music being owned by G. A. Schirmer Publishing Company, an Ascap affiliate. For sentimental reasons the Bowl committee decided against using non-copyright music with the Lord's Prayer as Mrs. Forsythe left an endowment to perpetuate the Easter services. Jeffrey Lynn will read Salutation of the Dawn at the Bowl services.

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CAROLE LOMBARD has signed with the A. & S. Lyons agency for representation on picture and radio contracts. At the time of the Lombard-Myron Selznick & Co. arbitration it was figured the actress might go to the Nat Wolff office. Wolff is now associated with the Lyons agency and will handle all of Miss Lombard's radio activities and work in conjunction with Arthur Lyons on screen deals. Since the studios have learned actress is a free agent again with no future commitments with RKO, many have been putting forth both one-picture and term contract offers.

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REASON behind James Roosevelt's trip to Washington is to arrange for permission from the British Embassy and the State Department for Sol Lesser to produce a picture around the life of Winston Churchill. Lesser, United Artists producer, has registered the title of 'Prime Minister' and has material assembled ready to turn over to a writer if Roosevelt's trip is successful in obtaining clearance. Present association of Lesser and Roosevelt is understood to reach only as far as negotiating an okay from the British government is concerned.

☆ ☆ ☆

REASON for the clarity of Kathryn Grayson's voice in her first screen appearance in 'Andy Hardy's Private Secretary' is due to special insert in the regular release prints. To assure no loss of quality, the footage and sound track, running around 250 feet, were processed on fine grain positive film and inserted in all release prints. By using this method Metro sound and Laboratory execs have been able to maintain fine points of the voice and musical accompaniment found in the original recording right into the theatres where picture will play.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT has prepared a strip of 20 pictures, taken from the film, 'I Wanted Wings,' showing what happens during the total blackout of a major city, using Los Angeles as the model. Pictures have been sent to 50 newspapers around the country for planting as part of the exploitation campaign on the aviation drama. Department reports that acceptance for page displays with stories have already been received from several out of town sheets.

☆ ☆ ☆

LANA TURNER was yanked from her guest spot on Chase & Sanborn program yesterday after J. Walter Thompson agency refused to make script changes demanded by Metro. Studio's explanation was that the dialog crossfire with 'Charlie McCarthy' was unacceptable and would do the actress no good. Agency countered with a blunt refusal to rewrite the scenes and consented to the withdrawal.

☆ ☆ ☆

HOWARD HUGHES' 'The Outlaw,' is going through trimming process to enable it to get the oke of Joe Breen for the Hays purity seal. Breen in seeing a rough cut of the film found a couple of shots showing dress cut too low around Jane Russell's breasts. He nixed the scenes and held up the okay until Hughes does his pruning chore.

David Lewis, Warners Sign New Contract

Producer contract with David Lewis has been renewed at Warners for another term. Lewis is currently preparing 'King's Row' for start next Monday. New deal agented by Berg-Allenberg. Sam Wood directs 'Row' with Frank Heath as his assistant. Frank Mattison draws the unit manager assignment and Carl Jules Weyl will be art director. Casey Robinson scripted.

MG Ties Sedgwick

Edward Sedgwick has been signed to a director's contract at Metro. Sedgwick, who celebrated his 28th year in the business last week, was a metro director during silent and early sound days.

J. R. Rubin Eastward

J. Robert Rubin, Loew's vice president, has headed for New York after a 10-day stay at the studio going over spring and summer production plans.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was a sound of pistol shots
at yonder Hitching Post.
The buckaroos were firing at the
cruel Redskin host.
And seated in the darkness were
enthusiastic brats
Who shot imaginary slugs with
five-and-ten-cent gats.
But now the little Dead-Eye Dicks
are foiled forever more.
The manager has hung a sign beside the playhouse door:
'CHECK YOUR CAP PISTOLS.'

★ ★ ★

Annie Sheridan, courageous gal, is about to be rewarded for her long battle with the Warner boys. Her next role is a gold mine as Klondike Kate.

It is just as well that Annie wasn't there during the gold rush. The boys would have forgotten about Chilkoot Pass and hung around where Annie was.

'Nothing But the Truth' is coming back for a third screening, on the theory that truth is always a stranger.

★ ★ ★

HEADLINE:
'Army May Make Actor
Out of James Stewart.'
Now you know why Louis B. Mayer loaned him to Uncle Sam.

★ ★ ★

DOROTHY S. PREBLE
CALIFORNIA MODELS AGENCY.
DEAR DOROTHY:

You have put me on the spot. Ever since you ran that ad, the boys around the office and the boys around the corner have been pestering me about models, as if I knew. All I know about models is that they have four wheels and run so many miles per gallon. The only resemblance is that all the new models are streamlined. Hoping yours are the same, I am sincerely yours,

GEORGE E. PHAIR.

★ ★ ★

'Ridiculous' is the password on the 'Miami' set at 20th-Fox, where Walter Lang is Simon Legreeing the boys and gals from dawn until dusk.

It is a good old story about the clergyman who prayed for rain, and finally the rains came and flooded the valley, leaving nothing above the tide but the little church on the hill. Presently the waters crept into the church and the clergyman prayed again:

'Oh Lord, we thank thee for the rain, but this is ridiculous.'

So when Betty Grable and Carole Landis and Bob Cummings are swamped with work, they go around muttering the cryptic word: 'Ridiculous.'

Corn grows taller in Iowa but the Hollywood crop is easier to sell. And there is more of it on Broadway than in Dubuque.

Prosperity note — John Law accuses two downtown film exhibs of overcrowding their theatre. A lot of other operators are muttering: 'The lucky stiffs.'

★ ★ ★

Into the office walked a handsome lad whom we did not recognize until he cut loose with his machine-gun quips. None other than Milton Berle with a Grecian profile.

Film Previews

Sis Hopkins
(*Musical Comedy*)

Republic production. Stars Judy Canova. Features Bob Crosby and his band of Bob Cats, Charles Butterworth, Jerry Colonna, Susan Hayward, with Katharine Alexander, Elvia Allman, Carol Adams, Lynn Merrick, Mary Ainslee. Director, Joseph Santley. Associate producer, Robert North. Screen play, Jack Townley, Milt Gross and Edward Eliscu. Original story, F. McGrew Willis. Production manager, Al Wilson. Photography, Jack Marta. Supervising editor, Murray Seldeen; film editor, Ernest Nims. Art director, John Victor Mackay. Musical director, Cy Feuer. Special music and lyrics, Jule Styne and Frank Loesser. Orchestrations, Walter Scharf. Wardrobe, Adele Palmer. Dance director, Ada Broadbent. Previewed at the Studio City theatre, April 4. Running time: 98 mins.

Republic well justifies its position as 'the independent major company' with 'Sis Hopkins,' a vehicle that has served femme names capably in the past as an audience-pleasing comedy of a rural miss who has her ups and downs when she enters into a more material way of life. In this, its latest time around, the story is given its best production, some topnotch music, sterling performances by Judy Canova, Charles Butterworth, Jerry Colonna and others of the cast, and first rate direction by Joseph Santley to make it figure importantly as screen fare that will strike a responsive chord in nearly every viewer. The choice of Miss Canova to lend her appealing qualities to the title role was a happy one and can only result in building that actress into a film name to be reckoned with when box office receipts are counted.

Republic has splurged heavily to mount the picture with the utmost production values and the results compare most favorably with similar ventures by other companies. At times, though, this open-handedness reaches a little too far in its effort to endow the feature with every quality, and the trimming of a few of these extra contributions would result in an even more handsome entertainment presentation.

Sis Hopkins, the country cousin, is brought to the big city to live in luxury with her uncle, his wife and daughter. Sent to the same college with her snobbish cousin, Susan Hayward, poor Sis leads an hectic life until, after a series of misadventures brought on by the scheming of Miss Hayward, she convinces everyone that fine clothes and pretty manners do not a princess make. Jack Townley, Milt Gross and Edward Eliscu, in fashioning the screen play from F. McGrew Willis' original story, bring the piece up to date, inject modern dialog and garnish the situations with fun and laughter for a well-earned writing credit.

Miss Canova, in her own inimitable style, sells herself fortrightly to the public, making Sis Hopkins an appealing figure. Miss Canova's vocal and rural clowning gifts are completely turned loose for audience pleasure and will mean increased film following for her future pictures. Bob Crosby pleasantly portrays the rich young man who is the guiding genius of the college's annual musical show, which serves as ample justification for the introduction of the tunes and dance numbers. Mr.

★ Continued on page 8 ★

The Devil and Miss Jones
(*Comedy Drama*)

RKO release of a Frank Ross-Norman Krasna, Inc., production. Stars Jean Arthur. Features Robert Cummings, Charles Coburn, Edmund Gwenn, Spring Byington, S. Z. Sakall, William Demarest. Supporting players: Walter Kingsford, Montagu Love, Richard Carle, Charles Waldron, Edwin Maxwell, Edward McNamara, Robert Emmett Keane, Florence Bates, Charles Irwin, Matt McHugh, Julie Warren, Ilene Brewer, Regis Toomey, Pat Moriarty. Director, Sam Wood. Producer, Frank Ross. Original and screen play, Norman Krasna. Production design, William Cameron Menzies. Musical director, Roy Webb. Photography, Harry Stradling. Special effects, Vernon L. Walker. Art director, Van Nest Polglase; associate, Albert D'Agostino. Miss Arthur's gowns by Irene. Recording, John L. Cass. Film editor, Sherman Todd. Assistant director, Argyle Nelson. Previewed at the Academy, Inglewood, April 4. Running time: 91 mins.

'The Devil and Miss Jones' will prove a happy venture for the new producing combination of Frank Ross-Norman Krasna, Inc., and RKO, which is releasing it. Perfectly tuned to the present-day need for entertainment in a lighter vein, but with substance to back up the comedy, feature is headed for big business. For its star, Jean Arthur, who also is interested in the company, the picture is a solid success. For Charles Coburn it offers one of his most advantageous assignments, and that gentleman socks it home with a major delivery. In the direction, Sam Wood again rates himself as one of Hollywood's foremost craftsmen and the results spell heavy ticket sales and contented audiences for all exhibitors.

The basic theme—that of capital versus labor—is handled delicately and with a humorous touch in dialog and situation by Norman Krasna's writing. His material has been whipped together deftly, a novel opening used to placate the moneyed classes, and some gentle, unoffensive fun-poking employed against the laboring factions.

Charles Coburn, the richest man in the world, is having labor trouble in one of his many vast enterprises, a department store. He hires himself out as a shoe clerk to get at the bottom of the trouble and clean house of those vassals who dare rebel against the money lord. The adventures that befall the rich old gent in his sly spying cost him much of his dignity but change him from a stern financial tycoon to a mellowed, understanding character. There is a delightful play of character against character, the sometimes brief but important etching of cast individuals in one-sequence assignments, sharp dialog and brisk movement throughout to spell thoughtful and thorough realization of all the showmanly values with which the picture is laden. That these factors stand out is a credit to Director Sam Wood, whose handling of the picture as a whole, and of those separate sequences, each an entertainment gem, merits wide applause.

Miss Arthur brings to her role of the shop clerk in love with the young agitator a loveliness and ability that is hard to match. Her performance in the romantic interludes and the dramatic portions are skillfully natu-

■ Continued on page 8 ■

The Great Swindle
(*Melodrama*)

Columbia production. Stars Jack Holt. Features Jonathan Hale and Henry Kolker. Supporting cast: Marjorie Reynolds, Don Douglas, Boyd Irwin, Sidney Blackmer, Douglas Fowley, Tom Kennedy. Director, Lewis D. Collins. Producer, Larry Darmour. Screenplay by Albert DeMond. Original by Eric Taylor. Photography, James S. Brown, Jr. Music, Lee Zahler. Film editor, Dwight Caldwell. Previewed April 5. Running time: 54 mins.

There will be no singing in the streets when 'The Great Swindle' comes to the screen, for it is distinguished by a definite lack of originality and a minimum of movement. The picture does not provide an adequate background for the virile qualities of Jack Holt. Action is confined to players making entrances (with 39 doors being opened and closed, by actual count, as the film unwinds) and there is no love interest. Picture is strictly for those who like Jack Holt in anything, but it ought to return Columbia's original small investment in the secondary spots.

With one or two exceptions in the cast, Holt is like a football player with no interference. He does very well with his part, but story limits hobble him in the role of fire insurance investigator. Jonathan Hale, Henry Kolker and Douglas Fowley do well enough in their respective roles, and Marjorie Reynolds is passably charming in a brief appearance before the camera. Don Douglas, Boyd Irwin, Sidney Blackmer and Tom Kennedy lend support.

Holt, investigating a fire in a warehouse owned by Hale, comes across definite evidence of arson. Hale is under suspicion, for Holt and his assistant, Douglas, take pictures of electrical wiring that prove the fire was started by experts. Fowley and Kennedy are really responsible, doing the job for Blackmer, who is the go-between for a mysterious Mr. Big. The mystery man turns out to be Kolker, an investment broker who stands to make a huge financial gain through foreclosing on Hale and taking over the insurance company employing Holt. Blackmer double-crosses Fowley and Kennedy even after the gangsters have stolen the incriminating pictures and ruined the physical evidence at the warehouse. Holt and Douglas are in the warehouse and do battle with the arsonists. Douglas later recognizes Fowley's picture in the rogue's gallery. Wire-tapping leads to the arrest of the four conspirators. The almost complete absence of romance is marked, although Douglas and Miss Reynolds fall for each other in the last few feet.

It is necessary to say that everyone concerned with 'The Great Swindle' does as well as he possibly can with the material. Eric Taylor wrote the story and Albert DeMond is responsible for the screenplay. Lewis D. Collins directed what there was to direct and Larry Darmour produced.

Donlevy Gets Horn

Brian Donlevy will portray a trumpet player in 'Birth of the Blues,' Bing Crosby starrer which is scheduled to start (14) at Paramount. Donlevy is now finishing up role in 'The Great Man's Lady' at Par.

Repent At Leisure
(*Comedy Drama*)

RKO production. Features Kent Taylor, Wendy Barrie, George Barbier. Supporting cast: Thurston Hall, Charles Lane, Nella Walker, Rafael Storm, Ruth Dietrich, Cecil Cunningham, 'Snowflake' Toones. Director, Frank Woodruff. Producer, Cliff Reid. Screenplay, Jerry Cady. Original by James Gow, Arnaud D'Usseau. Photography, Nicholas Musuraca. Art direction, Van Nest Polglase, Albert D'Agostino. Gowns, Renie. Film editor, Harry Marker. Previewed April 5. Running time: 67 mins.

Good and folksy, marred only by flaws in the writing, RKO's 'Repent at Leisure' can do alright in the subsequent runs, for it is a potage of comfortable hoke peppered with laughs, seasoned by some good acting and sprinkled with the deft production touches of Cliff Reid.

Kent Taylor, Wendy Barrie and George Barbier head the competent cast. Acting honors go to Taylor and some of the supporting players, notably Ruth Dietrich, Cecil Cunningham, Charles Lane and an uncredited baby. Taylor is especially pleasing as a simple young necktie salesman trying to succeed. Miss Barrie is quite attractive. Barbier gives his usual skill to the role of a rich department store owner in league with a daughter who wants a 100 per cent American husband instead of the comedy prince her mother has chosen.

Although there is a 'this-is-where-I-came-in' feeling about parts of the plot, those scenes satirizing the conduct of a great department store and lampooning the pomposity of store executives rescue the picture from mediocrity. Miss Barrie, as Barbier's daughter, bumps into Taylor on a bus as she flees from marriage with the prince. When all single men in the store are about to be fired, Taylor, thinking Miss Barrie is a jobless model, marries her, saves his job and becomes manager. He discovers his wife's real identity and instead of patting himself on the back for an amazing stroke of handsome luck in marrying the boss' daughter, he is deeply wounded to realize that hard work, honesty and loyalty to dear old Baldwin's department store have had nothing to do with his success. It is hard to believe, but he leaves his wife and their adopted baby, becomes manager of a competing store and tries to ruin his father-in-law. Barbier proves too shrewd, however, and a merger of the stores is effected, with Miss Barrie dictating terms to Taylor. When the baby almost falls down an elevator shaft, Taylor rescues him in the nick of time and the estranged mates are brought together again.

Frank Woodruff's direction does much to strengthen story weaknesses and Reid's production is enhanced by the art direction of Van Nest Polglase and Albert D'Agostino, the photography by Nicholas Musuraca and the gowns by Renie. Jerry Cady's story seems to have been written at even greater speed than he is noted for, but he does deserve a bouquet for the stuffed-shirt department store business. James Gow and Arnaud D'Usseau penned the original.

Dorothy Lee Set

Dorothy Lee has been added to the cast of 'Too Many Blondes,' at Universal.

Mono Convention Winds Up With Big Festival

Three-day national convention of Monogram franchise holders came to a close yesterday, after two days of business sessions at the Roosevelt hotel, and with yesterday devoted entirely to recreation and entertainment. Visiting delegates and home office execs were guests Sunday of George Weeks at the Range Busters' ranch where a barbecue was served and various sports indulged in.

Bulk of the conventioneers are pulling out for their respective exchange centers today, after being worked up to a high pitch of enthusiasm by the program announcement for 1941-42 by Prexy W. Ray Johnston, and studio plans for the coming year outlined by different studio and home office execs.

Trem Carr, member of the board of directors, announced that next two features slated for production by Monogram will be 'Black Beauty', by Anna Sewall, rolling (15), and 'Army Hostess', a current season special, starting May 1. Sam Katzman told the franchise holders that in the future he plans adding one adult name to his 'East Side Kids' features, in addition to the regular crew of film toughies headed by Leo Gorcey and Huntz Hall. First under the new policy is 'Ghosts In the Night' with Bela Lugosi.

Company has seven more features needed to complete the 1940-41 season's announcement and expects to be washed up with these well ahead of time to start on its new program.

'Information Please' To NBC's Blue (29)

Coast dialers to 'Information Please' will be switched to NBC's blue outlet, KECA, April 29. Program will be recorded here off the line on Friday night and transcribed for the following Tuesday's broadcast. Under its former Canada Dry sponsorship the program also was heard here on wax. Change is effective day after Daylight Savings time sets in, April 28.

Castle's Two Step

Nick Castle and Geneva Sawyer will do the dance routines for 'Yank in the RAF' at 20th-Fox. Castle, on loan to Universal, will work mornings only on his home lot.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing seven pounds, four ounces, to Mrs. Hersh Crockett Friday (4) at Pioneer hospital. Father is associated with the Beyer-MacArthur agency. Baby has been named Judy Ann.

SON, eight pounds, to Mrs. Lawrence Butler, at Methodist hospital, Friday, April 4. Father is Lawrence Butler, special effects man for Alexander Korda.

MRS. ELEANOR
WILSON McADOO
KFWB-Dial-6:45 P.M.
980
MON. - WED. - FRI.

UNIVERSAL ROLLING THREE TODAY; TRIO BEING READIED

Universal puts three pictures before the cameras today, follows with one on Thursday and two more next Monday. Teeing off today will be 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy', 'Beyond the Law' and 'Halfway To Shanghai'. Thursday's starter is 'Rhapsody In Stripes' and the two for next Monday are 'Sea Raiders', serial, and 'Martial Law'.

Dick Powell, Claire Dodd, Dick Foran are the leads with Abbott and Costello and the Andrews Sisters in 'In the Navy', being directed by Arthur Lubin. June Clyde and William Gargan have the romantic leads in 'Beyond the Law', with Anne Nagel and John Litel also featured. George Waggner directs. Evelyn Ankers does the femme lead opposite Charles Bickford in 'Halfway To Shanghai' which Noel Smith directs. Others featured in the cast include Keye Luke, Frank Albertson, William Fung, Cecil Kellaway, Viola Vaughn and Truman Bradley.

Ken Goldsmith will produce 'Rhapsody'. Ford Beebe and John Rawlins have the co-directing assignment on the serial, and Ray Taylor will direct the Johnny Mack Brown western, 'Martial Law.'

Roach Asks Dismissal Of Metro Action In His 500G Suit

New York, April 6.—Hal Roach Studios, Inc., asked dismissal of the counter action in its answer to a $500,000 claim made by Loew's and the Metro Distributing Corporation in Federal court last Friday, declaring that contracts made with the film companies covered everything. Roach's suit is for $1,263,993, claiming that Loew's breached its distribution contracts with him by overcharging, failure to pay rebates, and other specifications.

Counter suit by Loew's and Metro charged Roach overcharged them on production costs and included items which were not legitimately deductible.

Hearing on Anti-Ascap Bills Postponed

Sacramento, April 6.—Due to delays in principals arriving here for legislative action on anti-Ascap bills, Assemblyman Jack Tenney has been granted postponement until (17) of three measures aimed at the Society's alleged monopolistic practices. Conference of Musicians Union is keeping several members from the capital until the later date.

RKO Declares $2 Dividend on Its 6% Preferred

New York, April 6.—Directors of Radio-Keith-Orpheum have declared the initial dividend of $2 on the 6% preferred since new shares were issued as part of the reorganization setup. Dividend is payable May 1 to stock on record April 21, leaving $5.50 accrued and unpaid as of May 2.

Declaration doesn't mean that the company is inaugurating regular dividend payments on a $6 annual basis. By making this payment it is understood the company forestalls election of directors by a minority group of stockholders.

Will Osborne Receives Several Bookings

Will Osborne's band is being booked out of the local William Morris office for a series of engagements opening (19) in Denver. He swings back this way for the junior prom at University of Arizona (26) and on May 9 plays the Pan-Hellenic dance at University of California at Los Angeles. He has also been set for a series of soundies for Sam Coslow and will cut several transcriptions for Standard's library.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday, (March 29-April 4). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
You Walked By	BMI	30
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	27
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	26
There'll Be Some Changes Made	Marks	25
Georgia On My Mind	Southern	22
I Hear a Rhapsody	BMI	21
I Do, Do You?	Stevens	19
Wise Old Owl	BMI	19
Amapola	Marks	18
Oh, Look at Me Now	Embassy	18
Lullabye Lane	Warren	17
With a Twist of the Wrist	BMI	17
Do I Worry?	Southern	16
Frenesi	Southern	16
High On a Windy Hill	BMI	16
Things I Love	BMI	16
Let's Dream This One Out	BMI	15

★ Gab ★

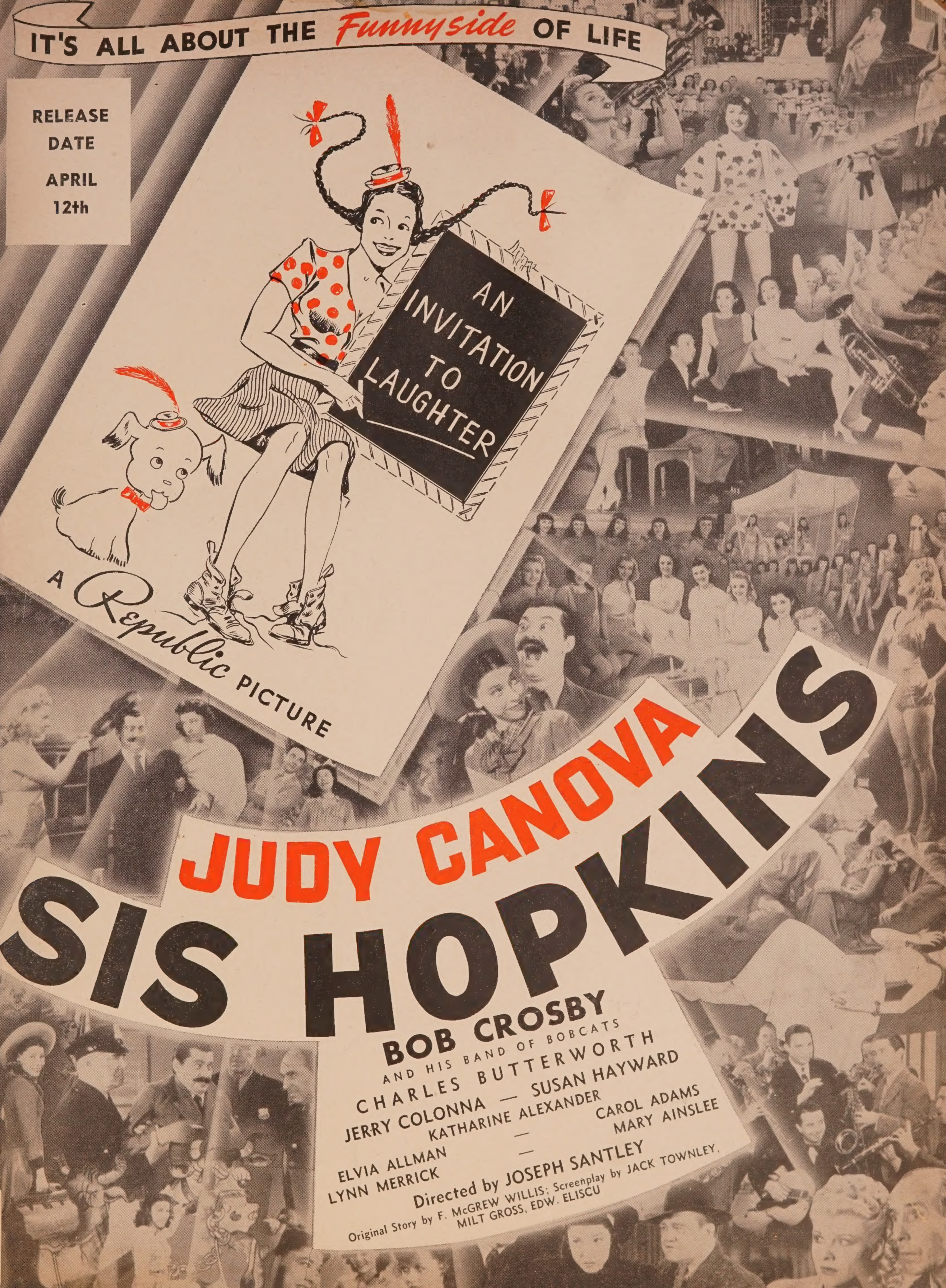
By ALTA DURANT

SCREEN, radio and society notables will mingle in initiating the Easter Promenade this year in Wilshire Center, from the Ambassador hotel to the Town House on Sunday. The occasion is intended to follow church services and to become a Los Angeles tradition. Twelve blocks on Wilshire boulevard will be decorated for the day. Flower girls from California college campuses will distribute bouquets. There will be a mid-afternoon Easter Cantata in Lafayette Park, featuring combined choirs of a number of leading churches. Shops will be in smart dress. Sidewalk radio interviews will be a feature. All parking lots usually closed on Sundays will remain open to accommodate promenaders. . . . Lady Mendl's 'Chins Up' party and show for British War Relief will be staged at the Mocambo Sunday evening, (20), after postponement because of recent closing of the Victor Hugo where it had been previously scheduled. Robert Montgomery, head of British War Relief, will open the show, and then Alan Mowbray, Reginald Gardiner and Nigel Bruce will carry on. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., will auction stockings of nine screen celebs worn to the party. . . . Among 24 American volunteer ambulance drivers who have sailed with 20 ambulances to operate with the Free French forces under General de Gaulle are Philip Faversham, 33, son of the late William Faversham, Arthur Tilden Jeffress of West Hollywood, and Ray Colcord, Jr., who recently appeared on Broadway in 'Swinging the Dream.' . . . Warren McKinney hosted a party at Charlie Foy's Supper Club last night in honor of Judy Canova upon her return from p.a. tour.

Those fancy invites are still going out to a select list for the Louella O. Parsons' Lifebuoy airshows. Ordinarily the stiff-backed ducats disappear after the first broadcast but this series of 13 apparently is no ordinary event. LOP shares the invitational billing with her sponsor's product.

MILTON BERLE will emcee in place of Jack Benny at a Greek War Relief benefit show to be staged at the El Portal theatre in North Hollywood night of (11). House, which has a capacity of 1322 will be scaled at $1 throughout, with benefit performance starting at 11 p.m. Show will be virtually the same as given recently at the Shrine auditorium. . . . P. J. Wolfson and the missus sailed Friday aboard the Lurline for a three-week vacation in Honolulu. . . . Claude Rains arrived Friday by air from lengthy stay at his Pennsylvania farm only to find Southern California blanketed by wet clouds. . . . Elmer Irey, chief of the Intelligence Division of the U. S. Treasury Department, visiting Universal, along with R. R. Read, head of the San Francisco bureau and Al Cohn, LA police commissioner.

BILL CALIHAN of Metro's production department, and Peggy Youngworth, secretary to Harold S. Bucquet, were married Saturday in the Westwood Church. Couple will honeymoon for a week.



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE *Funnyside* OF LIFE

RELEASE
DATE
APRIL
12th

AN
INVITATION
TO
LAUGHTER

A *Republic* PICTURE

JUDY CANOVA

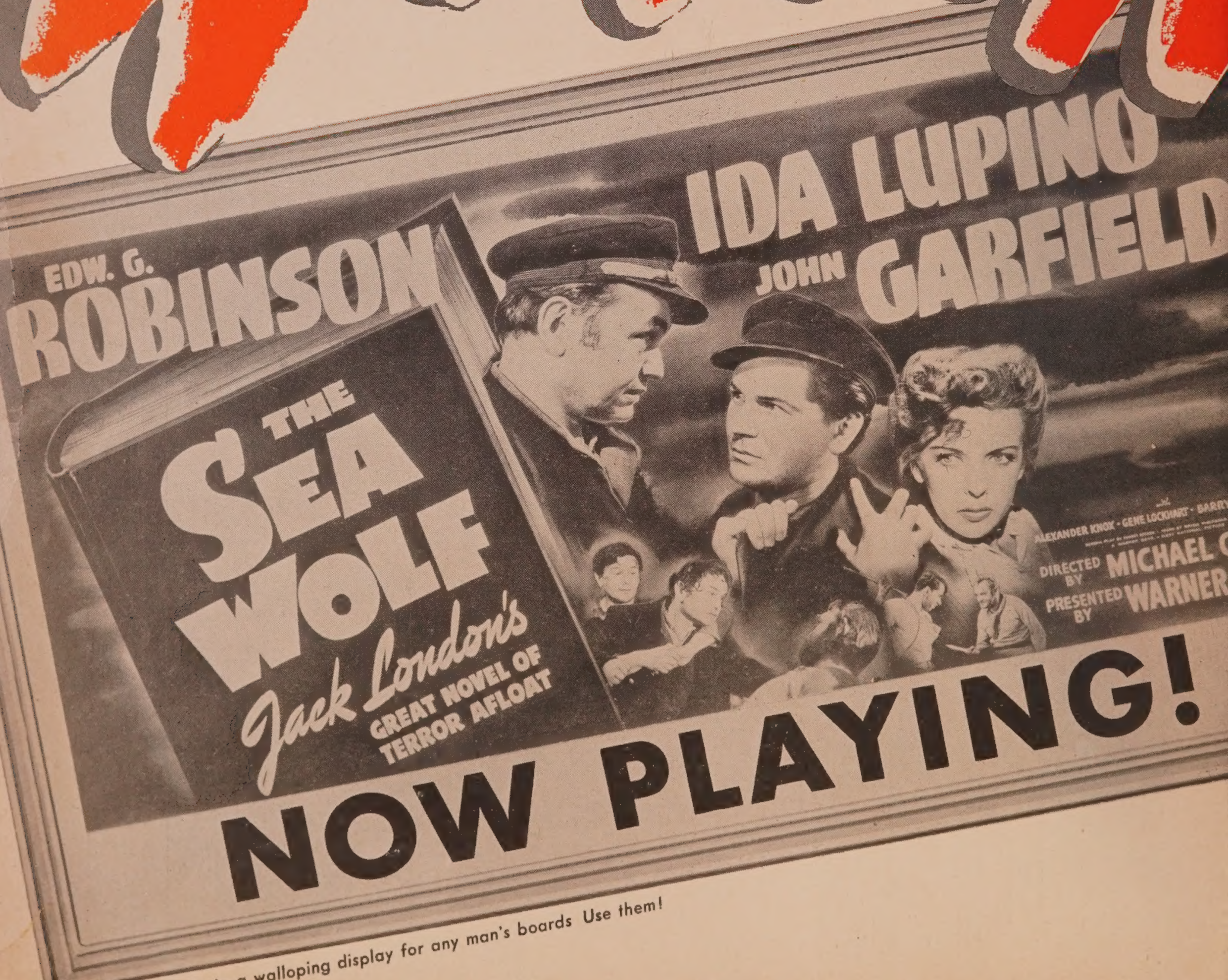
SIS HOPKINS

BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND OF BOBCATS
CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA — SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER — CAROL ADAMS
ELVIA ALLMAN — MARY AINSLEE
LYNN MERRICK

Directed by JOSEPH SANTLEY

Original Story by F. McGREW WILLIS; Screenplay by JACK TOWNLEY, MILT GROSS, EDW. ELISCU

WHA


EDW. G. ROBINSON

IDA LUPINO

JOHN GARFIELD

THE SEA WOLF

Jack London's GREAT NOVEL OF TERROR AFLOAT

with ALEXANDER KNOX · GENE LOCKHART · BARRY

DIRECTED BY MICHAEL C

PRESENTED BY WARNER

NOW PLAYING!

The 24-sheet—a walloping display for any man's boards Use them!

Again!

Moskowitz Describes Schenck Tax Moves In New York Trial

New York, April 6.—Joseph Moskowitz continued on the stand all day last Friday under examination by Defense Counsel Harold H. Corbin, with his testimony blasting away at the Government's case against Joseph Schenck and himself before U. S. Judge Grover Moscowitz and a jury. Among the important points brought out by Moskowitz were that in 1933 Schenck was allowed $28,554 by the Government for expenses incurred in earning his salary, which was $6,000 more than he asked in 1935. That year, the first in which the Government makes charges of evasion, Schenck asked for $22,000 for expenses, but the Government was only willing to allow $167.

A letter from the Treasury department to Moskowitz in 1934 allowing the deductions of $28,554 was used by Moskowitz as a basis for the 1936-37 deductions, he told the jury.

Moskowitz pointed out that in 1935 Schenck had listed his net income at $138,460, and the Government examiner some months later declared it was $148,466, and asked for an additional $5,604 in tax, which was paid, apparently settling all disputes on the 1935 tax situation, until now, when the Government claims fraud. Moskowitz told how he estimated Schenck's expenses and how he gave his work sheets to the Government examiner who was perfectly satisfied with the deductions. When Leo Colin, treasury agent, started his examination again prior to the institution of the suit against Schenck, Moskowitz showed him how he could have deducted over $22,000, the amount asked, in N. Y. expenses alone.

ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE

The 20th-Fox Eastern representative stated he felt he was always ultra-conservative in his deductions and estimations, and could have taken far more if he had so desired He declared he had always estimated his own deductions and Schenck's, since no accurate amount could be secured, and no one had ever told him this was improper.

Moskowitz's own returns were introduced for 1933 and 1934 to show how he, who secured far less than Schenck, was permitted more for business expenses and entertainment by the Government. In 1933 he asked for $5,972 and was allowed $5,458, and in 1934 he asked for $6,128 and was allowed $5,780. At this time his salary was $32,200 yearly, against ten times that amount and more for Schenck.

Moskowitz denied having destroyed the 1935 worksheets which could not be found, and stated emphatically that no one had hidden or destroyed them for him.

He told at the end of the day of his negotiations with William Goetz for the sale of the Jockey Club stock for $5,000, and declared it to be a legitimate sale for property which apparently was valueless. Goetz took a 'flier' on the property in the hope that Mexico might rescind its anti-gambling law. With gambling out, the track was valueless. The witness continues on the stand Monday on the same transaction.

Film Previews

Sis Hopkins

★ Continued from page 3 ★

Crosby might not be correctly classed as an actor in the strictest sense of the term, but his name in the dance world and his screen personality are factors that can not be treated lightly.

Charles Butterworth goes to town in his role of the rich uncle, a retired plumber, giving both the subtle and broad comedy moments all the benefit of his best talents. Jerry Colonna, the dramatic professor at the school, never allows a chance for a laugh to get by and with his particular brand of fun keeps the chuckles rolling in to fully merit the assignment. Susan Hayward sings one number well and gives the 'meany' character a standout performance. Katharine Alexander, the aunt, is swell. Elvia Allman is another fun factor. Carol Adams, Lynn Merrick and Mary Ainslee lend personal charms and promising ability to their parts.

Joseph Santley's stage musical comedy experience stands him in good stead in the direction. He blends the comedy, dramatics and straight musical portions together with a skilled hand that takes the best advantage of the wealth of material assembled and adds another worthy credit to his growing list. Robert North's associate production job carries through every requirement in a showmanship style, thoroughly justifying the budget dollars spent.

Jack Marta's photography exactingly delivers in every phase. The special music and lyrics by Jule Styne and Frank Loesser rank easily in the popular class. There is a swell patriotic túne, 'It Ain't Hay,' the lilting 'Well, Well,' and the equally good 'Look at You, Look at Me.' Walter Scharf's orchestrations; Cy Feuer's musical direction; the dance direction by Ada Broadbent; the wardrobe by Adele Palmer; John Victor Mackay's art direction, and other individual production aids are importantly done.

Pass Bills Permitting Minors to Work Later

Sacramento, April 6.—The State Assembly on Saturday passed two bills, proposed by Assemblyman Charles Lyon of Los Angeles, permitting minors to appear in a performance, play or drama, in studios, via radio or by television before or after 10 p.m., but not later than midnight, provided they have the written consent of the state labor commissioner.

Ken Murray Guester With Kate Smith

Ken Murray makes his first air appearance in months as guest comic on the Kate Smith program Friday. He may be retained for the final broadcast of the local originations next week.

McAdoo Over KFWB

Mrs. Eleanor Wilson McAdoo, daughter of last World War President, Woodrow Wilson, initiates a series of commentary programs over KFWB tonight at 6:45. She will be heard on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The Devil and Miss Jones

■ Continued from page 3 ■

ral and the lighter spots developed with a high comedy flare.

Coburn is a delight to behold as the rich man who sets out to fire the trouble-making employe but ends up by clearing his business of the real trouble-makers — the various people who hold posts of authority in the store. His first trip to Coney Island and the many mishaps that result as he finds middle-aged romance with Spring Byington are so easily played that no thought of theatric artifice intrudes to mar the natural-seeming proceedings.

Robert Cummings delivers what is probably his best screen work to date as the labor agitator and beloved of Miss Arthur. He is handed several priceless scenes, particularly the police station episode where he talks Coburn out of the hands of the law, that are sure laugh getters, and his more serious moments are as strongly sold.

Edmund Gwenn, a store section manager who also is the rival with Coburn for the hand of Miss Byington, romps away with a character that in less sure hands could have lost much of its slick flavor of fun, and menace. Miss Byington doesn't allow any of her footage to get by without registering fully and she ably helps in accounting for the picture's better moments. S. Z. Sakall, Coburn's bewildered personal servant, brings to the screen another of his perfect performances. William Demarest, store detective, wallops over the comedy character as one of the chief aids to excellence running through the picture. Walter Kingsford, manager of the department store, is another decided factor around which the story swings.

Montagu Love, Richard Carle, Charles Waldron and Edwin Maxwell are a laugh foursome as yesmen directors in the Merrick Enterprises. Edward McNamara, Regis Toomey and Pat Moriarty, the law trio which gives Coburn an unhappy moment during the Coney Island escapade, figure prominently in the results. Perfect bits are contributed by Robert Emmett Keane, Florence Bates, Matt McHugh, Julie Warren and Ilene Brewer, the latter with an hilarious job of a young girl being fitted for shoes by Coburn.

Frank Ross's production is of top quality. The casting, even to the smallest spot, is perfect, and the mounting garners every value obtainable from the budget. If 'The Devil and Miss Jones' is a sample of what to expect in the future from Ross's new producing unit, a profitable life is easily predicted. For the production design, William Cameron Menzies rates top praise. Roy Webb's musical direction is brilliant. The photography by Harry Stradling shows Miss Arthur to the best advantage and his use of the camera in a number of scenes brings them to life with realistic effect. Vernon L. Walker's special effects are a major contribution, as is the art direction by Van Nest Polglase and his associate, Albert D'Agostino. Striking costumes for Miss Arthur were designed by Irene. Sherman Todd's editing and the sound recording by John L. Cass are first-rate.

Hearstian Groups Up For Examination In Tarkington Suit

New York, April 6.—The Hearst Magazine, Inc., the Hearst Corporation and Hearst International Magazine are to be examined next Wednesday before trial in Federal court here through A. S. Moore, secretary, in connection with Booth Tarkington's suit against Warners for $100,000. Author's allegations are that the company did not base their film, 'Penrod and His Twin Brother', on any story of his, as credited.

Warners base their unique defense on the claim that the public associates the film company, rather than the author, with the fictive character of 'Penrod' as a result of the many pictures it has made concerning 'Penrod'.

ST. LOUISANS GRAB FOR 'HOPKINS'

St. Louis, April 6.—World premiere of Republic's 'Sis Hopkins' at the Fox theatre Friday night drew 25,000 fans in a milling group three blocks deep around the house to watch the contingent of stars from Hollywood. Net proceeds went to Greek war relief. Arrival of picture folk climaxed a day of crowded events which began when Judy Canova, John Wayne, Ona Munson, Jerry Colonna, Mary Beth Hughes, James Ellison, Don Barry and Lois Ranson arrived early afternoon on the Alton Streamliner after the special plane which was to have brought them from Kansas City was stormbound.

Retie Chas. Lederer

Charles Lederer has been signed to a new writing contract at Metro.

Story Buys

David O. Selznick has purchased the screen rights to 'Drake's Drum', original short story by Peter Viertel, member of the Selznick writing staff. Yarn, laid in modern England, will be published shortly in Liberty magazine.

Paramount has bought 'Road To Moscow', by Don Hartman, and plans call for the picture to be made for 1942 with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in the top roles. Paul Jones has been set to supervise.

Metro has purchased 'Drivin' Woman', novel now being written by Elizabeth Pickett Chevalier. Studio price was reported to be $60,000.

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New Type Projector For Juke Boxes To Be Made Here

Production is expected to get underway within the next 60 days on a new type of film projector attachment to be used with record juke boxes. Device, invented and patented by Dwain Esper, will allow the projection of bands, musical acts and other visual entertainment in synchronization with music from records in the regular automatic phonographs.

Company was incorporated last week in Sacramento with an authorized capital stock of $1,000,000 to place the attachment on the market under the name of Pic-A-Tune, Inc. Concern's title will be changed this week due to priority on the name and a portion of the shares will be offered to the public.

New film projector attachment is understood to compare more favorably in initial cost and expense of operation than the many 'coin-in-the-slot' projectors now being placed on the market to replace straight music boxes, according to Jack L. Rau. Rau and his law partner, Arthur A. Desser, are counsel-members of the company.

According to Rau, attachment will be offered at around $200 and the films sold outright at $6 for a reel of six subjects. Subjects will be filmed on 35mm. and then reduced to 8 mm. Negotiations are underway for the filming of bands and acts during actual recording of music, although Rau states attachment can now be used with numbers already recorded where pictures of a band or singer are shown doing the same music, and in perfect 'sync'.

One of the chief advantages of the invention as pointed out by Rau is its ability to permit a patron to both see and hear a musical number of his own choice, individually, and for only five cents. Another is the fact that it can be used with current phonograph equipment without the necessity of scrapping present 'juke boxes', as the widespread popularity of the 'coin-in-the-slot' projectors would likely do.

New company has established headquarters at 843 Seward and will job out the manufacture of the automatic electrically controlled and operated apparatus. Model of invention is now on display at the offices and a number of others have been spotted around for some time for tryouts.

AMG PUTS CHECK ON STUDIO DUNS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

donations or commitments in connection with any studio club activities. Purpose, as expressed by Guild, was to have the entire group make whatever donations should be regarded as appropriate, and thus eliminate embarrassment to agents who might not be able to make individual donations.

Ill in Pix

REGINALD DENNY bedded with flu and out of cast of 'The Flight Patrol' at Warners for a few days.

MIRANDA SPLIT BOOKING UNIQUE IN LA CHANNELS

Carmen Miranda will split two weeks' stage bookings in Los Angeles between Grauman's Chinese theatre, operated by Fox West Coast, and the Paramount, operated by Fanchon & Marco. South American actress has been booked for week of April 23 at the Chinese, drawing down $7,500 for her stint, in addition to which she furnished her rhumba orchestra of six men. Paramount date commences May 8, and stage show in all probability will be augmented for the booking.

In addition to the $7,500 salary for the star, F-WC will have to provide a standby orchestra of six men and furnish all stagehands necessary.

Split booking between two opposition theatres is believed to be first instance of such a date in the Los Angeles area. It develops that both Fanchon & Marco and F-WC were dickering for the 20th-Fox player, and Sherrill Cohen of the Orpheum also had a bid in for her services. F-WC, instead of holding out for a week for the player at its downtown acer, Loew's State, agreed to the F&M booking at the downtown Paramount.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(RKO)

'Cyclone On Horseback'
Dir.: Edward Killy
Asst.: James Casey

(Universal)

'Halfway to Shanghai'
Dir.: Noel Smith
Asst.: Gil Valle

'Beyond the Law'
Dir.: George Waggner
Asst.: Seward Webb

'Abbott and Costello In the Navy'
Dir.: Arthur Lubin
Asst.: Phil Karlstein

Wm. Mallard Resigns Post with RKO, Various Subsids

New York, April 6. — William Mallard resigned as general counsel and secretary of Radio-Keith-Orpheum and various of its subsidiaries at the board of directors meeting Friday. Resignation includes RKO-Radio, of which he also was vice-president and from which position he also withdraws.

Gordon E. Youngman, assistant secretary, has been upped to vice-president and general counsel for Radio-Keith-Orpheum. J. Miller Walker, another assistant secretary, has been elected secretary. Other officers and directors were re-elected at the meeting.

Mallard, with RKO for 10 years, will go into general law practice.

Ralph Hamilton Weds, Then Joins Army

Denver, April 6.—Ralph Hamilton, manager of the Santa Fe theatre, was married to Lola Calomino, one of the house cashiers, and immediately thereafter enlisted in the U. S. Marines. Succeeding Hamilton in his theatre berth is Donald Hart, moved up from assistant at the Gothic, while Herbert Thornbrough, Oriental theatre manager, took over the publicity spot.

'Dust' Gathers Pidgeon

Walter Pidgeon has been called back to Metro from 20th-Fox for four days additional work on 'Blossoms in the Dust' with Greer Garson, whose illness slowed the picture. Pidgeon will resume his part in 'Man Hunt' at 20th-Fox Thursday.

Sturdivant Names Groups To Operate In F-WC District

Active committees for B. V. Sturdivant's Fox West Coast operating district for the second quarter of the year, April through June, comprises five separate bodies, made up as follows:

Booking committee: Terry McDaniel, chairman; Lee Wentz, James M. Wyatt, Irwin Brod, Dick Smith.

Advertising and Exploitation committee: Vance Schwartz, chairman; Richard O. Mears, Edward Penn, Stanley W. Kriner.

Statistical: James Runte, chairman; E. B. Abrams, Clifford Reid, George L. Topper.

Maintenance and Upkeep: James D. Richardson, chairman; Hamilton Davis, David Lackie, Harvey Kny.

Good Will and Public Relations: C. S. Crews, chairman; Charles K. Long, Everett Sharp.

Skouras In Colorado On Sales Drive

Colorado Springs, Colo., April 6. —Charles P. Skouras, president of Fox-West Coast Theatres, and field marshal for the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, which opens (13) addressed the operators of Rick Ricketson's Rocky Mountain division of National Theatres at the Broadmoor hotel here today. A general meeting of district gatherings is scheduled for tomorrow. From here Skouras goes on to Kansas City for a similar meeting.

Hays Talks Studio Pay At Producer Meeting

Will Hays hit town on Saturday and yesterday conferred with producers on matter of retroactive pay for studio labor. The problem is up for discussion and action at meeting of Motion Picture Producers Association which Hays will attend this afternoon.

Bowes At Orpheum

Major Bowes' Spring Jubilee unit has been booked into the Orpheum theatre here for the week starting next Wednesday (9). House, in conjunction, will have two first run pictures, 'Youth Will Be Served,' (20th) featuring Jane Withers, and 'Back in the Saddle,' latest Gene Autry Republic film.

Denver Arbitration Complaint Under Decree Dismissed

Denver, April 6.—First complaint filed with the Denver office of the American Arbitration setup under the consent decree, was dismissed by George D. Begole, arbitrator, after several days' hearing following J. J. Goodstein Enterprises' decision to drop the complaint against 20th-Fox, Metro and Paramount.

Goodstein complaint had charged the three defendants with depriving the Goodstein theatre, Longmont, Colo., of pictures and with selling their films to another theatre in the town in which 20th-Fox had an interest. Three film companies had alleged the complaining exhibitor was not 'reputable and responsible' and was not entitled to relief under Section 6 of the Consent Decree.

Abrupt dismissal was not favored by the three defendants, as they were planning to present their claim that they had never actually refused a run to Goldstein. A. J. Gould, defendants' counsel, also said that 'it is unfortunate from our standpoint that we could not have shown conclusively here that the consent decree was being used for the purpose of compelling the Fox Theatres to lease this theatre.'

B. J. McCarthy Replaces Ashby in Denver

Denver, April 6.—Joseph H. Ashby, dean of film exchange managers here, has resigned as RKO manager and has been succeeded by B. J. McCarthy, who was RKO manager at Buffalo, N. Y. Manuel Brown, named district manager for Paramount, will headquarter here, with Denver, Salt Lake and Omaha territories, and Harold Fuller, recent RKO exchange manager at Salt Lake City, has been promoted to district manager, handling the Denver, Salt Lake City, Butte and possibly Omaha territories.

Bert Lahr Given Two Pix, 'DuBarry', 'Hattie'

Bert Lahr will do two pictures in Hollywood this summer, first of which will be 'DuBarry Is a Lady,' at Metro. Lahr will repeat the same role he did in the Broadway presentation of the show. His second picture will be 'Panama Hattie' at Paramount. In this Lahr will play the part done on the New York stage by Rags Ragland. Ragland will also appear in the picture, doing spot performed by Frankie Hyers in the stage presentation.

Kerer Roadshowing

Denver, April 6.—George Kerer has closed his Select Pictures exchange and is now in the territory roadshowing sex films.

Wyoming House Sold

Lusk, Wyo., April 6. — W. E. Berkheimer has sold the Wyoming theatre here to E. W. Turner, formerly of Mobile, Ill.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'Senate Page Boys' now titled 'Adventure in Washington' and 'He's My Uncle' now tagged 'You'll Never Get Rich.'

Bing Won't Make Any Film on Jukers, Sez Bro. Everett

New York, April 6.—Bing Crosby will not make any picture dealing with juke boxes or juke box murders for Paramount or any other company, according to a statement issued by Everett Crosby, Bing's brother and manager, in New York. Statement was issued to offset false rumors.

Three features Bing will make during the coming season are listed by Everett Crosby as 'Birth of the Blues', going into production this month; an untitled story by Paul Jones, going in June, and an untitled story by Irving Berlin for November. Russell Holman of Paramount also was to issue a statement backing up Bing's denial to allay asserted consternation among juke box operators.

Committee Studies Home For Acad

Under authorization of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences at its first quarterly meeting, President Walter Wanger appointed William Pereira, consultant architect, and Sam Wood, director, as a committee to investigate the possibilities of erecting an Academy building. They report back to the board at its next meeting regarding locations, type of building and related data. Mervyn LeRoy, chairman of the membership committee, reported addition of 47 new members in past four weeks.

Rathbone Emcees Huge Army Day Program

Camp Roberts, Calif., April 6.—Some 6,000 officers, selectees and their guests at this camp, near San Miguel, mobbed Basil Rathbone, emcee; Aline Rhonie, artist-flier, and Jane Russell, playing femme lead in Howard Hughes' picture, 'The Outlaw', for autographs, and then crowded into two-day-old auditorium for huge Army Day program. Brigadier General C. H. White headed the celebration in this largest army replacement center in the West.

Par Terms Nugent

Paramount has signed Elliott Nugent to a three-picture deal which begins when he finishes directing 'Nothing But the Truth.' Pact calls for Nugent to do three pictures within the next two years. Berg-Allenberg agented.

LEGIT OPENING

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

Florence Eldridge, appearing as brother and sister, is glove-fitting in the lead roles. Allan Reed scores in a dialect part. Judy Parrish and Arthur Franz register as a pair of kids meeting their first big problem. Outstanding bits are contributed by Helen Carew, John Morny, Edith King and Doro Merande. Henry Hull's boy, Shelley, handles a bit adequately.

Excellent dialog carries a number of philosophical lines, albeit a bit soap-boxy. Good direction keeps interest alive, and physical end of the production shapes up nicely. Play will be pruned for spring tour and held until fall for Broadway.

10,000 New England Gawkers Slap-Happy at 'Lie' Preem

Littleton, N. H., April 6.—Presence of Bette Davis tripled the normal 4,800 population of this typical New England town last night when her latest Warners film, 'The Great Lie', was given its world premiere here. The White Mountain folk ogled at a trainload of newspaper men and women, mag writers, photographers and radio spielers during the day, then turned all attention at night to their newly adopted celeb neighbor and her new husband, Arthur Farnsworth.

While the film was received warmly by mixed audience of natives and outsiders, the reception for Miss Davis was the paramount feature, keyed to a birthday celebration for the star which developed into unique public holiday. While Warners practiced organization was evident in handling of the press accommodations and in the spectacle surrounding the opening night, the townspeople and their guests otherwise took over and made it more of a civic event than a preem hoopla. Some 65 press guests trained in from New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Washington and were given the run of the town, guested at an old-fashioned sugaring-off party, shot up and down Cannon Mountain by aerial tramway, treated to skiing exhibitions and to cocktails at the local theatre by Manager Jack Eames, with Miss Davis as hostess.

Torchlight parade, preceding the premiere, drew a mob of 10,000 gawkers, and the mob outside the theatre had the 80 police slap-happy. Corny local talent on stage at the Premiere theatre (seating 800) gave a charming atmosphere to the entire spree.

Governors of two states, Robert O. Blood of New Hampshire and William H. Wills of Vermont, and Judge Albert Billodeau, representing the governor of Maine, as well as Senator Styles Bridges of N. H., headed list of distinguished guests. There was a torchlight motorcade from Miss Davis' farm home to the theatre, and afterwards a birthday ball at the Town Hall, where Miss Davis cut a 95-pound cake and danced with Governor Blood.

Newsreels covered and Boston papers today gave it Page 1 attention. Opening was set by S. Charles Einfeld and Mort Blumberg, Warners exploitation chiefs, while details were handled by the eastern publicity staff, headed by Mitchell Rawson.

Proceeds from premiere and the ball were turned over to two local charities, the Littleton hospital and the Golden Rule Home for Boys.

Brower's Color Crew In Ozarks To Get 'Starr' Background

Otto Brower and a Technicolor camera crew have left for Missouri to film Ozark mountain scenes for 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr'. Troupe will headquarter at Pineville. Picture goes into work at the studio today, still minus player for the title role, under direction of Irving Cummings.

Cast includes Henry Fonda, Randolph Scott and Dana Andrews.

Ernest Palmer is director of photography, with Ray Rennahan handling the Technicolor.

Keaton's 'Nuisance'

'General Nuisance' has been set as release title on the latest Buster Keaton two-reel comedy about draftees at Columbia.

Nelson Snips 'Society'

Charles Nelson gets film editor assignment on 'Blondie in Society' at Columbia.

Posen Refused Order To Exam Books In Universal Suit

New York, April 6. — Supreme court has denied Samuel I. Posen, Universal director, the right to examine books and records of the Cellofilm Corporation, subsidiary of Universal Pictures, in connection with $2,000,000 stockholder suit Posen is bringing against the company here. In making his ruling, Justice Felix Benvenga stated that Cellofilm is not a New York corporation, and that therefore the court cannot interfere with the internal management of a foreign company.

Posen's suit claims waste and mismanagement, and asks both an accounting and dismissal of responsible officials.

Two For 'President'

Paramount has signed Dorothy Peterson and John Litel for featured roles in 'Henry for President.'

Louella's LifeBO Studio Much Too Chilly for Hedda

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

dio C strolled Hedda, oblivious to any possible dagger-looks that might come from the stage where LOP was adjusting her glasses for another squint at her lines. Once in the booth Hedda waved jovially to a few friends on the stage. As Announcer Harlow Wilcox moved toward the mike, Producer Charles Vanda spied Hedda.

Blurted Wilcox, 'And now, the first lady of Hollywood . . . I think she has something to say to you.' But she didn't, not at Wilcox's cue. Vanda called for a cut.

'What are you doing here, Hedda?' Vanda wanted to know. 'Louella will not speak another line until you get out of here.'

Not being one to hang around where she isn't wanted, Hedda waved a farewell to Miss Goddard and departed as quietly as she came, without even a glance in the direction of LifeBO's 'first lady'.

RKO Will Roadshow 'Kane' with 3-City Opening Soon

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

policy, trains in from New York today.

Press preview will take place in New York and Los Angeles Wednesday. Preview will be held here at the Ambassador theatre and in New York at the Broadway. Studio announcement said showings will be limited to the press.

Screenings will follow in Washington, San Francisco, Seattle and San Diego. Welles is author, producer, director and actor, although Herman Mankiewicz gets writing credit. Joseph Cotton, Dorothy Comingore, Everett Sloane, Agnes Moorhead, George Coulouris, Ruth Warrick, Ray Collins, Paul Stewart, Erskine Sanford and William Alland are in the cast.

The Welles contingent, pointing out that Depinet had failed to name the roadshow theatres, maintained a skeptical attitude.

Welles, according to inside report, will not make another picture for RKO until he sees what happens to 'Citizen Kane.' And, in any case, he is declared to have decided not to make the picture at his own expense, as he had said previously he would, unless RKO will let him film Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness.' It was on the understanding that he would be permitted to make 'Darkness' that Welles based his prior promise to make a second at RKO for-free.

Before the altercation over 'Kane' arose, Welles had stood ready to make a second without cost to RKO, even if it were some other picture than 'Darkness,' but he now is said to feel that RKO has not treated him with fairness, and all he will live up to is the strict letter of the contract. This provides that he must make one more picture, which will not be done until after the situation on 'Kane' clears.

Still Photogs Sesh Tonight On Final Exhib Plans

Called together by Herbert Aller, all Still Photographer members of the cameramen's union will attend special meeting tonight of the Public Relations Institute of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences at the Academy Review theatre, to go over details of the Still Photography Exhibit opening Monday, and to discuss regulations for the second show next year. Around 100 top still men are expected to attend, and John LeRoy Johnston will preside. Meeting will be addressed by John Joseph, chairman of the Publicity Directors Committee of the Producers, by Perry Lieber, chairman of Still Exhibit committee, and by various technicians.

Warners Busy

Warners currently has 51 writers busy on 38 stories, including three plays, 17 novels, 16 originals and two biographies. Matching writer activity on the lot over the weekend was the number of employes, tallying 5,000. Company has nine features and short subjects in production.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

M G M Studios
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Vol. 31 No. 24 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, April 8, 1941 5 Cents

HOLIDAY BIZ MIGHTY GOOD HERE

SILVERSTONE KELLY TALK UA OUTPUT

Murray Silverstone, who arrived from New York yesterday, starts a series of meetings today in conjunction, with Arthur Kelly, with the United Artists producers on forthcoming product to be announced at the series of conventions shortly. Kelly will determine whether the conventions will start April 14 or 21, this being contingent on his ability to complete his chores here in relation to the

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Nancy Coleman Tested At WB for 'Row'

Warners is testing Nancy Coleman, New York legit player, for the lead in 'King's Row,' part which Ann Sheridan was rumored to have been given. Miss Coleman, out of the cast of the legiter, 'Liberty Jones,' checked in at the studio yesterday. Warners brought her here from New York, although she has not yet been signed to a contract. She expects to remain 10 weeks, sufficient time in which to finish the picture. If she is not suitable for 'King's Row' the studio probably will cast her in another top role.

Mohr Lenses 'G-Man'

Hal Mohr has been signed to handle the photography on 'G-Man versus Scotland Yard,' forthcoming Edward Small production for United Artists. Producer is looking for a new title. Construction on the 52 sets, designed by Jack Schulze, art director, gets underway today at General Service studio.

Hays Purity Seal for 'Kane' Delayed

Joe Breen has not given the Hays code seal to RKO for 'Citizen Kane' which has been previewed time and again here and gets its showing to the press on Wednesday afternoon. Although Breen was given two copies of the script for the picture a year ago and okayed it at the time, RKO as yet has not shown him the picture to enable him to affix the okay seal to it.

ULLMAN RETURNS TO PATHE IN DONOVAN SPOT

New York, April 7. — Frederick Ullman, Jr., who has been serving as a producer at RKO for the past year, has been recalled by Pathe to take over his former post as operating head of both Pathe newsreel and shorts department following the resignation of Frank Donovan.

Donavan planed in from the Coast

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

Spots Neil Hamilton

Neil Hamilton joins the cast toppers in 'Interlude', Jean Hersholt starrer that Stephens-Lang puts before the cameras at General Service Thursday for RKO release.

EASTER SUNDAY LOOKS LIKE BIG CINCHEROO

Holy Week bugaboo that ordinarily has theatre operators speculating on just how bad business will be is having no terrors for bulk of the Los Angeles first runs. Particularly does this apply to the day-date Loew's State and Grauman's Chinese theatres when the Charles Chaplin opus, 'The Great Dictator', tonight winds up its first local run at regular prices.

Combined take for the two theatres will run close to $33,000, considered exceptional in view of the six-week roadshow run of the film at the Carthay Circle and three

♠ Continued on page 3 ♠

F-WC IN DEAL FOR 30 N. CALIFORNIA THEATRES

Takeover of approximately 30 theatres in Northern California, presently operated by Golden State circuit, for operation by Fox West Coast, is reported ready for closing, although deal has been on and off for some months. Spyros Skouras, president of National Theatres, parent operating company for Fox West Coast and its subsidiaries, planed in from New York over the weekend, and pulled out last night for San Francisco for conferences with Robert McNeil and other officials of Golden State in which F-WC owns a minority inter-

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Ted Lewis Will 'Happy' Short at Universal

Ted Lewis, in addition to appearing in the added night club sequences for 'Oh, Charlie,' starring Abbott and Costello at Universal, will appear in a two reel short. Latter will be made upon completion of his work in the feature which starts May 15.

Blumberg in NY Sun.; Heads West Soon

Nate Blumberg, prexy, and Joe Seidelman, foreign head of Universal, get into New York on Sunday from a South American inspection tour. Blumberg then stays two days and heads for Universal City to confer on current production plans. Will remain about 10 days.

Spingold Delayed

Nate Spingold, Columbia executive who was due to plane east last night, has delayed his departure due to unfinished business and now airs out for his New York headquarters later in the week.

Lamour With Vallee

Dorothy Lamour draws the guest call on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airer (17).

Whar's That Word for Busy?

Republic has 35 writers working on the lot, so many that six readers have been crowded out of their rooms and are working at home. Two producers occupying quarters in the writers building will soon be transferred to the main building, where the reception room is being made over into offices.

Front reception room in the writers building will also be converted into an office for a scribe.

One Foot In

Philadelphia, April 7.—John Barrymore enters a new phase of show business this summer—a narrator to music. The veteran stage, screen and radio figure will present a program of poetry and dramatic excerpts set to music played by the Philadelphia orchestra at the Robin Hood Dell July 17.

Jas. Roosevelt Arriving For Product Sesh

James Roosevelt gets in today from his eastern jaunt. He will confer with UA heads as to whether he plans making product for 1941-42 season, then leaves here Thursday by plane for Mexico City to attend the Mexican government festivities set for April 12-14.

King Vidor Directs Metro 'Esquire'

King Vidor has been signed at Metro to direct John P. Marquand's modern romance, 'H. M. Pulham, Esquire,' dealing with the marriage estate of a couple who have been married 20 years. Picture is being readied for early production.

Roche 'Wife' Lead

John Roche will have the lead opposite Mary Boland in the revival of 'Meet the Wife', opening Friday night at San Jose. Company then moves to the Curran in Frisco for a run, with El Capitan here to follow.

Van Heflin Termed

Van Heflin, Katharine Hepburn's leading man in stage versions of 'The Philadelphia Story,' has been signed to term contract by Metro. He makes his film bow in 'Enemy Within.'

PREVIEWED

REACHING FOR THE SUN
(Par)

(Preview on page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Larry Darmour TWA'd east last night.

Lew Kerner joined William Morris staff.

Stewart Faulkner rountripping this week to NY.

Metro used 180 extras yesterday in 'The Uniform'.

Gene Murphy to New Orleans on 'Lady of Louisiana' biz.

Oliver Marsh has been signed to term lens pact at Metro.

Bernie Bernard in town from New York on quick business trip.

Burton Lane has joined Metro cleff staff under Nat Finston.

Louis Shapiro back from scouting trip through Southern California.

Ray Milland and his wife leave for New York today on two-weeker.

Phil Ryan trained for New York on a business deal for Myron Selznick.

John Banner gets good support spot in 20th-Fox's 'The Man With a Shovel.'

Robert Hanley left for Camp Callan yesterday to start year's selective service training.

Jay Clark, former radio producer here for Lennen & Mitchell, has quit the agency in New York.

Decca Joe Perry denies his present x-ray sessions are to get a photo finish of a Bing Crosby horse.

Henry Herbel planed out last night for Denver on Warners biz, with a stopover at Salt Lake City on his return.

Leonard Sues takes his hot trumpet from Charlie Foy's nitery to Paramount for a spot in 'World Premiere.'

Irving Epsteen returned yesterday from Kansas City and New York on National Theatres Corp. insurance matters.

C. W. Horn, NBC assistant v.p. in charge of development and research, making a Coast checkup of the chain's properties.

Whitney Hendry and Blayney Matthews winged on the Southerner last night en route to Mexico City. Pair will work with gendarmes there in plans for welcoming committee for 'Pot o' Gold' junket.

Benny the Gouge sez—Now and then a stand-in gets the flu, creating an opening for a stand-in's stand-in. There are still plenty of opportunities in Hollywood.

Hollywood Inside

CONSIDERABLE speculation is being done by the 35 newspaper and magazine names who were personally invited by James Roosevelt to attend the Mexico City premiere of 'Pot o' Gold' now that jaunt has turned into an industry affair under the aegis of the Hays office. Understood that many of the news correspondents were telephoned by Roosevelt personally from San Diego requesting their attendance at the affair, but that now, right on the eve of scheduled departure for the Mexican capital little satisfaction as to whether their names are still on the guest list can be obtained from the Jock Lawrence publicity headquarters in the Hays office. With train bearing the special car engaged by the Producers' group to take a portion of the estimated 45 film, radio, press and photographer people below the border ready to take off tomorrow morning, Fourth-Estaters are still waiting to find out whether they should pack their bags or give the whole matter the strict go-by and aren't any too enthused about the vagueness emanating from Lawrence's quarters as to their status. Guest list of acceptances from members of the film industry, issued yesterday, so far includes only players, representatives of the Screen Actors and Screen Directors Guilds, the Producers and the U. S. government numbering around 22. This group will necessarily be added to by hair-dressers, etc., who will be required to attend to the needs of the players, and photographer. There will be few additional accommodations to take care of the press in the estimated 45 reservations.

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COLUMBIA for the first time outside its occasional Frank Capra shows, is talking around the million-dollar figure for a feature. It's the Fred Astaire starring musical, temporarily titled 'You'll Never Get Rich.' While the budget is not yet actually set, Cole Porter is being brought from New York for the music, and Bob Alton, who handled the dance chores in the Broadway hits, 'Panama Hattie,' 'Pal Joey' and 'Lady In the Dark,' has been engaged to do the terp numbers in collaboration with Astaire. Piece is set up to be heavily musical and splashy, and is one of the first of this type elaborate filmusicals Columbia has tackled. Astaire is already at work creating his dances, with Alton. Rita Hayworth has the glam spot, and Sidney Lanfield will direct.

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CARMEN MIRANDA'S salary for personal appearances is advancing, due to big $30,400 grossed by the South American player at the Golden Gate theatre in San Francisco, and her forthcoming week's engagement at Grauman's Chinese theatre, for which she will be paid $7,500. As a result of the new booking terms, player's agents are now asking $10,000 weekly for her services. Miranda drew a flat $6,000 for her week in San Francisco, and will get a guarantee of $7,500, plus a percentage over $20,000 at the Paramount, which booking follows the Hollywood date by two weeks.

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CONSIDERING it has a sleeper in 'Washington Melodrama,' the Edgar Selwyn production, Metro is upping the exploitation budget on the picture and is placing it in higher percentage classification than at first designed. Originally titled 'Tabloid,' story was modernized around the problem of sending foodstuffs to war stricken countries and treated as a mystery melodrama in locale of the national capital. S. Sylvan Simon, directed, bringing out top performances Metro officials say, in Frank Morgan, Ann Rutherford, Dan Dailey, Jr., Virginia Grey, Lee Bowman and Kent Taylor.

☆ ☆ ☆

GEORGE MEANY, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor, at a press conference here yesterday with Meyer L. Lewis, Coast AF of L head, stated that the AF of L would continue its drive for complete organization of all labor within the motion picture industry. Meany said he was getting a complete report on labor groupings and conditions in the industry while he is here and that plans for the organizing drive will be mapped out later. He and Lewis discussed general labor conditions at the press conference.

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FOR the first time during the present setup of Fox-West Coast Theatres a bank messenger with theatre funds was held up yesterday. Bandit made away with around $500 of the receipts of the Fox Florence theatre, just as the messenger was about to take the money to the bank. There have been several holdups or attempts at robbery of circuit box offices in recent years, but this is first time that a messenger has been overpowered in any of the Skouras circuit houses.

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RECOMMENDATION was made yesterday to the Los Angeles county board of supervisors by Wayne Allen, county manager, protesting the request of the Will Rogers Equestrian Association of Hollywood for $5,000 for a base for a Will Rogers statue. Fund was requested for the erection of a memorial at Hollywood and LaBrea. Statue commemorating Rogers is also planned by Beverly Hills, with Tex Wheeler, sculptor, now formulating a working model.

☆ ☆ ☆

METRO is reported anxious to get hold of 'The Desert Song,' owned by Warners, for Nelson Eddy. Warners recently began testing players for the picture, but last week called off the tests when Metro started dickering for the screen rights to the opera. It is understood that Warners is amenable to the idea of making a deal with Metro, but that the Burbank studio, in addition to a tidy sum, also wants a name player in exchange.

☆ ☆ ☆

STUDIO exec, recently dropped by a major plant, had incurred displeasure on the lot during his regime for his undiplomatic method of dismissing employes. Since his letout, dozens of anonymous phone calls to his home asked the question, 'How do you like it!' Traffic became so heavy, phone number was changed to a private listing.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

The good old serial is coming back.
The actors are exchanging hearty biffs
And scrambling up yon dizzy mountain track
And leaving gals suspended on the cliffs.

The heroine's endurance is sublime
While dangling high above the roaring creek.
I wonder if they pay her overtime
For hanging on the cliff until next week.

★ ★ ★

Once upon a time there was a young man who swore he would make his mark in Hollywood. His ambition still flamed, even after he had been tossed out of every studio in town. So he got a job as a traffic cop. Now he goes around all day with a crayon in his hand, making his mark on automobile tires.

They do some things better in Hollywood. When airplanes are troublesome, for instance, the studio sends up a red balloon and the invaders scram.

While the master minds of the nation are stumped by labor troubles, Jean Arthur solves the problem in 91 minutes in 'The Devil and Miss Jones.'

★ ★ ★

'The Lady From New Orleans' is covering more territory these days. Now she is 'The Lady From Louisiana.'

★ ★ ★

'Klondike' is a yarn about gold diggers, masculine and feminine.

★ ★ ★

The motion picture cowboy, when his daily labors cease,
Departs from scenes of prairie strife, but still there is no peace.
He wears a noisy suit of red and purple and cerise.

★ ★ ★

Xylophone player on the Major Bowes amateur program drew more telephonic votes in an hour than one of the mayorality candidates attracted in the election from sunup to sundown. A xylophonist has a distinct advantage over a political orator. He promotes harmony and knocks wood for luck at the same time.

★ ★ ★

With Irene Dunne and Cary Grant on the payroll, 'Penny Serenade' is going to cost more than that.

★ ★ ★

Lloyd Nolan steps out of a gangster role to play a detective in his next picture. A complete change of character. Or is it?

★ ★ ★

A few more days and the world will hear
Of the midnight gallop of Paul Revere.
But times have changed since he climbed his horse
And rode on his history-making course.
Today, he would stay in his safe abode,
Or the trucks would jostle him off the road.

★ ★ ★

Once it was 'Remember the Night'

★ Continued on page 10 ★

Preview

★

Reaching for the Sun

(*Comedy Drama*)

Paramount release of a William A. Wellman production. Stars Joel McCrea, Ellen Drew. Features Albert Dekker and Billy Gilbert. Supporting cast: Eddie Bracken, Bodil Ann Rosing, James Burke, Charles D. Brown, Michael Duggan, Regis Toomey, Hobart Cavanaugh, Charles Williams, Nella Walker, Warren Hymer, Billy Fletcher. Directed by William A. Wellman. Screenplay by W. L. River. Based on story by Wessel Smitter. Photography, William C. Mellor. Process photography, Farciot Edouart. Art direction, Hans Dreier and Earl Hedrick. Music score, Victor Young. Editing, Thomas Scott. Previewed at Alexander, Glendale, April 7. Running time: 88 mins.

Off the beaten track, 'Reaching For the Sun' is a refreshing change from the repetitious similarity of much of the ordinary film material. Its romantic comedy and its fretful drama coincide with much of the commonplace, many of the problems, some of the fun of the majority who will see it. It has been done whimsically, but not without sound reality, too. Here and there, the principar character goes incredibly 'hayseedy' to keep the comedy on its preconceived level, but the picture is the sort of fable in which the occasional caricature will be forgiven. Grosses should be satisfactory and the entertainment please widely.

Genesis of 'Reaching For the Sun' was Wessel Smitter's novel, 'F.O.B. Detroit', a socially significant document of man against machine and the owners of machines against the men who tend them, but the screen story runs wide of this discarded original pattern. The amusing and at times intense film play by W. L. River pivots the action around one of those all-important trivial matters on which lives expand or may be wrecked. In this case it's an outboard motor which Joel McCrea, a clamdigging woodsman of Michigan, craves to lighten his labors and which stands eventually as a symbol of what he regards as his freedom in the open, in the untrammeled wilds where 'everything reaches for the sun.' The motor becomes a hated thing in the mind of his young wife, Ellen Drew, who, when their child comes along, wants to continue to live in Detroit among the machines where the young husband and his buddy, Eddie Bracken, work fitfully, but which to her seems to offer more of what a man should desire as the patrimony for his son.

After much wrangling, which finally reaches the split-up stage when the wife goes back to the dime dance halls, McCrea is seriously injured in a fantastic battle of giant machines, and the wife agrees that the country is best—a cottage on the wood-fringed lake and the purr of the motor, rather than the din and clash of city industrial life. The buddy, Bracken, who can't even sleep where the quiet is so intense, goes back to the auto assembly line, so everyone is happy.

McCrea plays his woodsman who can't be reconciled to the bright lights with broad humor, generally, and here and there a sharply contrasting moment of dramatic intensity. Ellen Drew invests her young wifely role with color and spirit. Bracken is so unaffectedly genuine and naively concerned in the happiness of his friends, rather than himself, that he is most sympathetic and appealing — a notable performance. Albert Dekker is a properly provoking heavy as the woodsman's antagonist on the machines. The battle between the two, one wielding a great steel dinosaurus, the other a wicked python of chains, is a terrific thrill. Billy Gilbert has a walkthrough as the crestfallen father of a huge family. Bodil Ann Rosing has a nice part as the girl's mother; James Burke as shop foreman, and Regis Toomey, Nella Walker and Warren Hymer are briefly seen to advantage.

William Wellman, who is both producer and director, here has a less prodigious job to deal with than most of his recent works, and welcomes the change with apparent relish. He jogs along amusingly with his fable-comedy, works up effectively to his big thrill in the machine shop battle and manages his thin pathos of a man's dream, persisting through all rebuffs, with sympathetic understanding. Pictorially, he manages to create arresting scapes, in collaboration with William C. Mellor's eloquent camera and Farciot Edouart's process stuff. Victor Young's music is commendable.

SILVERSTONE, KELLY TALK OVER UA PRODUCTIONS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

proposed UA sales plan that allocates percentages on pictures played according to the amount they corral at the box office.

Reports were current that some of the UA producers were against the proposed group selling idea due to fact that the allocation for pictures in the top or 40% bracket would be limited to two. However, Kelly said last night that nothing had been done on the proposed new plan, as attorneys were going over its various phases for each of the producers, and that he hoped before getting away to have a concrete one acceptable to all the producers who would function under it. Understood that Dave Selznick is only one who did not agree to it, but that the others hoped he might decide to come in.

Silverstone will talk with Mary Pickford this morning, and then will attend meetings with others of the UA producers.

Also during the week Silverstone will talk with John M. Stahl regarding a group-picture deal financed by Stahl and released through UA. He also may discuss a similar proposition with Clarence Brown, whose Metro contract recently expired. In New York he recently turned down the proposition of Bill Shapiro to produce a picture co-starring Mae West and John Barrymore.

Spring Is Here

Circus season for 1941 got underway yesterday in New York when Ringling Bros. - Barnum & Bailey combo opened a scheduled four weeks' run at Madison Square Garden. Cole Bros. opens tour at Louisville, Ky., April 25. Mills Bros. circus opens following day (26) at Berea, Ohio.

Eddie Peskay In

Eddie Peskay, Hal Roach's New York representative, pulled in yesterday to confer on Roach production plans and product for the coming season. Specifically mulled will be Roach's still pending proposal to make four-reelers. Peskay will be here a week.

'Cyclone' Downed

Start of 'Cyclone On Horseback,' Tim Holt western, was postponed yesterday until Friday due to washout of road leading to the Santa Susanna mountain location where the RKO western was to be filmed. Albert D'Agostino gets art director assignment.

Elitch Theatre Opens 50th Season June 16 With 'Skylark'

Denver, April 7.—Elitch summer theatre opens its 50th season June 16 with 'Skylark'. Donald Woods and Ruth Mattison have the leads. George Somnes will be back for his sixth year as director, and it marks the third year for Woods.

Others in the cast will be Jacqueline DeWitt, Viola Roache, Helen Bonfils, Augusta Dabney, Larry Fletcher, Richard Irwing, Freddie Sherman, Emmett Rodgers and Arthur Gould Porter. Arnold Gurtler, manager, and Somnes are in New York contracting plays and players for the 11-week season.

Plays tentatively selected include 'The Little Foxes', 'Male Animal', 'Philadelphia Story', 'Old Acquaintance', 'Ladies In Retirement' and 'Separate Rooms'.

HOLIDAY BIZ GOOD IN THIS AREA

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

weeks, day-dating, at the downtown United Artists.

Paramount theatre, with the Duke Ellington ork on the stage and 'Las Vegas Nights' on the screen, is headed for a big $19,000 on a nine-day run, and even the holdovers, which include 'Fantasia' at the Carthay Circle; 'That Hamilton Woman' at the Four Star, 'Meet John Doe' at the Warners day-daters, in fourth week, and 'Nice Girl' at the RKO and Pantages are more than holding their own.

Theatre men are looking for somewhat depleted grosses on the final three days of this week, the end of Holy Week, but are anticipating big biz starting with Easter Sunday.

Rep Spots Scribes

Mauri Grashin was signed at Republic yesterday to collaborate with Robert Shannon on Republic's 'Pardon My Stripes' and Eddie Sutherland was signed to work with Charles Royal on the screenplay of 'Back Door to Happiness.' Charles Blake checked back in yesterday upon his return from funeral services for his father at Chicago.

Kurnitz at Metro

Harry Kurnitz is added to Metro's writing staff on term contract.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THE Condos Brothers, after two years dancing in London, will make their screen debut in Universal's 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy,' which goes before the cameras today. Sunny O'Dea was signed yesterday to do a dance routine in the picture. Dick Foran will sing 'A Sailor's Life For Me.' 'Bring On the Navy,' tune by Don Raye and Gene de Paul, written for the Abbott and Costello picture, has been made the official song for the San Diego Naval Base in advance of publication. . . . Don Raye and his wife, married for nine years, yesterday celebrated their anniversary at luncheon in the Universal commissary. Raye is writing the songs, with Gene de Paul, for 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy.' . . . Lee Donn, piano virtuoso, recently returned from world tour will emcee special impromptu show at Victor's in Beverly Hills tonight.

Edward Finney played luncheon host yesterday at the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel to Monogram layover franchise holders who have been conventioning here. Helping Finney entertain were Tex Ritter, Slim Andrews and Eddie Dean.

A THIRD short dealing with the prophesies of Nostradamus will be made at Metro by Carey Wilson. Further verses of the ancient predictions are being deciphered for start as soon as task has been completed. . . . Wilshire Center, that region between the Ambassador and the Town House, will stage a smart fashion parade Easter Sunday. Flower girls will proffer flowers to all promenaders. Floral displays will be featured in all shop windows. There will be a mid-afternoon cantata in Lafayette Park, with combined church choirs. Designers, film and society names will be interviewed by sidewalk radio and an outdoor miniature of San Diego Mission will be shown on the grounds of the Ambassador. . . Betty Rhodes, Don Lee's 'first lady of television,' draws the femme lead in Republic's 'Thunder Over the Ozarks.'

John B. Hughes, radio news commentator, inaugurates his Pacific Coast lecture tour at the Philharmonic auditorium next Thursday (10) for the benefit of the Greek War Relief fund. He will speak on the 'Pacific Peril' confronting the United States.

LARRY CEBALLOS, who directed the dances in 'Pot o' Gold' is afraid he'll have to turn down invite to attend premiere of the picture in Mexico City because of work call to Universal, where he is under contract, to start setting up numbers for an untitled Hawaiian musical. . . . Warners yesterday renewed Perc Westmore's contract. He holds the studio employment service record, having been there for 19 years. . . . Spring fashion note at Paramount was registered yesterday when the commissary waitresses reported for duty in chic new blue uniforms.

Wide Open Spaces Arranged For Quiz Kids

NBC is taking over Wilshire Ebell theatre for the two broadcasts from here of the Quiz Kids. Sponsor (Alka Seltzer) asked for a more spacious auditorium so as to enhance the merchandising job with a studio audience. Kids make a repeat call on Jack Benny Sunday, and after their second program next Wednesday return to Chicago.

Walter Wade, agency exec, and Charles Beardsley, prez of Alka Seltzer, are here for the two shows.

Pickets Continue

While Producers were in meeting yesterday Ed Dahlen and his group of anti-Philbrick-Melniker pickets were parading in front of the Hays headquarters at Western and Hollywood with the banners attracting attention of some of the conference group.

Obituary

AL MINOR

Funeral services for Al Minor, 46, veteran independent Burbank exhibitor who died of a heart attack Sunday, will be held at the Fillbach mortuary, in Burbank, Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Minor, who had been ill for the greater part of a year, operated three houses in Burbank and the Magnolia in Magnolia Park. Burbank theatres are the Loma, Major and Burbank.

The widow, two sons and one daughter, mother and a brother survive. Minor was born in Louisville, Ky., and migrated to the Pacific coast more than a quarter of a century ago. In recent months actual operation of the Minor theatres has been in the hands of Charles Minor, one of the surviving sons.

MRS. ANNA E. FULTON

Funeral services will be held at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Wee Kirk o' the Heather for Mrs. Anna E. Fulton, 61, who died yesterday at her Glendale home. Mrs. Fulton was the wife of Fitch B. Fulton, artist connected with Selznick studio, and her son, John P. Fulton, is employed at Universal. Interment will be in Forest Lawn. Mrs. Bernice Adair, of Coronado, a daughter, also survives.

HENRY BURR

Henry Burr, 59, pioneer recording artist and ballad singer, died yesterday in Chicago. Funeral services will be held there tomorrow. He is survived by his widow, Cecile. 'Good Night, Little Girl, Good Night,' one of his early records, sold more than 3,300,000 copies, and for 20 years was a best-selling record. Since 1934 he had been associated with the National Barn Dance radio program.

F. W. WILE

Frederic William Wile, 68, long an active British and American journalist, died in Washington, D. C., yesterday after a long illness. Wile will be buried at Laporte, Ind. He covered the Boer war for the Chicago Record; worked for the London Daily Mail in Berlin, and for the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

F-WC IN DEAL FOR 30 N. CALIFORNIA THEATRES

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

est. Skouras was accompanied north by George Topper, F-WC treasurer.

Present financial interest of F-WC in Golden State is around 26%, and it is not known at this time whether Skouras Bros. will acquire a controlling interest from the McNeil interests or make an outright purchase. Former deal is considered most likely.

In addition to the Golden State theatres, there also is a strong possibility that the Skouras interests may acquire a controlling interest in the T&D Junior circuit, which operates close to 60 houses in Northern California and a few in Nevada.

Takeover of the Golden State and T&D Junior circuits has been mulled by National Theatres and Fox West Coast execs for a number of months, but parties to the proposed deal could not get together. Now that the government consent decree has been promulgated, which permits a theatre circuit to expand for protective purposes, there seems no logical reason to circuit execs why proposed takeover of the Northern California filmeries cannot be worked out.

Reports seeping in from the east are to the effect that recent expansion and rehabilitation plans of Fox West Coast have come under close scrutiny of the Department of Justice, with its chief, Thurman Arnold, reported anxious to find out just how the Skouras-operated circuit contemplates spending the $1,500,000 to $2,000,000 program already announced.

In line with its protection expansion, F-WC has announced the early construction of at least 10 new theatres in California, and has already taken over the Fifth Avenue in Inglewood from Southside, as well as the Temple and Studio theatres from Cabart in San Bernardino.

Reports are current of other independent acquisitions by F-WC in the Los Angeles area, but these deals have not progressed to a state where any announcement can be made at this time.

Planted

Universal

Charles Trowbridge, Eddie Bruce, John Rawlings, Joey Ray, Ethelrita Leopold, Elaine Morey, 'Too Many Blondes.'

Edward Monday, Crystal White, Priscilla White, Jean Del Valle, Jean De Briac, Tom Herbert, Jack McAfee, Mantan Moreland, 'Hello Sucker.'

Joe Devlin, Billy Bletcher, Mickey Simpson, Emmett Vogan, 'Tight Shoes.'

Ralph Sanford, Sue Moore, Ethan Laidlow, Jack Voglin, Tom London, Chuck Morrison, 'Men of the Timberland.'

Paramount

Arthur Loft, John Holland, June Pickrell, Buddy Messinger, George Anderson, Pauline Wagner, Charles Arnt, Harry T. Shannon, William Faralla, 'Hold Back the Dawn.'

Eleanor Stewart, Fred Toones, Ottola Nesmith, Pat O'Malley, Irving Bacon, Hank Bell, Larry Lawson, Lee Phelps, Lee M. Moore, John Hamilton, James Buck Mack, Russ Clark, Alden Chase, 'The Great Man's Lady.'

Republic

Danny Dare, Tom Kennedy, 'Angels With Broken Wings.'

Tommy Cook, 'Jungle Girl.'

George Rosener, Lloyd Ingraham, Monty Montague, Ed Cassidy, Cecil Weston, 'Thunder Over the Ozarks.'

Paul Scott, Ferris Taylor, Mantan Moreland, 'The Gay Vagabond.'

20th-Fox

Edward Kane, Edward Earle, Mel Ruick, 'Sun Valley'.

Keith Hitchcock, 'Man Hunt'.

John Sutton, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Warners

Bob Perry, 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Fred Gierman, 'Sergeant York.'

John Ridgely, 'Manpower.'

Wait, Jackie!

NBC's testimonial dinner to Jack Benny saluting his 10 years in radio has been set over to May 9. Postponement was decided on learning that Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, would be held in New York by a board of directors meeting on the original date set, May 1.

George Fisher Plans July p.a. Hegira

George Fisher, who recently had his broadcast renewed for another 13 weeks by his shampoo sponsor, will take a group of film players out on a personal appearance tour during the first week in July. Fisher will hit Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Boston, Kansas City, St. Louis and possibly New York. He'll line up players between now and the end of May.

'Rider' Gallops

'Lone Rider Gallops to Glory', Producers Releasing Corporation musical western, rolled yesterday with Sam Newfield directing. Carl Hackett, Bud Buster, Archie Hall, Don Forrest, Alden Chase, Frank Hagney, Reed Howes, Jay Wilney, Frank Ellis, Curly Dresden, Charles King, Steven Clark and Byron Vance have been added to the cast.

Tommy Baker Set

Tommy Baker, juve who appeared in Coast version of 'Great American Family' and in the 'Tailspin Tommy' series, will have one of the principal roles in Metro's Crime Does Not Pay short, 'Coffins On Wheels.'

Eddie Davis' Chore

Eddie Davis is writing the comedy spot on Chase & Sanborn for Abbott and Costello. Deal is for 13 weeks.

Bing's Rare p.a.

Bing Crosby makes one of his rare guest appearances by putting in (18) on Alec Templeton's program.

Southern Pictures Formulated For Series of Films

Southern Pictures Corp. is being formed here by Roy Warner of Charleston, W. Va., and Jack Kenney of Hollywood, with a series of five Southern historical films to be produced in and about Charleston, possibly for state rights release.

Warner came west to line up Hollywood support and interested Kenney in his proposition, which will have financial backing of West Virginians. In addition to the production plans of the new company, which is expected to get under way around May 1, story material for subsequent pictures also will be looked up, embracing yarns of historical interest from Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

First picture will be 'Kanawha Valley'.

Kuhl, Spencer Arrive Thurs. on Biz

Cal Kuhl, producer of Tommy Riggs (Old Gold) coast show for J. Walter Thompson, gets in Thursday from New York, accompanied by A. K. Spencer, agency radio exec. Riggs is here marking time for the series takeoff (17) over NBC. Sam Moore will script the program and choice of a femme singer and band will not be made until Kuhl's arrival.

Pete Smither Draws Out-of-Lot Locale

Advance unit on Pete Smith's Specialty, 'Army Champions,' yesterday hit out for Fort Ord to look over sites. Heading the group is Paul Vogel, who will be director-cameraman, Harry Cohen, assistant to Smith and Julian Hochfelder who is writing the script. Unit also will go to Camp McQuade, March Field and Fort MacArthur.

Fantasound Demo

William Garity and J. N. A. Hawkins will demonstrate the Fantasound recording and reproducing equipment used for Walt Disney's 'Fantasia' at a Thursday night meeting of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and the Los Angeles section of the Institute of Radio Engineers. Meeting will be at 8 p.m. at the Disney studio. John G. Frayne will be chairman.

a.m. Dailies

McGranahan Sues P.E.—

Thomas J. McGranahan, tenor, yesterday filed suit for $100,000 here against the Pacific Electric Railway Co., H. W. Butler, an automobile driver, and the Camera Supply Co., owner of the car. Singer charged that he suffered hand injuries that will prevent him from playing the piano, when the bus, in which he was riding, and the auto collided.

The Industry's New 'Find'!
You will only know what French cuisine is after visiting
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PRODUCER

Preparing

"JOHNNY EAGER"
"CARGO OF INNOCENCE"
"JACKASS MAIL"
"SING FOR YOUR SUPPER"

"MEN OF BOYS TOWN"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

NORMAN TAUROG

DIRECTOR

"MEN OF BOYS TOWN"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

MICKEY ROONEY

as

"WHITEY MARSH"

"MEN OF BOYS TOWN"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

MARY NASH

plays

"MRS. MAITLAND"

Management
JOHN McCORMICK, INC.

DARRYL HICKMAN

as

"FLIP"

"It was little Darryl Hickman, as the 7-year old bandit, who really took the spotlight."
HEDDA HOPPER
L. A. Times.

"Rooney has an excellent helper in Darryl Hickman who merits stardom."
EDWIN SCHALLERT
L. A. Times.

"Persuasive acting by the youngster, Darryl Hickman, in the cocky role of a seven-year-old-stick-up."
DAILY VARIETY

"Superlative performance by seven-year-old Darryl Hickman."
HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Personal Management
JERRY HERDON
EVERETT N. CROSBY AGENCY

"MEN OF BOYS TOWN"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

New Arbiters Added To LA Board On Consent Raps

Seven additional arbitrators have been added to the Los Angeles American Arbitration Association setup to hear complaints under the government consent decree. A total of 342 names have been added to all panels throughout the United States. New members of the Los Angeles tribunal comprise:

Milo W. Bekins, of the Bekins Van & Storage Co.; William C. Mathes, attorney; Dean E. Miller, educator; W. H. C. Ness, National Cornice Works, Inc.; Henry Thomson, accountant; J. L. Van Norman, Van Norman & Morrison, Inc., and H. M. Walker.

F-WC Takes Over Two San Berdoo Houses

Operation of the Studio and Temple theatres in San Bernardino was taken over by Fox-West Coast over the weekend, deal for the acquisition having been closed with Cabart Theatres several weeks ago. Lester Fountain continues temporarily to manage the Studio, a 900-seater, while Bill Braman continues temporarily as manager of the 800-seat Temple. Both theatres have been added to the B. V. Sturdivant operating district, which now numbers 38 houses.

Herbel Leads Pack

With little more than a week to go in the current Grad Sears drive in which all Warners exchanges in this country and Canada are competing, Henry Herbel's Western district continues to hold first place in the United States, but is exceeded in returns by a Canadian division. Drive started Dec. 22 and officially ends April 19.

MacDonald Prissies Up

Jeanette MacDonald has completed recording on nine songs she will sing in Metro's 'Smilin' Through' and is preparing for dramatic sequences under direction of Frank Borzage.

'News' Opens Thursday

'Break the News,' English-made picture produced and directed by Rene Clair, opens its local run at the Hawaii theatre Thursday. Monogram is distributing in this country.

Births

SON, eight pounds, 15½ ounces, to Mrs. Walter Compton, at Glendale hospital, Monday, April 7. Father is publicity director for Republic. Baby was immediately named Martin Douglas Compton.

SON, weighing nine pounds, was born yesterday at Glendale hospital to Mrs. Walter Compton. Father is publicity and advertising director at Republic studios.

DAUGHTER, weighing eight pounds, was born Saturday night to Mrs. Lou Holtz at Good Samaritan. Father is the stage and nitery comedian.

BOY, weighing seven pounds, 10 ounces, was born Sunday to Mrs. Tony LeFrano at Good Samaritan. Father is KHJ announcer.

DAUGHTER, weighing eight pounds, to Mrs. Dick Strobel at Cedars of Lebanon last Saturday. Father is head of AP Wirephotos.

Producers Line Up Names For 'Gold' Mexico Preem

Ways and means of acquiring more co-operation from the studios in supplying film names for the Mexico City Motion Picture Industry Festival formed the principal discussion yesterday at the regular meeting of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. A brief discussion on the Wage-Hour classification of industry workers also was had, but this matter is being held in abeyance until after official action in Washington on the hearings that took place here some two weeks ago.

Announcement was made of a partial list of industry names who will make the jaunt to Mexico City and of the meetings being held there to decide the pictures to be shown by each company during the festival, which officially opens Saturday when President Avila Camacho of Mexico and other government executives greet Hollywood visitors.

Among those already set for the trip are Joe E. Brown, Mickey Rooney, Wallace Beery, Johnny Weissmuller, Frank Capra, representing the Screen Directors Guild; Kenneth Thomson, representing the Screen Actors Guild; Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, Mischa Auer, Mr. and Mrs. David O. Selznick, representing the Producers; John Hay Whitney and his assistant, Francis Alstock, representing the U. S. government; Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Brenda Joyce, James Roosevelt, Patricia Morison, Brenda Marshall and Esther Fernandez.

Those of the party going by train leave tomorrow at 9:45 p.m. in a special car attached to the Southern Pacific train, and others will fly down Friday morning. Group is due back here Tuesday morning (15).

Anne Bennett Debuts In 'Interlude' Today

Anne Bennett, nine-year-old soprano, has been signed for the second lead in 'Interlude,' next of the Dr. Christian series being produced by Stephens-Lang for RKO release. Youngster, who has never sung in pictures before, will start pre-recording on the five numbers written by Jack Owens today under the baton of Constantin Bakaleinikoff.

Ted Reed Reads 'Angel'

Columbia has handed Ted Reed script on 'Amateur Angel' to read as possible directorial assignment. Picture is on Charles R. Rogers' production slate and if Reed approves, Columbia will negotiate with Paramount for a second loan of director. He just completed 'First Beau' on loanout to Columbia.

WB Contracts Inked

New contracts and renewals have been handed out at Warners to William Keighley, who gets option lift on directorial pact; Gordon Hollingshead, a new pact as shorts producer; Breezy Eason, new directing ticket; and Jane D'Armand, newcomer who makes her acting debut in 'Manpower.'

Dandridge Tops 'Brazil'

Dorothy Dandridge, Negro singer and dancer, has been signed by Million Dollar Productions to play the top role in 'Dancer From Brazil,' next all-Negro musical melodrama which Clifford Sanforth will produce and Leo C. Popkin direct. Start is slated for May 15.

ULLMAN RETURNS TO PATHE IN DONOVAN SPOT

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

over the weekend, announcing his resignation from the spot, but gave no details on his future plans. He has been with Pathe for seven years. He just completed producing and directing 'America Designs For Happiness', three-reel Technicolor subject which Pathe made for the Federal Housing Administration at the RKO-Pathe lot in Culver City.

Tops for 'Within'

Assigned to head cast in Metro's 'Enemy Within' are Robert Sterling, Dan Dailey, Jr. and Charles Winninger. Sterling is currently working in 'Men From the City,' and Daily and Winninger have just finished roles in 'Ziegfeld Girl.' Richard Rosson will direct the J. Walter Ruben production.

Connelly Terps 'Sell'

Bobby Connelly has started rehearsals on dance numbers for Metro's 'Sing While You Sell,' Marx Brothers comedy. Cowboy Apfel has been set as Connelly's assistant on the terp chores.

U's Air Tighteners

Universal has begun roundup of radio announcers, with Gary Breckner cast in 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy', Mike Frankovich in 'Tight Shoes' and Doug Evans in 'Too Many Blondes'.

Busch Checks In

Niven Busch checked in yesterday as new story editor and assistant to Samuel Goldwyn. Busch's last chore with the producer was screen play assignment on 'The Westerner.'

Renew Tunberg, Ware

Carl Tunberg and Darrell Ware have had writing contracts renewed at 20th-Fox for another year. Team currently is on 'Caribbean Cruise' for Producer William LeBaron.

Kellaway's 'Shanghai'

Cecil Kellaway yesterday was signed to a feature role in Universal's 'Half Way to Shanghai,' which Noel Smith will direct.

Title Changes

Monogram's Sam Katzman production, 'Phantom Killer,' now titled 'Invisible Ghost.'

Warners 'Miss Wheelwright Discovers America' to 'Million Dollar Baby.'

Columbia's 'Texas' to 'The Texans Ride.'

BRENTWOOD HOME—WHAT OFFER
Four bedroom Monterey Georgian on ½-acre corner. Owner will sacrifice. Under $25,000.
GUY PRICE COMPANY **CR 67151**

Selwyn Hurries Pair At Metro Taken From Cooler

In line with Metro's accelerated pace to get its first blocks-of-five ready for fall release, Producer Edgar Selwyn has received hurry-up on two yarns assigned to him almost a year ago but which have been on ice for months, 'Adventures of Pierre' and 'Eight Girls and a Horse.'

Bertram Millhauser is scripting 'Pierre' from a play by Selwyn, and Horace Jackson and Grant Garrett yesterday were signed to write the screenplay for 'Eight Girls' which is intended for Judy Garland and Kathryn Grayson.

4 'Foxes' Actors Head For Goldwyn Pic

Four members of the cast of 'The Little Foxes' which closed in Philadelphia Saturday have headed for the Coast to prepare for duplicate assignments in the picture Samuel Goldwyn will produce. Wardrobe tests for feature, which will star Bette Davis, start next Monday. Goldwyn and William Wyler, who directs, start dress rehearsals (21), which will continue for one week, and plan to get picture before the cameras Monday (28). Ned Scott reported at the studio yesterday to take on spot of still man.

Story Buys

RKO has purchased 'Powder Town', an original story by Vicki Baum, and assigned it to Cliff Reid for production. Yarn, laid in a munitions plant, will be screenplayed by John Twist.

Style Note:
The Easter Bunny's Wearing a Brown Derby This Season . . .

With the Bunny headquartering at the Brown Derby Liquor Store, you will see unusual gift baskets of assorted wines and liquors for every price and purse.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find one of the most complete liquor stocks in the country at competitive prices—each bottle stamped individually with the Brown Derby seal of approval.

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Free Bonded Delivery Service

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Moskowitz Denies Hiding Anything In Schenck Setup

New York, April 7.—The Joseph M. Schenck-Joe Moskowitz trial for income tax evasion before United States District Court Judge Grover Moscowitz and a jury resumed today with Moskowitz still on the stand. He was subjected to a terrific cross examination by U. S. Attorney Mathias Correa who tore savagely and sarcastically into the witness in an effort to shake his testimony. During the morning session Moskowitz testified that he never hid anything, never destroyed anything and that he never discussed Schenck's returns with the latter and he had done nothing that he felt guilty about. He denied any attempt at conspiracy or attempt at fraud. He repeated his previous testimony that he only estimated his figures and did not have complete totals before him.

Moskowitz testified he used percentages based on his knowledge of what money Schenck spent in entertaining and what he spent in traveling on company business.

Under cross-examination Correa intimated that the New York books were inaccurate and disputed Moskowitz's claim that he never owed Schenck any money. Correa placed on the record an item of $71,457 owed Schenck for the purchase of 3,000 shares of 20th-Fox stock which has not yet been paid. He also asked if this was not done to eliminate profits from Schenck's income. It brought out that Moskowitz's brother Martin owed Schenck $20,558 for purchase of stock on a salary of $7,500 yearly. Moskowitz said that Schenck wanted his younger brother to make some money on the deal. He admitted Martin did not have the $40,000 purchase price required for the stock.

Moskowitz also admitted that he had told Correa previously that the loss on this transaction should be deducted from Schenck's earnings.

A battle developed between defense counsel Harold Corbin and Correa, with the U. S. attorney shouting that 'I press my point,' and Corbin answering disgustedly, 'I'll press your pants.'

The 1935 income was then gone into with Correa trying to show that Moskowitz could have secured actual figures on deductions instead of estimates if he so desired.

Cross examination of Moskowitz continues Tuesday, with Robert Kane, 20th-Fox producer from Hollywood and Schenck as the last defense witnesses. At the rate it is going the trial should last from 10 days to two weeks.

"HARD-TO-GET-TO" PEOPLE ARE EASY TO GET TO BY
Postal Telegraph
CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

CORRESPONDENTS SEND KICK TO PRODUCERS

Demands for Coast previews before eastern showings and insistence that more leeway be given before a picture is released, were presented to the Publicity Directors Committee yesterday by the new Association of Hollywood Newspaper Correspondents. New group was told by PDC that problem brought up was a difficult one and would require considerable discussion. News writers requested that an answer to the two points, (1) that Hollywood reviewers be given a chance to see films before eastern critics, and (2) that, when and if possible, previews be held at least two or three weeks in advance of release—be given within a week so a report could be made to Association members at their next meeting Tuesday (15).

Committee from the Hollywood News Writers was chairmaned by Douglas Churchill.

Don Roberts Returns; Works 'Gold' Here

Don Roberts, after a month in Mexico City, setting up publicity and other details for the premiere of Capt. James Roosevelt's 'Pot o' Gold,' returned Friday to begin work at this end on the junket south of the border. Roberts headquarters is at the Producers Association office which is now handling the trip.

Joe Skirball Returns

Joe Skirball, business manager of the Frank Lloyd production unit at Universal, has returned after a tour of nine cities from Chicago to Seattle holding special preview screenings of 'The Lady from Cheyenne.'

Martinelli's 'Bullets'

Arthur Martinelli has been signed to handle the cameras on 'Paper Bullets,' Martin Mooney screen yarn to be produced by the Kozinsky Brothers for Producers Releasing Corp. Phil Rosen will direct.

Milner Lenses 'Reap'

Victor Milner, who has just finished lensing on 'My Life With Caroline,' has been set as cameraman on the C. B. DeMille picture at Paramount, 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Paul Kohner agented.

Kaye, Dean Gag 'Truth'

Louis S. Kaye and Barney Dean will do additional dialog and gags for 'Nothing But the Truth,' working on the set at Paramount. Pair did similar chore on 'Caught in the Draft.'

Furthman on 'Sundown'

Jules Furthman has been signed by Walter Wanger to write continuity on 'Sundown,' Satevepost adventure yarn, which Henry Hathaway will direct.

Ill in Pix

MARY LYDON, seven-year-old sister of Jimmy Lydon, in the Wilshire hospital suffering from broken leg sustained Sunday when struck by an automobile.

BETTY FAIRFAX, agent, is on the mend from a major operation at St. Vincent's.

SOEG BATTLE ON NEXT WEEK

Definite action on the demands of the Screen Office Employes Guild for a new contract and wage scale, recently presented to studios, is expected to get underway the first of next week when meetings begin between SOEG committees and representatives of Universal, Metro and RKO.

SOEG board of directors has been meeting with increasing pressure from the membership because of what the latter terms lack of action from the studios. Considerable discussion was held at last night's board meeting on members' unrest, but SOEG tops took the stand that since contract and wage scale present a problem that requires much study, studios should have sufficient time to thoroughly prepare their response.

Gordon, Warren Do 20th-Fox 'Cruise'

20th-Fox has assigned Mack Gordon and Harry Warren to do the songs for 'Caribbean Cruise,' first production for William LeBaron. Betty Grable and Carmen Miranda head the cast and James Havens now has a second unit in Havana collecting background footage.

Dietrich Suit Shifted

New York, April 7. — Forrester-Parant Productions' suit for $98,450 against Marlene Dietrich has been shifted from New York Supreme to the N. Y. Federal court because of diversity of citizenship. French film company charges actress breached her contract to appear in a film in France.

Douglas Tops 'Husband'

Melvyn Douglas has been signed at Columbia to play the title role in 'The Doctor's Husband' on deal agented by Berg-Allenberg. Ruth Hussey, on loan from Metro, is only other top player so far assigned to the John M. Stahl production.

Trio Join 'Panamint'

Theresa Maxwell Conover, Jan Goude and Maxine Leslie have been added to the supporting cast of 'The Parson of Panamint,' which Harry Sherman is producing.

Gene Tierney Given 'Belle Starr' Role At 20th-Fox

Gene Tierney gets the long-palavered role of 'Belle Starr' in 20th-Fox's treatment of the midwestern femme outlaw, to be made in Technicolor. Search for the title role has held production back for almost a year since first scheduled. Miss Tierney had the part of Elly May in 'Tobacco Road'. She will play opposite Randolph Scott.

Director Irving Cummings will put picture before cameras on Monday. Set for principal support parts are Dana Andrews, Chill Wills, Elizabeth Patterson, Olin Howland, Paul Burns and Louise Beavers.

ASC Names Governors

American Society of Cinematographers elected three members to its board of governors at a meeting last night and re-elected two others, all for three year terms. Newcomers are Leonard Smith, Gregg Toland and George Barnes. Re-elected were Al Gilks and Joseph Walker. Other board of governor members include John Arnold, Charles G. Clarke, Robert De Grasse, Arthur Edison, George Folsey, Fred Jackman, Ray June, Charles Rosher and Joseph Valentine. Annual election of ASC officers will take place Monday.

Retakes

★ Continued from page 2 ★

and now comes 'Remember the Day.' With quizzes on the air and remembrances on the screen, life is one continuous memory test.

★ ★ ★

Great oaks from little acorns grow, and great industries sprout from nickels. The juke box has developed into a treasure chest.

★ ★ ★

A few weeks ago Abbott and Costello were only buck privates in the army. Now they get top billing above the navy. Promotion is fast in Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

By daylight, in athletic shorts, she
shops around the town.
At night the gal goes bowling in a
formal dinner gown.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Republic)

'Angels With Broken Wings'
Dir.: Bernard Vorhaus
Asst.: Phil Ford

BILTMORE 2 WEEKS BEG. MON., APRIL 14—Mats. Wed. & Sat.
Original Cast Direct from Entire Season in N.Y.
THE THEATRE GUILD
in association with
EDDIE DOWLING
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WILLIAM SAROYAN'S
GAY-MAD
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THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE
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EDDIE DOWLING and JULIE HAYDON
WINNER OF 1940 PULITZER PRIZE AND N. Y. CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD
SEATS NOW
Eves.: Orch. 2.75, Balc. 2.20, 1.65, 1.10, Gal. 55c.
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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

Vol. 31 No. 25 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, April 9, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

DISTRIB HOUSES 5-PIC EXEMPTION

ROOSEVELT TO PRESENT PIC FOR UA

With his service in the Marine Corps indefinite, Capt James Roosevelt will not himself produce a picture for the United Artists 1941-42 program. However, he will present one picture for UA release in which Boris Morros will be associated with Alfred Hitchcock. Latter will be producer-director. Deal is practically closed. Film that would be made would be from the book, 'Hunting Tower', which Hitchcock has been anxious to make.

Should Roosevelt get out of the service before the end of 1941, he would then return to production on his own and contribute another picture to UA.

Merian Cooper Flies In From London Trek

New York, April 8.—Merian C. Cooper returned to New York today aboard the Dixie Clipper from Lisbon, and planed immediately to the Coast. He returned to America after two months in England where he gathered material on the Eagle Squadron, an organization of American flyers serving with the RAF. The material will be used as the basis for Walter Wanger's picture, 'The Eagle Squadron.' Besides his film production and writing activities, Cooper is a flyer and was an aviator in the last war.

Irene Francis at Rep As Hanline Aide

Irene Francis has joined Republic as assistant to Maurice Hanline, story and writer department head. Miss Francis has been head of the reading department at Paramount for 21 years.

Order Welles to Rest

Orson Welles, according to word from New York received by RKO here, has been ordered to take a complete rest to prevent a nervous breakdown. Welles is now in New York.

Jacobson With Wanger

Arthur Jacobson, for 14 years with Paramount, has joined Walter Wanger Productions as a production assistant to Henry Hathaway, who will direct 'Sundown.' Picture starts late in May.

RICHARD WHORF GETS ACTOR, DIR. PACT AT WB

New York, April 8. — Richard Whorf, actor-scene designer for 'There Shall Be No Night', leaves for the Coast on an actor-director deal with Warners when the Robert Sherwood play closes its tour May 4 in New Haven, Conn. Contract has not been signed, but Whorf has been notified he is going. He plans leaving May 5 with his wife and three children.

Only uncertainty is over the ques-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

ATTORNEYS RULE ON OUTSIDE FILM BUYS

New York, April 8.—Theatres of each major distributor, who, under the terms of the government consent decree may take the entire film product of their companies, but cannot similarly buy pictures of other distributors en bloc, according to an interpretation of attorneys. These theatres will not be forced to buy in blocks of five, but instead may contract on the home ground for the full output in the usual manner.

Thus, all Paramount houses, num-

★ Continued on page 7 ★

UA SELLING SEASON ON '41-'42 PIX BEGINS IN MAY

United Artists selling season for its 1941-42 product has been advanced two months, to start in May instead of the customary July. This is being done to permit of a flow of pictures during the summer months, the entire 1940-41 program having been completed, and all but one feature, 'Broadway Limited' (Roach) released.

Of the 22 features promised exhibitors on the UA program for the current season, five have been withheld, with one of them, 'Limited', completed, making a total of 17 so

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

AUSTRALIA MAY CUT B IMPORTS

Sydney, Australia, April 8.—The Federal government of Australia is conducting an inquiry into the film

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Cohn, Spingold East

Harry Cohn and Nate Spingold, who have spent 10 days at Columbia conferring with studio executives on forthcoming product, planed for New York last night. Cohn expects to remain in the east 10 days.

GEO. ABBOTT, MG IN STAGE DEAL

New York, April 8.—George Abbott reportedly will direct and be the nominal producer for Metro of Frederick Hazlett Brennan's new play, 'We Fought At Argues'. Metro yesterday gave Brennan an advance royalty in excess of $50,000 for the drama, in contrast to the usual advances of $500. Author will share in the film profits to the extent of

◆ Continued on page 6 ◆

BROADWAY FILM MANAGERS SAY SUNDAY LEGITS AID B.O.

New York, April 8.—Broadway film house managers, after exactly five months of Sunday legits, now believe that Sabbath stage shows actually help the picture grosses. They figure most of the people coming downtown for Sunday legit shows are not film patrons, but may take in pictures if unable to get into the stage offerings, or in some cases are attending a film before or after the theatrical performance.

However, the neighborhood houses may be losing because some of their prospective patrons go downtown for the legit attractions and thus are lost to the film houses near their homes. The fact that most plays giving Sunday shows are dark on Monday nights is also figured helpful to picture grosses on that night of the week.

NEW ASCAP BY-LAWS COMPLETED IN NY

New York, April 8.—New by-laws in the reorganization of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, required under the consent decree, has been completed by a special by-laws committee, and now is in the hands of the Society's general counsel, Schwartz and Frohlich. As soon as the lawyers have put the material into legal phraseology, Gene Buck will call a general membership meeting for discussion and adoption. Also to be elected will be five new writer, six new publisher-members of board of directors.

Parsons Has Worry As Actors Balk B.O. Show

Louella Parsons is running into difficulties in lining up her B.O. air program for April 19 when she had 'Tobacco Road' scheduled as the feature. Several of the picture cast are freelance actors and they balked at receiving a nominal fee for chores on the show. They informed Parsons mediators that the Screen Actors Guild had instructed them to get full coin for ether shows or no soap, and are following out the SAG edict.

Louise Rousseau Quits As Pathe Director

Louise Rousseau has tendered her resignation to Pathe, effective May 1, as director of the Picture People shorts series. Miss Rousseau, now here editing a one-reeler she recently completed, has been with Pathe for five years, working under Frank Donovan, who resigned last Saturday as operating head of both Pathe newsreel and shorts departments.

Hopper's Topper

Hedda Hopper will have a topper for any gag that Bob Hope may spring on her when she guests on his Pepsodent program (15). Said topper being a bizarre bonnet, which will be tattered by the verbal fusillade unlimbered by Hope.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Jackson Rose will lense the new Crime Does Not Pay short.

Lew Sherrell is back from Boston, where he attended the funeral of his father.

Russell Birdwell will handle exploitation on 'Major Barbara' for Gabriel Pascal.

Monogram will press preview 'The Invisible Ghost' at Talisman studio Thursday afternoon.

Hal Block, air scripter for Burns and Allen, vacationing in Florida before donning the khaki.

Bill Ginn of Metro's location department left yesterday for his year's training at Fort MacArthur.

Ann Rutherford's contract at Metro has been extended for another annum, making her fifth at the studio.

Walter Wanger planes to Palo Alto today to speak on 'Children and the Theatre' at a Stanford educators' conference.

Lucia Carroll, former night club singer, will canary 'You Can't Stop Me From Loving You' for Warners 'Manpower'.

Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox plane for Toronto today, where actress will be on Canadian War Effort broadcast Sunday.

Mary Pickford celebrated her birthday yesterday at home, and husband Buddy Rogers planed last night for Chicago on business.

John B. Hughes, Don Lee newscaster, down from Frisco for his Greek war relief talk in Philharmonic aud on 'The Pacific Peril'.

'Simon Lash—Detective', the first book in new mystery series by Frank Gruber, hits stalls here tomorrow. Author returns to Coast late this month.

They've got Col. 'Idaho Bill' Pearson as a greeter over at the Rancho Grande cafe. Pearson in 1908 was an associate producer for Essanay in Chicago.

Mrs. Valentine Davies and two sons in yesterday from New York to join her husband, who is writing screenplay for William Dieterle on 'The Band Played On'.

Victor Kalin, Lawrence, Kan., artist, won the $500 first prize in the painting contest sponsored by Art Students League of New York in connection with 'Ziegfeld Girl' exploitation.

Benny the Gouge sez—Two guys on a bicycle-built-for-two, pumping along Vine street, reminds me of life in general. The guy on the back seat does all the work and the front man enjoys the scenery.

Hollywood Inside

ALTHOUGH Jock Lawrence is understood to have never been in either the Army or Navy branches of government service, some one has apparently acquainted him with the involved red tape tactics prevalent in these two government arms prior to the recent establishment of the Office of Production Manager, which has gone a long ways towards scissoring straight through to an objective. However Lawrence, with no experience in the art of red tape except that learned in the film industry, has sent studio publicity departments instructions as to the round-about methods that will be employed hereafter whenever a tieup with the defense program is desired. Lawrence's message said in effect that when a studio wishes to set a tieup with any of the national defense industries, the first contact must be with him. He, in turn, will give the matter to the film industry's defense committee, which will then refer subject to Francis Harmon. Latter, in his turn, will then take up the matter directly with the defense branch with which the respective studio is seeking a tieup.

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BEING labeled the 'Shirley Temple of England' has worked in reverse in the case of Rae Pollet, 10-year-old English actress, who although having played in a number of British made pictures, as well as having appeared frequently on the stage, is not being given a tumble by any of the Hollywood producers. Rae and her mother, with two other children, came to this country when their English home was bombed, and some time ago the mother and the young player came to the Coast. Efforts to get work in pictures have failed, due, observers believe, to the fact that she has been likened to the former 20th-Fox moppet. Some of the British-made pictures in which she appeared include 'Things to Come,' 'The Man Who Worked Miracles,' 'Rembrandt,' 'The Immortal Swan,' 'When Knights Were Bold,' 'The Ghost Goes West' and 'Night Without Armour.' Player and her mother are virtually stranded here. They were denied permission to take any money out of England, and the father, who is in the British army, is unable to provide for their care.

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ONE of the rare instances where a picture is able to start shooting with the first page of a script and continue through to the last in sequence is occurring with 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy' at Universal. After breakdown of the shooting script into scenes for actual camera work it was discovered most logical way to proceed from sequence to sequence would be to follow screen play right through as written. Because of this comedy's 22-day schedule should be hit right on the nose because of natural scene development. Opening day's filming yesterday had Director Arthur Lubin putting Dick Powell through his paces in a broadcast studio, using a total of 156 bit players and extras. Large extra calls are scheduled to continue for many of the filming days.

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PUBLICITY head of a studio is reported as conniving with mag photographers to get still gam art into bootlegged layouts without subjecting pictures to the scrutiny of the Hays office. Praiser, when approached by mag bulber for stills which latter wanted to make himself, suggested that studio still cameraman actually shoot the stuff but that studio department would claim the stills were made by the outside lenser, thus avoiding the Hays jurisdiction, in case the matter came to an issue. And that's how it was done. Other department heads are afraid these connivings to evade, will tighten up whole system of art supervision.

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WHAT seems to be the first piece of fan mail from a British prisoner of war was received yesterday by Warners. Message, addressed to studio publicity department, and passed by the Nazi censor, read: 'In order to decorate my room and make it more cheerful, I wonder if you would be so kind as to send me some full-length stills of your starlets, etc. I am a British prisoner of war and would be extremely grateful to you if you find this possible. Our life is rather dull.' Writing was on a postal card, which was signed 'C. P. Hulton-Harrop, Pilot Officer.' It was mailed Dec. 28, 1940.

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SQUAWKS are already being heard at RKO over the publicity department confining the preview today of 'Citizen Kane' to the regular Hays office list, which was recently sharply trimmed. Figures such as the local man from PM, New York daily, and the head of the Jewish Telegraph Agency, are not on the list for today's showing. 'Kane' screening focuses new attention on the boiling battle (still in its politer stages) between the studios and newspaper correspondents who feel they've been given the run-around on previews.

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TWENTIETH-FOX is mulling idea of plugging its film songs, especially Ascap numbers, in pictures preceding the one for which they are designed, in lieu of the radio prohibition on Ascap cleffings. First instance, if decision is made, probably will be use of title number for 'Caribbean Cruise' in 'Private Nurse' to help familiarize public with its melody before 'Cruise' is released. Numbers from 'Cruise' would likely be used in 'Private Nurse' as orchestra or band offerings.

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YOUNG actor, recently signed at 20th Fox, wasn't getting anywhere previously so his astute agent told him to get out of town until he was forgotten, then come back for new start. So the lad left town, and came back to cop contract and is going good—all in three weeks.

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ALTHOUGH the industry took over the Mexico City junket on 'Pot o' Gold,' the trip will stand Globe Productions around $12,000 for transportation, etc. Industry will assume the rest of the cost.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Once on a time when Springtime sang her song
On greening hillsides and on sprouting flats,
You knew it when the young bucks strode along
In new straw hats.

But now it matters not if Wintry airs
Have changed to Spring or Summertime or Fall.
The young buck strides his heedless way and wears
No hat at all.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood has been accused, unrighteously, of the ruin of the male skimmer business, but the hatless idea is older than any film studio. It began years ago in the collegiate world, where the average student has a luxuriant thatch and an unluxuriant bankroll. Another check to the hat industry is the hatcheck.

Whether the public likes it or not, 'Obituary' is the last word in screen titles.

Baseball is growing more and more like motion pictures, with general managers and super-general managers trying to tell the ordinary managers how to handle the players on the lot. In the ball yard the customers want a good ball game, and in the film houses they want a good picture. They don't care a whoop who is drawing how much dough in a swivel chair in the front office.

★ ★ ★

Out came 'Reaching For the Sun' and out came the sun, which had been hanging around behind a cloud, evidently waiting for an invitation. The Hollywood influence.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood goes up and up in the intellectual scale. Yesterday's gag writer is a comedy constructionist today.

Directors about town have been kicking about the shortage of leading men, and Columbia comes to bat with the answer: 'Three Girls About Town.'

Some doodlers doodle with pencils and some doodle with type machines. Bing Crosby belongs to the type-doodling class. Here is a sample of his doodling, written with one finger while waiting for a Kraft Music Hall huddle:

'Mr. Carroll Carroll of New York City.

'Miss Olga Petrovna of Murmansk—a gay foursome at the Greasy Spoon on Thursday last, listening to the rollicking rhythms of Pancho Polesie and his Abandoned Eight.

'Mr. Harry L. Crosby, fresh from a wet week at Pebble Beach, California, can be heard nightly at the Boyle Heights Rescue Mission.'

If you are a psychoanalyst, maybe you can figure it out.

★ ★ ★

The old fashioned idol whose feet were of clay
Has many a rival in pictures today.
The wise Army docs
Take a look at his hocks
And tell him to scram on his flat-footed way.

Demands for Labor Check at Disney To Studio Today

Demands to conduct a checkup of the Walt Disney studio to determine working conditions and survey the number of union members now employed will be presented today to Gunther Lessing, Disney executive and company counsel by representatives of three studio unions.

It was learned that the 15 studio policemen on Disney payroll were taken to the Burbank City Hall early in the week and sworn in as deputized members of that city's police force. It was thought move was made in anticipation of possible strike trouble, although practice of deputizing studio cops is regularly followed by other companies as an emergency adjunct to the regular law forces of each town in which a lot may be situated.

Meeting today at 11 a.m. with Lessing will include L. C. Helm, Studio Utility Workers; William Castle, Studio Carpenters; D. T. Wayne, of the Studio Machinists, and Aubrey Blair, Hollywood organizer for the American Federation of Labor. Group will discuss the Disney labor situation from the respective angles of the three unions and go into matter of the AFofL organizing drive on the lot.

Indications are that an amicable agreement on all points will result from huddles in the near future.

Last week representatives from the Teamsters, Plasterers and Laboratory Workers, headed by Joe Touhy, Ben Martinez and Dave Lorey, respectively, got together with Lessing in preliminary move. Understood that Lessing agreed with the group to cooperate in solving mutual problems that have arisen since AFofL drive was started.

Meeting between George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFofL, and Blair took place yesterday morning, at which time a complete report on the film labor situation was given Meany by the Hollywood organizer. Future plans for a continuation of the work already started by Blair will be laid out after Meany returns east.

'Patrol' to England

Warners is planning to ship a print of 'The Flight Patrol' to England to the volunteers in the Royal Air Force. Trailer also will be sent along, carrying best wishes from players in the cast and others from the contract list.

'Lazybones' Dated

Production on Metro's 'Lazybones,' starring Wallace Beery and Shirley Temple, is lined up for Wednesday of next week, under direction of Richard Thorpe. Milton Bren produces.

Rasumney's 'Landing'

Mikail Rasumney is set for the William Thomas-William Pine production for Paramount, 'Forced Landing,' on deal arranged by Paul Kohner.

Spyros Skouras Vacash

Spyros Skouras is vacationing at Del Monte. He will be here Thursday or Friday to confer on Greek relief and thence flies to New York over weekend.

PAR HAS 35 STORIES IN PRODUCTION HOPPER

Paramount is priming its production guns for a healthy start on 1941-42 pictures and currently has 35 stories either ready to roll or in various stages of preparation for the cameras. In addition, preliminary start on the new season's schedule already has begun with three pictures completed and six more facing the cameras.

Currently, the studio has 16 pictures completed and awaiting release on this year's schedule, with only two more to be launched. These include Cecil B. De Mille's Technicolor sea picture, 'Reap the Wild Wind', and 'Blind Flying', third of the Bill Pine-Bill Thomas productions starring Richard Arlen.

First three pictures on next season's release schedule completed are 'Skylark', Mark Sandrich's production, starring Claudette Colbert, Ray Milland and Brian Aherne; 'New York Town', with Fred MacMurray, Mary Martin and Robert Preston, directed by Charles Vidor, and 'The Night of January 16th', with Ellen Drew, Robert Preston and Nils Asther, a Sol C. Siegel production, directed by William Clemens.

SIX BEFORE CAMERAS

The six pictures now before the cameras, which will be released next season, are 'Hold Back the Dawn', Arthur Hornblow, Jr., production, starring Charles Boyer, Paulette Goddard and Olivia de Havilland, directed by Mitchell Leisen; 'The Great Man's Lady', a William A. Wellman production starring Barbara Stanwyck, Joel McCrea and Brian Donlevy; 'Nothing But the Truth', another Hornblow production, co-starring Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard, directed by Elliott Nugent; two Siegel productions, 'World Premiere', starring John Barrymore, Frances Farmer and Ricardo Cortez, directed by Ted Tetzlaff, and 'Buy Me That Town', with Lloyd Nolan, Constance Moore and Albert Dekker, directed by Eugene Forde; and the Fleischer $1,000,000 Technicolor cartoon feature, 'Mr. Bug Goes To Town'.

Seven of the new year's crop are scheduled to get the director's opening signal within the next 30 days. This array includes 'Birth of the Blues', starring Bing Crosby, with Mary Martin, Brian Donlevy and Carolyn Lee, to be directed by Victor Schertzinger; 'Dildo Cay', an Edward H. Griffith production, to co-star Dorothy Lamour and Stirling Hayden; 'Henry For President', an Aldrich Family picture, with the new team of Jimmy Lydon and Charlie Smith, Mary Anderson, June Preisser and Martha O'Driscoll, to be directed by Hugh Bennett; 'Sullivan's Travels', Preston Sturges' next picture; 'Among the Living', with Albert Dekker and an all-star cast, to be directed by Stuart Heisler; 'Forced Landing', a Bill Pine-Bill Thomas production, starring Richard Arlen, Eva Gabor and Nils Asther, to be directed by Gordon Wiles; and a Harry Sherman Hopalong Cassidy picture starring Bill Boyd, 'Secret of the Wastelands'.

28 IN PREPARATION

Twenty-eight pictures in preparation include Ernest Hemingway's best selling novel, 'For Whom the Bell Tolls', this planned as Paramount's 'Gone With the Wind'. Then there are the B. G. De Sylva-Irving Berlin stage hit, 'Louisiana Purchase', to be filmed in Technicolor; 'We're In the Navy Now', 'Santa Anita', 'You Go Your Way', 'War Boom', 'Government Girl', 'American Empire', 'Blind Flying', 'China Pass', 'Blonde Venus', 'Road To Moscow', a Judy Canova original, 'Tomorrow's Admirals', 'The Lady In Pursuit', 'Happy Go Lucky', 'Rurales', an Irving Berlin-Mark Sandrich production, 'Miss Susie Slagle's', 'Casey Jones', 'I'm Mr. Aldrich's Boy', 'Sing a Song of Homicide', 'Glamour Boy', 'The Good Fellow', 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte' and 'Bar 20 Strikes'.

John Alton Lenses Two More Pix For Pine-Thomas

John Alton, who did the photography on 'Power Dive' for William Pine and William Thomas, has been signed to lense two more pictures for the independent producers. Picture will be screened tonight at the RCA laboratories for military men and inspectors of the Civil Aeronautics Authority.

Aerial scenes for the next Pine-Thomas film for Paramount, 'Forced Landing', starts tomorrow, with five planes going to Palm Springs for the shots. Thomas and Ed Churchill go down in latter's plane. Richard Arlen, Herbert L. White, Harry Crosby and Frank Tomick will pilot other ships.

Mrs. Orlando E. Miller Surrenders in Frisco On H'wood Charge

Mrs. Orlando E. Miller, 65, yesterday surrendered in San Francisco on a Federal charge of using the mails to defraud in a local film stock sale. Charge was 13 years old, but the accused woman fled to England in 1928, where she remained until the Nazi bombings brought her back to the United States. Dr. Orlando E. Miller, father of Patsy Ruth Miller, former screen actress, returned to the U. S. in 1934 and was convicted and sentenced to six years in prison. He lives here now with his daughter.

Spot Katherine Sheldon

RKO has signed Katherine Sheldon for 'Parachute Battalion.' Studio may lose services of Captain William Ryder, head jump instructor at Fort Benning, Ga., as technical advisor. Although Ryder has applied for extended leave he may be called immediately back into service.

Garbo Tests Wardrobe

Greta Garbo has checked in at Metro for tests on special wardrobe designed by Adrian for the untitled new picture to be directed by George Cukor.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

VICTOR MATURE appearing in 'Lady in the Dark' in New York who has been acclaimed as the perfect 'adonis' and 'The great hunk of man' is not that to Uncle Sam . . . Mature was called for examination by a New York draft board. The 'docs' checked him thoroughly and then regretfully said 'you won't do—flat feet.' . . . Glamour Magazine published by Conde Nast is cutting out its method of printing ratings and reviews of motion pictures before they are completed and previewed. Recently the mag has had percentage ratings and reviews on pictures before they even received their first cut in the studios. . . . Paramount will invite wives and widows of several famous men to Hollywood to tie in with the release of 'The Great Man's Lady,' Barbara Stanwyck starrer. Invitations are going out to Mrs. Woodrow Wilson, Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Mrs. Thomas Preston, widow of Grover Cleveland, and Mrs. Thomas A. Edison.

A double celebration is on tap for Jim and Marion Jordan Tuesday. Date marks sixth anniversary of 'Fibber McGee and Molly' and also the birthday of Mrs. Jordan. Team started in radio as singers in 1924 but soon gave it up and returned to vaudeville. They were 'rediscovered' for the kilocycles in 1931 and have been on the air since.

WILLIAM VON WYMETAL, who staged portion of the opera, 'Martha,' for Universal's 'Unfinished Business,' leaves for Mexico today to be guest conductor and to stage operas at the Teatro De Bellas Artes in Mexico City. . . . Pauline Byrns and Jerry Preshaw, of radio's Six Hits and a Miss, vocal group, will be married today in Las Vegas. . . . Hollywood Playhouse joins the ranks of theatres putting on benefits for the British War Relief fund by donating the receipts of 'Gas Light,' its current English production, to the cause next Monday night.

Bob Moak, sartorial fashion plate at Universal, just went out and bought himself a Tuxedo for the Deanna Durbin wedding, but the boys in the Daily Variety office won't believe it until they see it. Moak, when he was on the Daily Variety staff, was tieless, believing in that he-man stuff of exposing the hairy chest.

MICHAEL WILSON, 20, will have his first novel, 'Beggars In Velvet,' published by Lippincott, on deal set by Paul Kohner. . . . Bob Hope yesterday played host to Raymond Manka, runaway Sacramento lad. After juvenile authorities picked up the boy, Sara Boynoff, of the Daily News, brought him out to the studio for lunch with Hope. . . . Charley Foy was host at a supper tossed at his club last night for Director Frank McDonald, Speck O'Donnell, Eddie Foy, Jr., and George Beatty.

Spencer Tracy Goes To 'Yearling' (22) After NY Visit

Scheduled first to go to New York, Spencer Tracy is due to report at the Ocala, Fla., location for Metro's 'The Yearling' on (22).

Producer-Director Victor Fleming will plane down from here with other principals. Company of 40 to 50 technicians and cameramen are already working on location getting animal and background footage. Full company will expand to around 120 in the Ocala camp.

Warners Has Sextet Filming Outdoors

Warners, taking advantage of the good spring weather now current, has six productions filming out of doors. 'Dive Bombers' is shooting on location at the San Diego Naval Base; 'The Flight Patrol' at the Alhambra airport; 'Bad Men of Missouri', at the studio ranch; 'Underground' in Griffith Park; 'Sergeant York' on the back lot and a second unit at Santa Susanna; and the short, 'Here Comes the Cavalry', at Fort Bliss, Tex. Starting Monday, 'Navy Blues' will also go in heavily for open air shooting.

Ascap Songwriters In Greek Benefit

Songwriter members of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will help raise money for Greek war relief by appearing in a special show at El Portal theatre in North Hollywood Friday night. Participating will be Milton Berle as emcee, Jimmy Monaco, Al Piantadosi, Harry Warren, Johnny Mercer, Hoagy Carmichael, Lew Pollack, Harold Arlen, Ned Washington, Leo Robin, Ralph Rainger, Robert MacGimsey, Arthur Schwartz and the orchestra of Rudolph Friml, Jr.

Must Check Scripts

Warners is now requiring players in 'Underground' to check their script sides with the assistant director each night as they leave the set since studio discovered that the Nazi consulate had mysteriously acquired a copy of the script.

Obituary

RICHARD CANDREVA

Requiem mass will be recited today at 10 a.m. at St. Agnes church for Richard Candreva, 30, vaudeville musician, who died at his home here Sunday. Rosary was recited last night. Interment will follow in Holy Cross cemetery. He is survived by his father, Peter Candreva.

EARL W. GRASER

Earl W. Graser, 32, who has played the 'Lone Ranger' title part on the broadcast originating in Detroit, yesterday was killed in an automobile crash at Farmington, Mich. He is survived by his widow and a daughter.

BRENTWOOD HOME—WANT OFFER
Four bedroom Monterey Georgian on ½-acre corner. Owner will sacrifice. Under $25,000.
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'Willie' Fattens Gracie's Gag File, Spreads Cheer

'Brother Willie' may be only a mythical character but he's doing a real job for Gracie Allen and the post office department. Started strictly as a gag by the air comedienne, response has been so brisk that mail carriers are getting stoop-shouldered delivering the thousands of letters posted each week in army camps around the country.

It was while Gracie and George (Burns) were doing kilocycle duty for Hormel on NBC that 'Brother Willie' joined the act. Idea originally was to write letters to draftees, imparting a word of cheer here, a gag there. It was addressed 'Dear Soldier' and to every camp in the country a letter went out weekly. In no time the gag began to assume important proportions and as of recent weeks Gracie has been deluged with around 2,000 letters a week from the khaki hordes.

Most of the letters contain gags and situations about 'Brother Willie', coming from high officer and low private alike. The file of jokes about 'Willie' is piling so high that it's a cinch the character will be a definite part of the act when B & A return to the air in the fall. Their writers claim that a large percentage of the many thousands of gags are useable, and more to the point, timely.

Commandant of one camp wrote Gracie that her letters are eagerly looked forward to, and that upon their receipt are posted on the bulletin board, where a long line soon forms. Gracie intends to keep the feature going as long as the boys are in camp.

Teresa Wright, Others Due Mon. From NY

Five players cast for Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Little Foxes' train in from New York Monday to begin makeup and wardrobe tests before going into a week's rehearsals with Bette Davis on April 21. Picture starts April 28. Teresa Wright, of the legiter 'Life With Father' company, Charles Dingle, Carl Benton Reid, Dan Duryea and John Marriott are in the group due Monday. Goldwyn and Niven Busch, his new story editor and assistant, conferred yesterday on story material.

Loy Finales Series

Myrna Loy has the starring role in the season finale of the Silver Theatre series (20). Ed Sullivan takes over for the summer with a commentary program from New York. Sunday's broadcast teams Pat O'Brien and Frances Robinson in True Boardman's original, 'Tommy Malone Comes Home.'

Test Rita Lupino

Rita Lupino, dancer now at the Cocoanut Grove, is being tested by Lester Cowan for possible role in 'Ladies in Retirement' at Columbia. Rita is the sister of Ida Lupino, who will star in the picture.

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
New York City
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager

Scares Gags Out?

Picking gags out of the clouds is the newest adventure in radio scripting by Joe Bigelow. When situations for the Chase & Sanborn show started 'coming hard,' Edgar Bergen took him aloft in his plane and by the time they landed in Palm Springs Bigelow had 'Charlie' in a half dozen scrapes.

RICHARD WHORF GETS ACTOR, DIR. PACT AT WB

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

tion of his first picture. It was supposed to be 'King's Row', but that goes into production too soon, so the studio is now seeking a part in another film. Deal includes camera work and cutting, and he will otherwise familiarize himself with production so he can take over directing at the end of about a year.

Besides playing the lead part of the radio correspondent in 'Night', Whorf designed the sets. He has been with Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne in every show for some years, besides doing the sets and directing other stage productions.

Price Quits WE, ERPI For a T & T Post

New York, April 8.—T. Brooke Price has tendered his resignation as vice-president and general counsel of Western Electric Company and of Electrical Research Products, Inc., preparatory to assuming post of general attorney for American Telephone and Telegraph Co. Succeeding Price is Walter Brown of Huntington, West Virginia.

20th Buys 'Moontide'

'Moontide', novel by Willard Robertson, actor, playwright and lawyer, has been purchased by 20th-Fox through the Frank Vincent agency. Mark Hellinger will produce. Tome, Robertson's first novel, was book of the month in England as well as being among the best sellers in this country.

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Fontanne Recording Album Release Next Week

New York, April 8.—Album of first recordings ever made by Lynn Fontanne will be issued next week by Victor. Actress cut 'The White Cliffs of Dover', poem by Alice Duer Miller, on three double-faced Red Seal platters. She did the piece months ago on NBC and rebroadcast it a short time after.

Ronald Colman owns film rights to the poem, which is high on the list of best selling books.

Lionel Stander Tops 'Riley' Air Series

New York, April 8.—Lionel Stander, recently inducted onto the Fred Allen program as temporary substitute for Teddy Bergman and now touring with Fredric March in Theatre Guild's 'Hope For Harvest,' has the title role in a new half hour comedy-drama series, 'Life of Riley,' which preems over CBS Saturday morning. Robert Sloane and Leonardo Bercovici, radio writers-directors, are co-authoring the series, with Sidney Harmon supervising the script.

Ill in Pix

HOWARD DA SILVA was treated for powder burns in the leg yesterday, received when pistol accidentally discharged on set of 'Bad Men of Missouri' at Warners.

JOHN CARRADINE is bedded at home with sore throat, and 20th-Fox is shooting around player in 'Man Hunt'.

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Monogram Skeds Four Regionals; First at Frisco

Four regional meetings will be staged by Monogram, following its franchise holders' convention of last week. First of these will be staged in San Francisco April 12, with Prexy W. Ray Johnston presiding and Steve Broidy, general sales manager, outlining the sales approach for the coming season.

Second regional is scheduled for Chicago (20), then New York (27) and one for the southern group to follow.

A number of the Monogram franchise holders, who converged upon Hollywood last week for the company's sales powwow, are staying on over this week, mostly sightseeing, and with occasional business chats with studio execs.

Most of the convention delegates have left for their homes but a few will remain over until Sunday night before resuming their film selling.

DENNIS O'KEEFE HAS PACT CONVERTED

Dennis O'Keefe, who was signed to a two-picture deal by RKO several months ago following his appearance in 'You'll Find Out', the Kay Kyser musical, has had pact converted into a straight term deal. O'Keefe has been awaiting his first assignment under the two-picture ticket for some time since 'Hang Out the Moon', in which he was to play with Rosemary Lane, was shelved when actress refused the part. Conversion of his contract gives studio right to make his loanout deals now and his first part under new setup will be 'Lady Scarface'.

Wage-Hour Decision Expected By May 1

Decision on the Wage-Hour classification hearing, conducted here recently by Merle D. Vincent, is expected to come out of Washington by May 1, and will be immediately followed by the opening of the negotiations of the various unions to collect a mythical $3,000,000 retroactive overtime pay, piling up since the Wage-Hour bill became effective. Vincent's report on the classification hearing was forwarded to Col. Philip Fleming in Washington for action.

It is generally believed that there will be few, if any, changes made in the recommendations as originally compiled by Eldred M. Cocking after an extensive film industry survey, and it is entirely likely that studios will generally adopt a policy of the 40-hour, five-day week after Fleming's decision is made known.

Aimee's Opera Goes On April 15

Playing its second season in this city, 'Rich Man and Lazarus', an opera written and produced by Aimee Semple McPherson in Angelus Temple, will have three more presentations on April 15, 16 and 18, at 7:30 p.m., it was announced yesterday.

Longstreet on 'George'

Stephens Longstreet has been assigned to work on the script of 'The Deal's Name Was George,' Ketti Frings story, at Warners.

REPUBLIC'S 'OREGON' SET AS BIG BUDGETED PIC

Republic is planning 'The High Road To Oregon' as its next special budgeted feature, according to announcement by Herbert Yates in St. Louis. Yarn, to be based on the Lewis and Clark expedition from St. Louis to Portland, Ore., will have Gene Autry and John Wayne portraying the respective characters and Roy Rogers playing the Indian scout, George Shannon.

Picture is now slated to have two premieres, one in St. Louis, where expedition started, and five days later in Portland. A girl to be chosen from among the 50 community theatres in Missouri will be assigned one of the femme leads.

WARNERS WATCHING DRAFT PLAYERS

All Warners players who are drafted will be kept in the public eye by studio publicity men during the year they are in service. In spite of the absence of definite film assignments and chance to figure in gossip items, the players' names will be used as frequently as possible in Warners publicity. Emphasis will be placed on appearances of players in films made before the draft call and released after their induction into service. Keith Douglas, who was inducted one day after finishing his role in 'Passage From Hongkong', will be first actor to benefit. John R. Holmes, flack, has been assigned to handle draftee publicity and to be liaison man between studio and players.

Metro Goes Into High Over New Product

Metro, once leisurely in readying its productions, has considerably accelerated its story preparation pact to meet the coming blocks-of-five selling situation. Where formerly material may have been given to numerous writers to find angles, if the jelling process was slow, the tendency today is to give each assignment a reasonable period in which to coagulate, and if it doesn't show promise to shelve it temporarily and proceed with another.

Fonda, Joan Bennett Top 20th 'Geese'

Henry Fonda and Joan Bennett will share the star bracket in 20th-Fox's 'Wild Geese Calling,' adapted from the Stewart Edward White adventure novel. Filming will start early in May, and Harry Joe Brown has the production assignment.

Blackmer, Barnes Top Republic 'Angels'

Sidney Blackmer has been signed at Republic to play opposite Binnie Barnes in 'Angels With Broken Wings.' Picture went into production yesterday with Bernard Vorhaus directing and Albert J. Cohen producing.

Fame at Home

Secretaries in the casting departments at 20th-Fox have asked for special showing of 'The Cowboy and the Blonde' so they can see femmes' new favorite on the studio roster, George Montgomery, in his first important role.

AUSTRALIA MAY CUT B IMPORTS

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

industry here. It plans to increase the present 50% coin freeze for American distributors immediately, and may reduce the importing of Class B films.

Most radical suggestion presented is that the distributors establish a film pool making available all product to all theatres in the dominion.

O'Crotty Exploring

Peter O'Crotty leaves today for Las Vegas with Prof. F. O. Rose of the University of Southern California to start a trip down the Colorado river in a collapsible boat, to end at the Mexican border.

Air Producers Sesh (16)

Next meeting of Hollywood (radio) Producers Club has been called for (16) at Brown Derby American Room by President Wayne Griffin.

Chas. P. Skouras Party Reaches Kansas City On Sales Drive

Charles P. Skouras, field marshal of the third Spyros Skouras showmanship drive, arrived in Kansas City yesterday to hold a divisional meeting at which the new business campaign will be outlined, and plans promulgated for launching it next Sunday. From Kansas City the Skouras retinue pulls out for Milwaukee where final meeting will be held over the weekend, after which the Fox West Coast prexy goes to New York.

Accompanying Skouras are Charles A. Buckley, circuit legal chief; Andy Krappman and Tom Page.

Lorey, Casey Confab

Short confab was held yesterday between Dave Lorey of Laboratory Local 683, Pat Casey and Fred Pelton of the Producers for discussion of working conditions as set forth in union's contract demand. Meeting was only a general preliminary to those slated for future dates when negotiations will be taken over by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes as part of the IA's plan to represent Hollywood locals in Producer bargaining.

SOMETHING TO BLOW ABOUT
JUDY CANOVA
BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND WITH THE BOBCATS
SIS HOPKINS
JOSEPH SANTLEY, Director
Screen Play by
JACK TOWNLEY, MILT GROSS
and EDWARD ELISCU
Original Story by
F. McGREW WILLIS
CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA
SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER
AND AN ALL-STAR CAST
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
IT'S A SUPER-COMEDY WITH MUSIC!

RKO Reaches New Production Peak; 7 Work, 11 Ready

Seven films rolling now and 11 scheduled to start within the next few weeks brings RKO up to its busiest production point in some time.

Pictures now in production include: 'Tom, Dick and Harry', starring Ginger Rogers, with George Murphy, Burgess Meredith and Alan Marshal. Garson Kanin is directing, Robert Sisk producing; 'Before the Fact', co-starring Cary Grant and Joan Fontaine, with Alfred Hitchcock directing and Harry Edington producing; 'My Life With Caroline', starring Ronald Colman, with Lewis Milestone directing and William Hawks producing; 'Sunny', starring Anna Neagle, with John Carroll, Ray Bolger, Edward Everett Horton and Paul and Grace Hartman. Herbert Wilcox is producing and directing; 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', with Thomas Mitchell, Walter Huston, Anne Shirley, James Craig and Simone Simon. William Dieterle is producing and directing with Charles L. Glett the associate producer; 'Parachute Battalion', with Robert Preston, Nancy Kelly, Edmond O'Brien and Harry Carey. Leslie Goodwins directs and Howard Benedict is the producer; 'Cyclone On Horseback', starring Tim Holt. Edward Killy directs and Bert Gilroy is the producer.

'UNCLE' GOES EARLY

Scheduled for an early start are 'Unexpected Uncle', which Erich Pommer will produce and Tay Garnett direct; 'Journey Into Fear', starring RKO-Radio's French importation, Michele Morgan, produced by David Hempstead and directed by Robert Stevenson; 'Through the Thin Wall', Robert Sisk production starring Charles Laughton; 'The Mayor of 44th Street', based on the factual article by Luther Davis and John Cleveland, which will be brought to the screen by Producer Cliff Reid.

NEW BUTLER COMEDY

A new musical by Producer-Director David Butler, starring Kay Kyser and his orchestra; 'Valley of the Sun', the Clarence Budington Kelland story which Sisk will produce; an untitled feature starring Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy, Fibber McGee and Molly, to be produced and directed by Allan Dwan; an untitled feature based upon radio news broadcasting, to be directed by Irving Reis, formerly one of radio's top producers; 'Father Takes a Wife', a modern comedy, Cliff Reid producing; 'Lady Scarface', a comedy gangster story to be produced by Reid and directed by Frank Woodruff, and an untitled feature with a horseracing background to be produced and directed in Technicolor by David Butler.

Three groups of two-reel comedies starring Leon Errol, Edgar Kennedy and Ray Whitley respectively, will supplement the feature production activity.

'President' Nominees

Buddy Pepper yesterday was signed by Paramount for a featured role in 'Henry for President.' Vaughan Glaser, Kenneth Howell and Lucien Littlefield also were added to cast.

UA SELLING SEASON ON '41-'42 PIX BEGINS IN MAY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

far released. 'New Wine,' first of the Gloria Productions output, has been completed, but will be released on the '41-42 slate.

UA producers are readying eight pictures for early filming. They are: Ernst Lubitsch (untitled) to go within 30 days; 'Strange Victory (Sol Lesser); 'Night Music' (Loew-Lewin); 'Corsican Brothers' (Edward Small); 'Illusions' (Alexander Korda) to start within three weeks; 'Jungle Book' (Korda), starting within 30 days; 'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard' (Small), scheduled to hit cameras in a couple of weeks, and 'Sundown' (Walter Wanger), set to go some time in May.

Arthur Kelly has postponed first of the United Artists regional sales meetings for 1941-42 product from April 14 in New York until April 28. Kelly figures on getting his new plans for sliding scale rentals on UA product cleaned up one way or another within 24 hours and will leave for New York on Friday night. Murray Silverstone, who got in Monday, likely will return with Kelly.

GEO. ABBOTT, MG IN STAGE DEAL

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

60%, the regular author's split under the Dramatists Guild rules. No decision has been made by Metro regarding the acquisition of the film rights. Company can buy them in the open market or make a deal for purchase in advance at a price to be determined by the play's boxoffice gross. The play deals with air raid effects on a Cockney family in London.

Leigh Jason Directs Col-Blondell Pic

Leigh Jason goes to Columbia to direct 'Three Girls About Town,' and Joan Blondell has been signed to star, in deal closed yesterday through the Feldman-Blum agency. Sam Bischoff will produce, and starting date is set for early June. Jason reports at studio (14).

Baldwin's 'Interlude'

Robert Baldwin has been signed by Stephens-Lang for featured spot in 'Interlude,' being produced for RKO release. David Chudnow gets musical supervisor post on picture.

Whitley Tunes 'Cyclone'

Ray Whitley has written three songs which will be used in RKO's 'Cyclone on Horseback.' Titles of tunes are 'Blue Nightfall,' 'Tumbleweed Cowboy' and 'Bangtail.'

MG Tests Kellaway

Metro is testing Cecil Kellaway for a featured role in 'The Yearling.'

Planted

Universal

Kernan Cripps, Ben Taggart, Duke York, Ronnie Rondell, Mary Conklin, Pat Gleason, Lester Dorr, Gil Perkins, Louise Currie, Edward Mundy, 'Hello, Sucker'.

Alan Bridge, Addison Richards, Eddie Hart, Charles Sherlock, 'Beyond the Law'.

Estelle Etterre, Sandra Morgan, Blanche Payson, Gayle Mellott, Claire Whitney, Harold Daniels, Doris Herbert, Patsy O'Bryne, Jim Farley, Brick Sullivan, Shemp Howard, 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy'.

Warners

Hugh Sothern, 'Bad Men of Missouri'.

Billy Wayne, 'Manpower'.

Alan Hale, Jr., 'Dive Bomber'.

Leon Belasco, 'The Flight Patrol'.

20th-Fox

Hugh Chapman, Michael Morris, 'Belle Starr'.

Patricia Maier, 'The Man With a Shovel'.

Metro

Donald Meek, 'Lazybones'.

Mitchell Lewis, Marx Brothers film.

Frawley in 'Society'

William Frawley goes to Columbia for a feature role in 'Blonde in Society' on a deal agented by Leo Morrison.

'Blues' Starts April 17

Start of Paramount's 'Birth of the Blues,' scheduled for next Monday, has been delayed until April 17.

Moskowitz Defends Schenck's Position As Cross-Exam Ends

New York, April 8.—Cross-examination of Joe Moskowitz was concluded by U. S. Attorney Mathias Correa at today's session of the trial of Joe Schenck and the witness before U. S. District Court Judge Grover Moscowitz and a jury.

Moskowitz clung to his story that he never used weekly Coast reports on Schenck's income but drew the estimate from the yearly reports. He declared that Schenck never took an active interest in the reports, his only acquaintanceship with them was their signing by him. The witness defended Schenck's position repeatedly, with Correa declaring he was practically another character witness for his boss.

On redirect examination by Defense Counsel Harold Corbin it was revealed that the Government's accusation of false entries in Moskowitz's books in which the latter was charged with owing Schenck $71,457 was not true, as the money represented a stock deal between William Klein, New York attorney, and Schenck, with Moskowitz holding the stock in his name.

Judge Moscowitz asked Moskowitz if he was a 'dummy', and Corbin squawked over the term, with the court forced to explain the term 'dummy' to the jury that it had no relationship to Moskowitz's intellectual abilities.

Moskowitz will continue on the stand Wednesday under redirect examination.

Susan Peters Replaces Coles, Ill, in Film

Susan Peters has been signed by Jerrold Brandt to replace Mildred Coles as the femme lead in 'Scattergood Pulls the Strings.' Miss Coles is recuperating at Hollywood hospital from an emergency appendectomy, performed after picture had been in production at RKO-Pathe studio two days.

Felton on 'Arkansas'

Earl Felton has been signed to write the screenplay on 'Joan of Arkansas' at Paramount. Story is from David Garth's novel and Sol C. Siegel will produce.

Join the Easter Parade

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Creations in exquisite Jeweled Pieces, fashioned in Gold, with Topaz, Amethyst, Aqua-Marine and other rare, colored stones. Also, a large selection of Gold Novelties.

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ADJOINING HOLLYWOOD BROWN DERBY

JOE McCLOSKEY

LEO KABAT

Mexican Festival Entourage Leaves On Trip Today

Leaving at 9:45 a.m. today aboard the Southern Pacific for Mexico City Motion Picture Industry Festival are Mr. and Mrs. Stan Laurel, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hardy, Johnny Weissmuller, Mickey Rooney, Les Peterson, Mary Gordon, Brenda Joyce, Miguel De Zarraga, Latin-American newspaper correspondent and head of Columbia's foreign publicity, and Carl Schaefer, Warners foreign publicity man who will be in charge of the party.

Balance of the Hollywood film names and press who will make the junket to Mexico City take off Friday at 9:45 p.m. on three chartered planes, spending the night at San Antonio, Tex., and completing the trip Saturday.

Tinling Directs 'Duanes'

James Tinling has been signed by Sol M. Wurtzel at 20th-Fox to direct 'The Last of the Duanes'. Picture rolls May 1.

Grable Tops 'R.A.F.'

Betty Grable will have co-star spot with Tyrone Power in 20th-Fox's 'A Yank In the R.A.F.' She is currently in 'Miami'.

Tommy Cook Set

Tommy Cook, moppet, has been given a featured role in Republic's 'Jungle Girl.'

CARY GRANT TOPS COL'S 'STORY' BEFORE WB 'DINNER'

Cary Grant will be starred in Columbia's 'Bedtime Story', which he will step into soon after finishing 'Before the Fact' at RKO. Grant will take a short rest before reporting to Columbia. Alexander Hall will direct 'Bedtime Story' and B. P. Schulberg will produce.

Actor's Columbia commitment will prevent his going to Warners for 'The Man Who Came To Dinner', at least for some time. Warners planned early production of the play.

Carter Troupe Leaves For Army Show

Ben Carter, entrepreneur for the Negro talent legit shows which will be a feature of the theatre just outside bounds of Fort Huachuca, Ariz., left last night with troupe of 20 to put on first offering for regular and draftee soldiers of the Negro regiments quartered at the border post. Each show unit will remain three weeks, changing the bill weekly.

Fante, Foster End 'Dust'

John Fante and Norman Foster have finished a screen treatment of Fante's novel, 'Ask the Dust,' and met with Paramount executives yesterday on the story.

Nunn, Hickman Set

Larry Nunn and Darryl Hickman, juves, get principal roles in Metro's Crime Does Not Pay entry, 'Coffins On Wheels.'

DISTRIB THEATRES 5-PIC EXEMPTION

★ Continued from page 1 ★

bering more than 1,500, may take the full output of that distributor, as formerly. The same will hold true for Loew's circuit houses on Metro pictures; National Theatre circuit on 20th-Fox product; Warner houses on Warners pictures, and RKO theatres for their own films.

Chains cannot similarly buy the entire product of other companies but must purchase under the revised decree terms. Also, distribs may play their own pictures before screening for the trade or selling them elsewhere.

Ditties for 'Glory'

Johnny Lange and Lew Porter have sold four songs to Sigmund Neufeld for George Houston to sing in 'The Lone Rider Gallops to Glory,' musical western now in work for Producers Releasing Corp. Tunes are 'Sweet Suzannah,' 'Under Prairie Skies,' 'In Old Spring Valley' and 'Old Cactus Joe.'

Phil Friedman Named Casting Director By Edw. Small

Phil Friedman has been set as casting director for Edward Small Productions. He has worked for a number of major producing companies, beginning his career with Small 17 years ago.

Small yesterday signed two British writers, by cable, to write a brace of screenplays. Miles Mallison will script 'Clementina', novel by A. E. W. Mason, and Ian Dalrymple will do the screenplay on 'Wheels To the Sky', story of an American in the Royal Air Force. Writers expect to finish their scripts and mail them here by summer.

Kenny's Actor Insurance Bill Passed in Senate

Sacramento, April 8.—Senator Robert W. Kenny's bill to protect freelance picture players from making over-payments to the State Unemployment Insurance Fund, was passed by the Senate here today. Measure provides that the 1% employes' contribution to the fund will not have to be paid on wages in excess of $3,000.

Horton Resumes 'Henry'

Edward Everett Horton goes to San Francisco to open with 'Springtime For Henry' at the Alcazar theatre (17). Actor just completed role in 'Sandy Steps Out' at Universal.

HERBERT I. LEEDS

DIRECTOR

"RIDE ON, VAQUERO"

20th CENTURY-FOX

Thanks to Sol M. Wurtzel

Management
ORSATTI & CO.

Republic Boasting Largest Talent List in History

Republic, which has been carrying on an intensive drive to enlarge its contract list for the past three months, now has largest total of talent in its history and plans to increase number still further within the next few months.

Studio now has straight term contracts with 17 players and holds picture commitments with another 13. Of the 17 term names seven were pacted during the past three months, including Marilyn Hare, Howard Hughes, Leni Lynn, Ray Middleton, Lynn Merrick, Bill Shirley and Nellie Walker. Others on the term list are Gene Autry, Donald Barry, Smiley Burnette, George (Gabby) Hayes, June Johnson, Mary Lee, Robert Livingston, Lois Ranson, Roy Rogers and John Wayne.

Picture commitments include Judy Canova, Sammy Baugh, Spencer Charters, Rufe Davis, Ruth Donnelly, Eddie Foy, Jr. Jane Frazee, Roscoe Karns, Lulubelle and Scotty, Ona Munson, Sally Payne, Bob Steele, and the Weaver Brothers and Elviry.

Malibu Strawhat Sked Arranged

Plans have been completed for the Malibu Players strawhatters for the summer season, under Managing Director Harry Slott. Plays to be given are Eugene O'Neill's Emperor Jones', with Barry Fitzgerald and Clarence Muse as guest stars; 'Shakespearean Scandals', authored by the late Addison Burkhardt, and 'Heaven Only Knows', musical fantasy by Walter Samuels. Workshop will open around June 15.

Reopening S. D. Theatre

Fox-West Coast is reopening its Adams theatre in San Diego next Sunday, after complete remodeling job which had theatre shuttered since February. Harry Francis returns as manager for the 700-seater, a suburban house.

Story Buys

RKO yesterday purchased an unwritten and untitled story by I. A. R. Wylie. Writer gets an advance now and will do the screenplay after she has written the novel. She sketched the story verbally to RKO executives to make the sale.

Walter Lantz has bought the 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B' number used in Universal's 'Buck Privates', and will make an animated cartoon of the song for Universal release.

'Hearses Don't Hurry' has been bought by Executive Producer Sol M. Wurtzel at 20th-Fox for future production. Mystery melodrama is by Stephen Ransome.

FOR RENT

Finest Small Home in the Valley. Close in, Studio City dist. Beam ceil., knotty pine kitch., u-heat, one bedroom, encl. patio, corner, big trees, view. Quiet, ideal for writer. $60, water-gardener paid.

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TAX GROUP ADVOCATES NIP ON ADMISSIONS

Nuisance taxes on theatre admissions and athletic events were proposed to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors yesterday by a Citizens Committee on Taxation. Taxes on billboards and electric signs and a levy for business licenses in unincorporated areas also were advocated by the committee. Supervisors appointed the taxpayers' group in September, 1939, and the recommendations were made in a report based on 18 months' study of the county's tax problems.

Recapitulation follows:

1. Reassessment of all land and improvements in the county on a net income basis instead of the present "guesswork" method of valuation.
2. Greater taxation of stocks, bonds, mortgages and other intangible property, and fuller assessment of private property.
3. Return to the tax rolls of an estimated $22,000,000 worth of tax-deeded property which now carries none of the tax burden.
4. Various economies in county operating costs, which it was declared would save $1,000,000 a year without impairing efficiency.
5. New revenues, including "nuisance taxes" and special fees to offset tax reductions on real estate.

Elks Club to Honor Caseys April 25

Army Day will be celebrated today by the B. P. O. Elks, Exalted Ruler Hiram E. Casey announced. Plans also will be completed for the inaugural ball honoring Mr. and Mrs. Casey at Elks' Temple on April 25, at a meeting to be held tonight.

Style Note:

The Easter Bunny's Wearing a Brown Derby This Season . . .

With the Bunny headquartering at the Brown Derby Liquor Store, you will see unusual gift baskets of assorted wines and liquors for every price and purse.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find one of the most complete liquor stocks in the country at competitive prices—each bottle stamped individually with the Brown Derby seal of approval.

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a.m. Dailies

Radio Actor Sues Wife—

Marion Sayle Taylor, known as the 'Voice of Experience' on the air, yesterday filed suit against his second wife in court here for $5,000, an alleged loan. He also denied his former wife's charge that he had induced her to divorce him to avoid an alienation suit.

Tax Lien Hits L. E. Kent—

Federal court tax lien was filed here yesterday against Lionel E. Kent, former husband of Ruth Roland, for an additional $25,203 as taxes on his income during 1936 to 1939.

Protest Brisbane Tax Claim—

Estate of the late Arthur Brisbane yesterday at Washington, D. C., protested to the government board of tax appeals against a Treasury claim for $3,337,135 in estate taxes.

Gaudio Assigned

Tony Gaudio gets the cameraman assignment on 'Navy Blues' at Warners, with Carl Guthrie and Stu Higgs as his assistants.

Pasadena Playhouse Skeds Program Of Summer Comedies

Fun nudges tragedy off the stage of the Pasadena Community Playhouse during the hot months. The seventh annual midsummer program is labeled a Festival of Modern American Comedy. It consists of eight plays in eight weeks, June 23 to Aug. 16, written in various combinations by Edna Ferber, George S. Kaufman, Marc Connelly and Moss Hart.

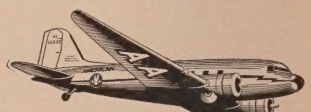
Line-up comprises 'The Beggar On Horseback' (Kaufman-Connelly), June 23-28; 'George Washington Slept Here' (Kaufman-Hart), June 30-July 5; 'Dinner At Eight' (Kaufman-Ferber), July 7-12; 'Minick' (Kaufman-Ferber), July 14-19; 'Once In a Lifetime' (Kaufman-Hart), July 21-26; 'You Can't Take It With You' (Kaufman-Hart), July 28-Aug. 2; 'The Royal Family' (Kaufman-Ferber), Aug. 4-9, and 'The Man Who Came To Dinner' (Kaufman-Hart), Aug. 11-16.

Fowley Joins 'Parson'

Douglas Fowley will go into Harry Sherman's 'The Parson of Panamint' at Paramount.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing eight and a half pounds, was born Monday to Mrs. Wally Maher at St. Vincent's. Father is NBC radio actor.



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Vol. 31 No. 26 Hollywood, California, Thursday, April 10, 1941 5 Cents

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Bldg Office

STUDIO WAGE FITE MOVES EAST

SC DEMANDS TO DISNEY TOMORROW

Demands of the Screen Cartoonists Guild for recognition as collective bargaining agent for aproximately 700 cartoon workers at Walt Disney Studio will be presented to company executives at 10 a.m. tomorrow, when Attorney Gunther Lessing meets with a committee from the SCG. The Guild committee is composed of Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644;

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

H. C. Potter Will Direct Levey's 'Hellzapoppin'

H. C. Potter has been signed by Jules Levey's Mayfair company to direct 'Hellzapoppin' for Universal release. Olsen and Johnson leave the stage show (21) after three years for a six-week vacation before reporting at Universal around June 1 to begin work in the film. Nat Perrin is now working on the script.

Jack Forrester Options Bromfield's 'Folly'

Jack Forrester, who recently set up his own production company, has taken an option on Louis Bromfield's 'McLeod's Folly.' Reported price is $40,000. Forrester, for years one of the foremost producers in France, has completed his organization and soon will get going on his first picture.

U Reties Peter Sullivan

Peter Sullivan's acting contract at Universal has been renewed for another term.

Condemned

The silence that fell over the 20th-Fox commissary at noon yesterday was anything but golden when Carl Ekberg, dressed for the role of Adolf Hitler in 'Man Hunt' walked in for lunch. First there was a hush, then a loud buzzing of conversation. Some of the diners arose to get a good look. Actor was plenty embarrassed and didn't remain, obviously feeling the bitterness in the room.

DEARTH OF PRINTS FOR 'PRIVATES'; B.O. TERRIFIC

Rush of bookings on Universal's 'Buck Privates' has caused a sharp shortage of available prints in a number of theatre territories around the country. In the Los Angeles area film is playing second-run in 14 theatres, forcing the bicycling of the

♥ Continued on page 10 ♥

Len Hammond Given 3 to Make at 20th

20th-Fox has assigned Len Hammond, formerly Kenneth Macgowan's assistant, to be associate producer on 'Man Hunt', 'Belle Starr' and 'The Golden Touch.'

CASEY TRAINS OUT FOR IA CONFERENCE

Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, trained for New York yesterday to talk contract revisions with the international heads of film unions in the Studio Basic Agreement. These include the Musicians, Teamsters, Carpenters, Plasterers, Utility workers and Electricians affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

While in the east Casey also will confer with George E. Browne, prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, on the status of 10,000 IATSE members in the studio locals. Practically all of the

♣ Continued on page 10 ♣

COLUMBIA RECORDING TRIES TO AVERT STRIKE TODAY

With a strike of workers at the Columbia Recording Corp. set for 10 a.m. today, company executives spent most of last night in conference with officials of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America in an effort to avert the walkout. Shortly before midnight it was stated the strike order would be canceled by the Congress of Industrial Organization craft if the company agreed to negotiate the union's wage demands.

The CIO negotiating committee is headed by William L. Elconin, with

◆ Continued on page 11 ◆

Gloria Swanson, Col 'Wife' Deal Definite

Gloria Swanson makes her first screen appearance since 1934 in RKO's 'Father Takes a Wife.' Cliff Reid will produce and Jack Hively direct. Featured in the cast will be Helen Broderick and Florence Rice. Start is set for end of the month.

Gene Autry 'Mexico' Triggers May 15

'Down Mexico Way', second of the two Gene Autry specials scheduled for the current season at Republic, is set to go before the cameras May 15 with Harry Grey acting as associate producer. Dorrell and Stuart McGowan are working on script.

Jas. Roosevelt Will Wed Romell Schneider

Captain James Roosevelt and Romell Schneider will apply for a license at the City Hall today to wed. Marriage will take place in 10 days to two weeks. Roosevelt currently is on leave from the Marine base at San Diego.

Why? Gorilla Hasn't Beefed

Quartet of leading Los Angeles wrestlers have protested a scene in Paramount's 'Road to Zanzibar' in which Bob Hope wrestles a gorilla. So incensed have these grunt-and-groan boys become that they have adopted a resolution, protesting the quips and jibes written and spoken in pictures, and calling upon the industry to refrain in the future from belittling the wrestling profession and otherwise casting aspersions upon its dignity.

Resolution, which has all the earmarks of a Paramount publicity stunt for the forthcoming film release, is signed by George Zaharias, Jim Londos, Hardboiled Haggarty and Golden Terror, all of whom profess they were called to the Par studio to furnish technical advice on the picture.

BOB CROSBY, 20th TALKING DEAL

Bob Crosby and 20th-Fox are talking a deal for the orchestra leader to go into '21 Men and a Girl', formerly titled 'The Band Played On'. Studio also would like to lure Bing Crosby off the Paramount lot for the top role, but that looks unlikely. Harry Joe Brown is associate producer on the picture. Richard English wrote the story and Robert Carson has been working on the screenplay.

Edw. Griffith Handles Par 'Frying Pan'

Edward H. Griffith will direct 'Out of the Frying Pan,' from the Broadway stage play for Paramount which bought the show last week. Francis Swann, author, arrives here next week to work on screen play. Paul Jones has been handed production reins under B. G. DeSylva.

Sears Reaches NY

New York, April 9.—Gradwell Sears, Sam Schneider, Carl Leserman and Mort Blumenstock, Warners home office executives, returned today following two-week stay on the Coast for product confabs.

Priscilla Lane Set

Priscilla Lane has been assigned to play the femme lead in 'Hot Nocturne' at Warners. Robert Rossen is doing the screen play from Edwin Gilbert's original story.

Lait, Jr. Buys Yarn

'Caviar For Two', an original by Jack Lait, Jr., has been bought by Universal.

PREVIEWED

CITIZEN KANE
(RKO)

REVIEWED

FREE AND EASY
(MG)

(Preview and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Al Duffy is scripting 'Harvard, Here I Come', at Columbia.

Robert Greig goes into a featured spot in 20th-Fox's 'Miami'.

Bill Castle will do dialog direction on Columbia's 'Betty Co-ed'.

John Howard will have the male lead in RKO's 'Father Takes a Wife.'

Earl Carroll and H. D. Hover aired in from New York on the Stratoliner.

Scarlett Knight, NBC actress, was shaken up when a street car rammed her auto.

Stanley Goldsmith is assistant director on Paramount's 'Henry For President'.

Otto Shafter, recently arrived from New York, has joined the Bert Levey agency here.

Press preview of Metro's 'Ziegfeld Girl' will be held Tuesday at 2:30 p.m. at the Four Star.

Arthur O'Connell, of the 'Citizen Kane' cast, was inducted into the Army for a year's training here yesterday.

Kenneth Lambert, of the Metro sound department, left for Fort Scott yesterday to begin his duties as a captain in the Coast Artillery.

Basil Rathbone trains to San Francisco tomorrow to be narrator Easter Sunday of 'Peter and the Wolf', which will be played by the bay city Symphony orchestra with Pierre Monteux directing.

Jacob Gimpel, concert pianist, is recording a special piano concerto written by Dr. Miklos Rozza for 'Illusions', which Alexander Korda puts before the cameras Monday at General Service studio. Julien Duvivier directs.

James Cagney left yesterday for vacation at his Martha's Vineyard farm. He stops over in New York to confer with George M. Cohan on 'Yankee Doodle Dandy', in which he will portray the stage actor at Warners.

Leo Forbstein is lining up a special 16-piece band combining Hawaiian and brass instruments to play the music for 'Navy Blues' at Warners. Seymour Felix, who will direct the dances, has started interviewing dancers for the production numbers.

Benny the Gouge sez — In the passing parade at Hollywood and Vine you can see two generations of actors, and you can't tell them apart until the wind blows and the elder generation hangs onto his toupee.

Hollywood Inside

ANTICIPATING a heavy demand for tickets to Bob Hawk's 'Take It or Leave It' solo broadcast here Sunday for Eversharp, CBS has gone to the expense of renting the Fiesta Room of the Ambassador hotel and will set up accommodations for 2,000 at each of the airings (repeat for the Coast). Even with 4,000 tickets printed, the network has been caught short three days before broadcast time. Reason for the ducat scramble is the cash bounty handed out at the question bee. Those who correctly answer the set of seven questions tossed at them carry off 64 smackers. Parties to the Q and A frolic are selected from the audience through the drawing of numbers corresponding with the serial on the admission stubs. Sunday's broadcast marks end of the first year for the series, one of the most popular of its type on the network.

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COLUMBIA is preparing around 250 feet of film from 'Obituary' showing scenes of Eileen O'Hearn, former Los Angeles Times stenographer, making her camera debut. Footage will be transhipped to the 31 company exchanges around the country to give salesmen a pre-release idea of what studio execs claim is the exceptional talents of Miss O'Hearn. It was first planned to send the test which caused Columbia to sign actress to a term contract, but studio was unable to get a release from Warners, which owns test footage, to send reel around the country. Test was made at the valley lot last November but failed to result in a picture deal until recently when film was brought to the attention of Columbia.

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METRO appears to have ambushed Howard Hughes' 'The Outlaw' with its color production of 'Billy The Kid', succeeding, at least, in hitting national release date first. 'Billy The Kid' goes out June 6. 'The Outlaw' is still being edited, with Hughes' demands for perfection in his story of the same character responsible for the delay. Metro's earlier release is blow to hopes of publicity man on 'The Outlaw' who hatched up stories some time ago predicting faster finish for the Hughes picture. Culver City studio will take full advantage of being under the wire first, placing heavy color print order with Technicolor Laboratories which may reach Metro's all-time record of 325, set by 'The Wizard of Oz.'

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'JESSE JAMES' and 'The Return of Frank James', both 20th-Fox Technicolor productions, have been combined into one film, making one double-length feature. The combined pictures are being reissued in the middle west under the title of 'Jesse James'. W. E. Scott, district manager for 20th-Fox in the region, launched the idea. Title and credits of 'Frank James' have been cut out and the picture runs 192 minutes, with about six minutes being clipped. 'Jesse James' ended with the title character being shot and 'Frank James' opened on the same scene. Film has been tried out in Coffeyville, Kan., and at Kansas City, playing to good business, and will be booked into all districts.

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UNDERSTOOD several of the local wire service correspondents are burning at being temporarily put on the spot by the New York Hays office. Claim is that when newsmen filed story on ban against future garbing of femme film players in sweaters, eastern Hays office quickly issued a denial of such a censorship move and beefed to wire service headquarters in New York at allowing story to hit the public prints. Wire heads queried Coast men on the situation and local boys were able to back up their story with copies of the censorship letter sent to studios, in spite of the New York denials.

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SONG with an international tieup has been written by Phil Ohman and Foster Carling and will be published by Mills Music Co., in Spanish, Portuguese and English. Tune is named 'The Mocambo.' Rosita Moreno, who leaves April 16 for a picture assignment in Buenos Aires, will introduce the piece there in a musical she will also do in Argentina. Carmen Miranda will be the first to plug the tune here at about the same time.

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MEL FORRESTER said yesterday that the National Labor Relations Board had advised him that his job discrimination charge against employes of Central Casting Corp. will be taken up within the next few days. Forrester claims he has been discriminated against in the distribution of extra calls because of his work and testimony in the Atherton Detective Agency investigation of asserted job buying by atmosphere players.

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THERE will be extensive scenes of air maneuvers and dive bombing in Warners 'Dive Bomber', but no stills will be released to newspapers or magazines. United States Navy officials yesterday decreed that shots of bombing formations and tactics cannot be used to plug the picture. Publications have been besieging the studio for spectacular location pictures and Navy's ukase is final.

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GEORGE STEVENS has deferred the press preview of 'Penny Serenade', which he produced and directed for Columbia, in order to do additional work on orchestration with Morris Stoloff, head of studio's music department. Preview was to have been held tonight at the Alexander, Glendale. Instead it will be some time next week.

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UNIVERSAL has started a story search to line up material for the seven adventure films it will make for the 1941-42 season with Dick Foran, Leo Carrillo and Andy Devine in the leads. Series, to be produced by Ben Pivar, will be early American yarns laid around the Mexican border.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Spring is the time of year when you read about second Babe Ruths, second Ty Cobbs, second Christy Mathewsons and second Grover Alexanders, all of whom wind up nowhere.

Spring, summer, autumn and winter are open seasons for second Jean Harlow, all of whom wind up along with the second Ruths, Cobbs, etc., behind the eight-ball.

A 'second' always goes to bat with two strikes.

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Speaking of weddings, the latest rumor is that Cary Grant is going on a honeymoon before he starts 'Bedtime Story.'

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Picture premieres in lumber camps and mining settlements, on ocean liners and in subterranean caverns. And now comes a double-header. When Lewis and Clark, those hardy old Oregon trailers have finished their moccasin for dear old Republic, there will be preems at both ends of the line. Details have not been worked out, but the chances are that Lewis will preem in St. Louis, Mo., and Clark in Portland, Ore. Or vice versa.

There is much gray matter expended on the choice of locations for picture preems, but the master minds are going to be stumped by 'Heaven Can Wait.'

Like the rains, 'The Last of the Duanes' comes back. No matter how often they film it, the studio boys always have a few Duanes left.

★ ★ ★

In far-flung rural habitats
The strawhat plays are many
But when you look around for hats,
The actors haven't any.

Boxing as well as the film industry is going in for serials. Mike Jacobs is putting on one a month, starring Joe Louis, who leaves 'em hanging on the ropes instead of the cliffs.

Eddie Norris made a forced landing in a plane and wrecked his automobile, all in one day. He was hastening to work in a picture titled 'Angels With Broken Wings.'

★ ★ ★

Following 'The Invisible Man' and 'The Invisible Woman' comes 'The Invisible Ghost,' which is tops in invisibility.

★ ★ ★

They toss colossal weddings on the screen
With lace and jewels draped around the scene.
The starlet wears an ermine coat
And priceless pearls around her throat
And rambles through the sequence all serene.

But when the springtime sheds its gentle glow
The gal steps out beyond the studio
And marches up the middle aisle
And smiles the same bewildered smile
Her grandma smole in days of long ago.

Film Preview and Review

Citizen Kane

(Drama)

RKO release of an Orson Welles production (Mercury Theatre). Stars Orson Welles. Supporting cast: Joseph Cotten, Dorothy Comingore, Everett Sloane, Ray Collins, George Coulouris, Agnes Moorehead, Paul Stewart, Ruth Warrick, Erskine Sanford, William Alland, Fortunio Bononova, Gus Schilling, Philip Van Zandt, Georgia Backus, Harry Shannon, Sonny Bupp, Buddy Swan. Produced and directed by Orson Welles. Original screenplay, Herman J. Mankiewicz and Orson Welles. Photography, Gregg Toland. Music composed and conducted by Bernard Herrmann. Special effects, Vernon L. Walker. Art director, Van Nest Polglase; associate, Perry Ferguson. Editing, Robert Wise. Costumes, Edward Stevenson. Previewed at Ambassador theatre, April 9. Running time: 115 mins.

'Citizen Kane' comes to its initial roadshow bookings as one of the most talked-about pictures, prior to release, in years. That means, as the press preview bears out, that it has heat, vitality, relationship to important and timely human concerns and interests; that it flows with the stream of life; that it has great entertainment substance and treatment. 'Citizen Kane' is powerful drama and an engrossing document. It has the merit, the capacity, to do sensational business if it is allowed to run its natural course as screen entertainment. The picture may be an important prestige landmark in RKO's production history. And it adds to the showmanly prowess of Orson Welles, whose screen first-born it is.

The film's pre-release dispute, as has been widely heralded not alone to the trade but to much of the reading public as well, had to do with the contention that its fictive pattern too closely resembled the private life of one of America's foremost newspaper owners and publishers. This allegation, which both Welles and the RKO executives denied, delayed the film's release and was responsible for the word-of-mouth which has kept 'Kane' in the limelight for many weeks. The producers say the fictional figure, Kane, is a composite of numerous personages, with episodes drawn from many sources. This each theatre patron will have to decide for himself, squaring the screen figment with what he may know of American newspaper and political history. There are half a dozen men in the who's who of newspaperdom who might fit into parts of the narrative of the rise and decline of a powerful publisher-tycoon — newspaper men and other prominent public figures.

Whoever it might be, the majority of critics who will comment on 'Kane' and the vast majority of those who will see it only for entertainment, undoubtedly will agree that the picture's central character is not treated with disrespect. Compassionate understanding, from a tragically ironic viewpoint, yes; but not disrespect. Audience sympathy will go out to that 'citizen', a man who had power and lost it; a man who wanted everything on his own terms, and got exactly that; a man who gathered the treasures of the world, but never the one he wanted; a man about whom his butler finally said, 'I felt kinda sorry for him'; the man who stood on the verge of greatest position but came to futility; whose brave 'declaration of principle' at his

■ Continued on page 11 ■

Free and Easy

(Comedy)

Metro production and release. Features Robert Cummings, Ruth Hussey, Judith Anderson, C. Aubrey Smith, Reginald Owen, Nigel Bruce, Tom Conway. Supporting cast: Forrester Harvey, Charles Coleman, Theresa Maxwell Conover, Frederic Worlock, Charles Irwin. Directed by George Sidney. Screenplay by Marvin Borowsky, based on play, 'The Truth Game', by Ivor Novello. Photographed by Charles Lawton and George Folsey. Edited by Frank E. Hull. Reviewed at Grauman's Chinese, April 9. Running time: 56 mins.

Competent cast of more or less seasoned players keeps this film version of the former stage play, 'The Truth Game', from being a washout. Everybody concerned has labored hard to provide the picture with the essentials to make it acceptable screen entertainment, but at best 'Free and Easy' is woefully lacking in celluloid value.

Based on the premise that most Britishers—and some Americans, for that matter—are constantly on the search for wealthy marriages, film as released does not live up to the present status of a majority of the British people. The best that can be said for it is that it is a 'filler', produced on a minimum budget, and lacking entirely in draw value.

Marvin Borowsky, in concocting his film play, deviated materially from the stage version, and the result is a trite yarn which most patrons will accept with a yawn. It's a story of a father and son, each on the make for financial security through marriage, with the son falling finally for an American girl, also with visions of wealth through marriage, but who is brought to a realization that, after all, money is not everything.

Nigel Bruce as the father and Robert Cummings as the chip off the old block son are the male leads who seek well-heeled society wives and both do a highly complimentary job, particularly Bruce, whose histrionic ability has rarely been called upon for greater effort. Ruth Hussey is both beautiful and talented as the American girl who wavers between a rich marriage and her love for Cummings, and Judith Anderson does a good piece of work as the wealthy English girl who shows her sportsmanship when she finally learns the truth that it is Hussey, and not she, that Cummings really loves.

Others who contribute value to the film are Reginald Owen as a fussy Englishman with oodles of money, and C. Aubrey Smith, another rich Britisher whose principal affection lies with horses. Supporting cast have small parts, but they handle them satisfactorily.

George Sidney did a satisfactory directorial job, but was severely handicapped by story angles. Photography of Charles Lawton and George Folsey is highly acceptable.

'Cyclone' Indoors

'Kansas Cyclone', Don Barry western being produced and directed by George Sherman, started shooting yesterday at Republic with Lynn Merrick in the femme lead. Troupe spent the morning on location, but bad weather forced it back to the studio for interiors later in the day.

Mills Outfit Forms Eastern Production Co.; Downs Signed

Mills outfit, pioneers in the nickel-in-the-slot film machines, has formed a new corporation, Minoco, which will become eastern production company for the distributors. At least 90% of the films distributed through the James Roosevelt-owned Soundies will hereafter be made in New York, with Soundies getting a percentage on the machines and pictures.

Announcement was made yesterday by N. H. (Jack) Brower, general manager of Soundies, of the signing of Johnny Downs to star in three musical subjects which Cameo Productions will make here for the Roosevelt-Mills juke boxes. Gale Storm has been signatured to play opposite.

Brower also announced the signing of Josef Berne to direct 20 musical shorts for Soundies, and also of Dick Hogan, who played in Roosevelt's full-length feature, 'Pot o' Gold', to appear in three of the juke box films.

Herbert Kline Sigs Metro Contract

Herbert Kline, who produced and directed John Steinbeck's story, 'The Forgotten Village', has been signed by Metro to a term director's contract. He begins work immediately, although his first assignment has not yet been made. Kline produced a number of feature-length documentary films before making 'The Forgotten Village', story of native Mexican life. His other pictures include 'Lights Out In Europe', 'Crisis' and 'Return to Life'.

Harold Lloyd Training In; Plans Readied

Harold Lloyd returns today by Super Chief from the American Bowling Congress at St. Paul where he acted for Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce in inviting the congress to Los Angeles for 1945. Lloyd is expected within next few days to announce his production plans for the coming season.

'Interlude' at Signal

'Interlude', sixth of the 'Dr. Christian' series being produced by Stephens-Lang for RKO release, starts work today at General Service studio with Erle C. Kenton directing. Jean Hersholt heads the cast, which includes Dorothy Lovett, Robert Baldwin, Neil Hamilton and Anne Bennett. Alex Trophy has been assigned to film editor spot.

Tuohy Returns

Joseph Tuohy, business representative of Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399, returned yesterday from Sacramento where he urged the Assembly to defeat the hot cargo and secondary picketing bills. He was accompanied by Bill Barrett, business representative of Motion Picture Studio Grips Local 80.

Directs 'Saddlemates'

Les Orlebeck gets the director assignment on 'Saddlemates', next Three Mesquiteers western at Republic, with Bob Livingston, Bob Steele and Rufe Davis in the leads. Picture starts shooting Monday. Lou Gray is producing.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

MONROE WERTHHEIMER, an ardent film fan who has been trying for years to get a break in pictures, has hung up some sort of a record in his weekly attendance at Grauman's Chinese theatre. For the past three years Werthheimer has not missed an opening day at the boulevard acer, and to top it has been the first person in line at the box office, and the first to enter the doors, with each program change. Werthheimer is a presentable chap and attributes his faithful attendance at the Chinese and the fact that he is willing and anxious to stand in line at the box office for upwards of an hour to be the first to enter the theatre on change day to the fact that he 'just loves pictures.' . . . Wilshire blvd. is about to put on the high hat as a rival of Fifth ave. in the annual Easter Parade. The local prom, sponsored by Wilshire Centre and managing-directed by John Whitehead, blossoms Sunday, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., with television shots in front of the Ambassador hotel. Lined up thus far as Hollywood's representatives in the promenade are Joan Bennett, Walter Wanger, the George Murphys, Dorothy Lamour, Rita Hayworth, the Hoagy Carmichaels, George Burns and Gracie Allen, Ronald Reagan and Jane Wyman, the John Hubbards and Olympe Bradna. . . . Edwin Arnold, as head of the 'I Am An American Foundation', originally formed in 1935, will preside at a two-hour observance and celebration in Hollywood Bowl, Sunday, May 18, which President Roosevelt is expected to open by broadcast from the capital.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Rita Hayworth dining at Bob Murphy's in a red and white sombrero hat of Milan straw with deep cuff brim faced in red. The hat was worn well off-the-face and was a typical 'mad hat.' Dancing around the high peaker crown of red and white bands are five black African head-hunters with red feathers in their hair and gold shields. Rita wore this with a simple red tailored suit with a white blouse closed at the neckline with a hear-hunter pin to match those on her chapeau. Great white doeskin gauntlets and red purse completed this eye-filling costume.

OSCAR SMITH, Paramount studio bootblack who carries a card in Screen Actors Guild, and who turns over his shinery to a polishing stand-in whenever he gets a thesp job, has been cast as a bootblack in 'Nothing But the Truth.' . . . It was bathing suit day on the 20th-Fox's 'Miami' set yesterday, with Carole Landis and Betty Grable both decked out for a beach scene. Set wasn't closed, but the traffic was terrific, with rubberneckers from all over the lot. . . . Rancho Grande cafe is lining up entertainment bill of western acts and film names for the British-American Ambulance Corps Night (15) at the new night spot. . . . Brod Crawford and his bride, Kay Griffith, motored

★ Continued on page 5 ★

Madeleine Carroll Given Lamour Role In 'Dildo Cay'

Madeleine Carroll will have the feminine topper in Paramount's 'Dildo Cay', instead of Dorothy Lamour, previously announced. Miss Lamour will be held in 'Aloma of the South Seas', and switch is necessary because 'Cay' goes into production ahead of its prior schedule. Stirling Hayden plays opposite.

Edward H. Griffith will be producer-director.

Jackman, Merman Hurt In Plane Sitdown

Fred Jackman, aerial photographer, and L. B. (Doc) Merman, unit manager for 'Forced Landing', were injured yesterday near Palm Springs when plane in which they were filming shots for the picture was forced down in a sudden dust storm and strong gale. Jackman was cut on the arm and Merman knocked unconscious when his head was slammed against the cowling. Bill Thomas and Bill Pine are producing for Paramount.

Guests Schlesinger

Leon Schlesinger and two of his 'Merrie Melody' characters, Bugs Bunny (Mel Blank), and Elmer (Arthur Q. Bryan), make a guest appearance on the Al Pearce airshow Friday. Coin paid for the act will be turned over by Schlesinger to United Jewish Welfare Fund.

Sir Cedric Returns

Sir Cedric Hardwicke returns from Toronto today to resume work on 'This Changing World' at RKO. In the Canadian city Sir Cedric took part in the broadcast of 'The Flying Yorkshireman' for British War Relief.

Spots Tom Conway

Tom Conway goes into a role in 'Lady Be Good' at Metro.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Stephens-Lang)

'Interlude'
Dir.: Erle C. Kenton
Asst.: Glenn Cook

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(Universal)

'Hello, Sucker'
Dir.: Edward Cline
Asst.: Fred Frank

CARTOONIST DEMANDS TO DISNEY TOMORROW

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

Chances of the two groups getting together is reported to hinge on the ability of the Guilders to convince the company that the SCG represents a majority of the workers. Officials of the SCG stated last night that the organization now represents over 70% of the cartoon group, more than 75 new members having been taken in at a Guild meeting Tuesday night, attended by approximately 500 members.

The SCG has been assured of full support of the International Brotherhood of Painters. Joseph Clarke, international vice-prexy, discussed the situation with Sorrell and other local leaders, and then announced that Lyle Shrader, Painters' international representative, would be assigned to the Guild for as long as his services were needed.

George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFofL, and Meyer Lewis, western director of the Federation, spent some time on the Disney lot yesterday. They were reported to have been in conference with Walt Disney, but later stated that no announcement would be made for the present.

PRODUCERS GARNER SWG OPINION

A meeting of Producers was held last night to get a consensus of opinion from company executives with reference to the contract demands of the Screen Writers Guild.

The proposed agreement submitted by the SWG negotiating committee calls for a minimum salary for scriveners, elimination of all speculative writing, whether oral or actually written, and abolition of all flat deals under $5,000. The SWG favors fixing the minimum salary at $150 per week.

Ken Wiles Announces Hawk's Series

Ken Wiles yesterday won the announcer audition for Bob Hawk's 'Take It Or Leave It' series and accompanies the program as far east as Denver. Following Sunday's airing here, Hawks goes to Frisco, Portland, Seattle and Denver. Niles will double back here by air to handle the commercials on Rinso's 'Big Town' program.

KMMJ Changing Hands

Grand Island, Neb., April 9.—Request has been made of the Federal Communications Commission for permission by Don Seatle, owner of KMMJ, 500-watter, to sell the link to the Daily Independent. Approval will make the fifth newspaper-owned transmitter of the state total of 13.

Tobias Busy

George Tobias has completed part in 'The Gentle People 'at Warners and is assigned to 'Sergeant York' at same studio. This role makes his 14th consecutive one without a layoff.

Phono-Kinema Name For New Company

Phono-Kinema, Inc. is new name for the recently incorporated Pic-A-Tune, Inc., company formed to manufacture a device for the projection of film subjects, in conjunction with regular 'juke' music boxes. Phono-Kinema is capitalized at $1,000,000 to both build the projector and produce the film subjects.

'Topper' With Miranda

'Topper Returns', latest in the 'Topper' series released by UA, will be coupled with Carmen Miranda's stage appearance at Grauman's Chinese theatre, week of (23). Opus tops the bill at Loew's State, day-date, and in addition the downtown acer will have 'Penalty' as an extra attraction.

Neb. Giveaway Okayed

Lincoln, Neb., April 9.—'Abner Askit's Basket', grocery quiz giveaway, is first stunt to be okayed by a Nebraska court as not in violation of the state lottery laws. Stunt was being used here at the Nebraska theatre.

Bob Coleson Appointed To War Department Radio Staff

Robert C. Coleson, who was radio director for both years of the San Francisco Fair, has been appointed to the staff of the Radio Section, Bureau of Public Relations, of the War Department. He will work under Edward M. Kirby.

Jack Harris, on leave from WSM, will be in charge of special events; Brooks Watson, of WMBD, at Peoria, and Ross Worthington, former producer of 'We the People', will work under Harris. Jerome Ross and Morris J. Jacobs have been made script writers. Other radio men who will work in other divisions are Curtis Mitchell, assigned to duty in the press and radio intelligence section; Gordon Hittenmark, Morale Division of the Army, and Captain Harold Kent, liaison officer for educational broadcasts.

Alan Baxter at WB

Alan Baxter goes to Warners to play the role of Jesse James in 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Obituary

MRS. T. L. BARRELL

Funeral services were held yesterday at Pierce Bros. Hollywood chapel for Mrs. Teresa Louise Barrell, 50, film writer, who died last Saturday. She wrote under the name of Dona Barrell. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Kate Dillon. Her father was Fernando Michelena, singer with the Metropolitan Opera.

Style Note:
The Easter Bunny's Wearing a Brown Derby This Season . . .

With the Bunny headquartering at the Brown Derby Liquor Store, you will see unusual gift baskets of assorted wines and liquors for every price and purse.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find one of the most complete liquor stocks in the country at competitive prices—each bottle stamped individually with the Brown Derby seal of approval.

Phone HO. 5151

Free Bonded Delivery Service

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Join the Easter Parade

GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Creations in exquisite Jeweled Pieces, fashioned in Gold, with Topaz, Amethyst, Aqua-Marine and other rare, colored stones. Also, a large selection of Gold Novelties.

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MAURICE
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1624 VINE

ADJOINING HOLLYWOOD BROWN DERBY

JOE McCLOSKEY

LEO KABAT

Mistrial in Schenck Case Denied By Presiding Judge

New York, April 9.—Furious battle between Defense Counsel Harold Corbin and Judge Grover Moscowitz developed today in the Joseph M. Schenck-Joseph Moskowitz trial, with Corbin demanding a mistrial and the court curtly rejecting. Fight arose when Robert Kane, former 20th-Fox English production head and now a 20th producer, on the stand was asked a question by Corbin to which he started to give a lengthy explanation. Court interrupted, demanding a yes or no answer. Corbin immediately objected to the tone of anger in the court's voice.

'That is enough, Mr. Corbin,' the judge declared, 'I don't want you to be putting on an act as you have been doing throughout this trial.'

Corbin and the court then shouted at each other, with the attorney demanding a mistrial and the court rejecting the motion. Corbin stated his reasons were 'based not only on what your honor said, but the manner in which you said it.' Attorney also declared, 'I'm not the only one here. My clients are here to be protected and I'm going to do it.'

MOSKOWITZ WINDUP

Other happenings during the day were the finishing of the examination of Moskowitz, with Corbin strengthening weaknesses made by Prosecutor Correa. Kane testified that in 1936-37 Schenck spent much time in London and was always working. While there he signed Annabella, Gracie Fields, Elisabeth Bergner, Robert Donat, Jessie Matthews and George Sanders. He also arranged formation of 20th-Fox Productions, Ltd., went over schedules of production, interviewed prospective talent, addressed sales meetings, etc.

Witness declared executive spent $600 daily which it was later shown was not deducted from his return. Schenck also spent $5,000 trying to sign Dick Merrill and Harry Richman, but failed. Company gave him the money, but he returned it, not wanting to charge 20th-Fox for the unsuccessful effort. The money was not deducted.

SAYS U. S. OWES SCHENCK

Last witness was Myron Fink, accountant, who testified the government owed Schenck $29,546 for 1937, besides $55,442 already owed, as the defense claims.

Defense Counsel Corbin, upset by the happenings, refused to say who would testify tomorrow. Roland West, Lou Anger, Martin Moskowitz and Schenck are all possibilities.

FOR FASTER, FRIENDLIER SERVICE AT LOWER COST—'PHONE

Postal Telegraph

CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

JOHN FORD DIRECTS 'MY VALLEY' AT 20th

John Ford will direct 20th-Fox's 'How Green Was My Valley' and the picture will roll June 1. William Wyler some time ago was retained to direct filming of the Richard Llewellyn novel, but casting delays (which haven't yet been solved) kept him out of the job. Wyler is currently preparing 'The Little Foxes' for Sam Goldwyn.

Studio wanted Laurence Olivier for the lead, but that deal fell through when he returned to London. British players are required for the top roles.

D. O. Selznick Speaking For Mexican Party

David O. Selznick will be spokesman for the Producers at the Mexico City Motion Picture Industry Festival, leaving here tomorrow with the group flying down. Others in the party are Norma Shearer, Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Patricia Morison, Esther Fernandez, Kenneth Thomson, Frank Capra, Mischa Auer, Wallace Beery, Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Sabu, Brenda Marshall, William Holden, Susan Hayward and Kay Francis. Also flying out Friday are Jock Whitney and his assistant, Francis Alstock, representing the United States government. Understood that Captain James Roosevelt will not make the trip because he is awaiting orders from the Marine Corps.

Cochrane at Par

Bobby Cochrane, who was recently handed a 30-day payless layoff as a casting director at Central Casting Corp., has joined Paramount's casting staff. Cochrane is recognized as an expert in casting dress sets. His layoff was in line with a retrenchment policy announced by Central to cut expenses without making permanent reductions in personnel.

Locale 'Lazybones'

Metro's 'Lazybones' goes on location next Wednesday at Fish Harbor near Wilmington, with shooting scheduled there for three weeks. Wallace Beery and Shirley Temple co-star.

McCoy at Columbia

Horace McCoy has moved over to Columbia to do a rewrite job on the script of 'The Texans Ride Again' after completing his treatment on 'Wild Geese Calling' at 20th-Fox.

☆ Gab ☆

★ Continued from page 3 ★

out for the east yesterday on a five-week vacation. . . . Mary Martin reports to Paramount today for wardrobe fittings with Edith Head for her role in 'Birth of the Blues.' . . . Mickey Rooney's standin, Dick Paxton, gets a role in Paramount's 'Henry for President.' . . . Harry Sherman last night hosted a dinner at his studio in honor of Dick Dickson, who comes over as his new general manager after 12 years with the Fox-West Coast theatre organization. Present were department heads. Dickson, introduced by Sherman as a friend since the latter's exhibitor days, spoke to the group on problems of showmanship and marketing.

Toland's Record

Gregg Toland, who will photograph 'The Little Foxes' for Samuel Goldwyn, holds some sort of record for camera work with the producer. Picture will make the 22nd Toland has filmed for Goldwyn. Toland also has been on studio salary for the past 17 years straight, drawing pay for 52 weeks a year at various lots and for the past 13 years has been under contract to Goldwyn, covering a full 52 weeks each year.

Larkin's 'Keepers'

John Larkin is scripting 'Finders Keepers' at 20th-Fox. Story is an original by Ralph Dietrich and will be his first solo production for the studio.

Rosson Takes Second 'Wild Wind' Unit To Alabama

Headed by Associate Director Arthur H. Rosson, the second unit on C. B. De Mille's Paramount production, 'Reap the Wild Wind', is en route by train to Mobile, Ala., to do advance work. In the party are William Sneider, Don Dickerson, Kenneth Hunter, Technicolor cameramen; Curtis Mick, business manager, and G. E. Richardson, still photographer.

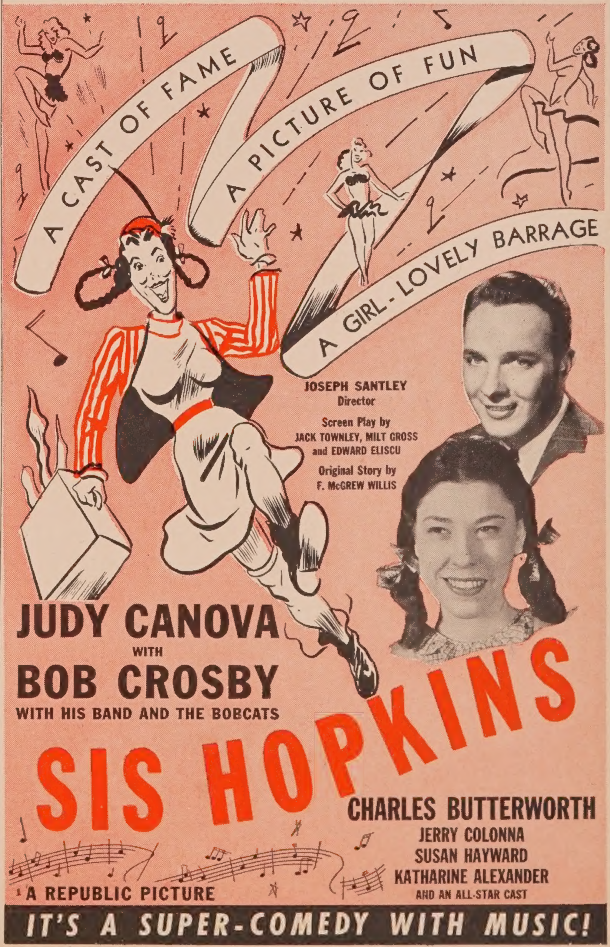
Group will go to Charleston and to Key West also for background shots. At latter spot they will be joined by 150-man unit under Assistant Director Kenneth DeLand, to work with flotilla of sailing ships.

Bernhardt Termed

Curtis Bernhardt has been signed to a new directing contract at Warners and is likely for assignment to 'The Dealer's Name Was George' as his next chore.

Title Changes

Metro's 'Man From the City' to 'I'll Wait For You'.



THANKS TO

"DOC" MERMAN AND HIS CREW–
THE CAST–
THE CRITICS–

SINCERELY,
BILL PINE and BILL THOMAS

In Production
"FORCED LANDING"

Preparing
"FLYING BLIND"

POWER-DIVE

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

JOHN W. ROGERS

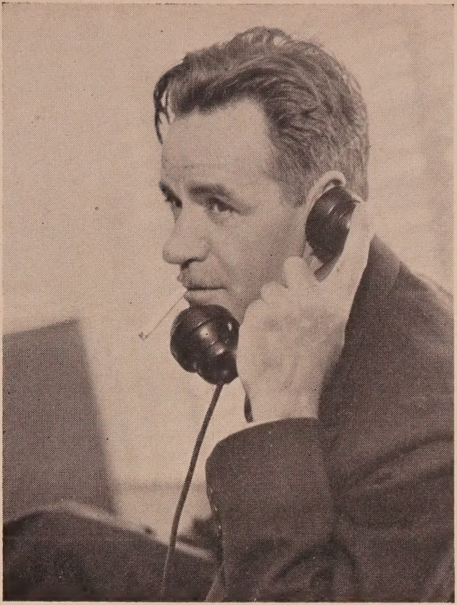
+

Paramount Pictures
POWER DIVE

RICHARD ARLEN

Paramount Pictures

POWER DIVE



BEST WISHES TO

BILL PINE
BILL THOMAS
JOHN ROGERS

(A PLEASANT ASSOCIATION)

JIM HOGAN

Management
SAM JAFFE AGENCY

DON CASTLE

"This picture marks the screen debut of Don Castle, who has been entrusted with the second male lead, and he more than makes good, auguring well for future plans that Paramount has in store for him. . . . Performances of Arlen, Miss Parker and Castle are outstanding, particularly the latter, who not only has an exceptional personality to offer screen fans but is long on looks and histrionic ability. . . ."
—DAILY VARIETY

"Don Castle flashes as a definite comer as the kid brother and, after being kicked around Hollywood for four or five years, the boy is now headed for the big time. He's a handsome chap, with a swell, big grin, and knows how to handle a role. . . ."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Current Assignment
"WORLD PREMIERE"

POWER DIVE

Studio Wage Fite Moves East As Casey Bats

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

crafts have asked the International for aid in setting new deals with the Producers, while several of them have urged the International to take over their negotiations.

If Browne decides to act for the locals, it is probable that the various business representatives will be called east to discuss their demands. All of them are seeking pay tilts and improved working conditions, with the Producers urging that wage scales remain in status quo until the full effect of war conditions on the industry can be determined. If the deal for the local unions is set in the east, there also is a probability that Browne will take the IATSE back into the Studio Agreement.

The general IATSE situation was discussed by Casey and Joseph A. Padway, general counsel for the American Federation of Labor, before the latter returned to Washington. Padway will go to New York to sit in on the huddles between Casey, Browne and other AFofL tops.

Bob Taylor Thriller

Robert Taylor just finished in 'Billy the Kid', goes western again at Metro in 'Saga of the American Cowboy', story by Will James. James is at the studio helping ready the material.

Planted

Metro

Leslie Vincent, Harry Cording, Bob Stephenson, Ernie Stanton, Cyril McLaglen, 'The Uniform'.

Otolo Nesmith, George Harris, Mike Donovan, Art Berry, Sr., Ralph McCullough, 'Blossoms In the Dust'.

Paul Stanton, Russell Hicks, Charles Lane, Victor Potel, Eddie Lee, Jennie Lee, Corleen Clemons, untitled Marx Brothers comedy.

Republic

Roscoe Ates, Leon Belasco, Rafael Storm, John Butler, 'Thunder Over the Ozarks'.

Robert Strange, 'Kansas Cyclone'.

Al K. Hall, Sr., June Pickrell, Harry Depp, 'Angels With Broken Wings'.

20th-Fox

Harold Goodwin, Cecil Weston, Irving Bacon, Leila McIntyre, 'The Man With the Shovel'.

Kund Kruger, Fredrik Vogeding, 'Man Hunt'.

Warners

Ed Keane, 'The Gentle People'.

Eddie Chandler, 'Manpower'.

Columbia

Jan Duggan, Mario Silva, Ray Hoback, Joel Friedkin, 'Obituary'.

Paramount

Frances Morris, 'The Parson of Panamint'.

VICTOR'S
IN BEVERLY HILLS
Dancing Nightly
Lunch, Dinner, Supper
314 N. Camden Drive
Ph. CRestview 11177

WARNERS CHECK SHOWS CONTRACTEES ARE BUSY

Warners, in a checkup of player commitments, finds that all three of its top contract names currently are working or starting before the cameras within the next week, and all but nine of its featured players are similarly busy. With a total contract list of 84, studio also is using 22 freelance players.

Two Warners names, Olivia de Havilland and George Brent, are on loanouts, the actress to Paramount and the actor to Edward Small. Not working are Geraldine Fitzgerald, James Cagney and Bette Davis, although latter is due shortly to start work for Samuel Goldwyn in 'The Little Foxes'.

SPG Backs Brethren On NY Campaign

The executive board of the Screen Publicists Guild met last night to discuss the request of the New York Guild for support in its fight for recognition. The board drew up a resolution on the request for presentation to the general membership at a meeting to be called within the next two weeks. At that time the Guild also will vote on its new constitution.

Pyramid's Tieup

Tieup has been set between Pyramid Pictures and Harper's Publishing Company to bring out 'Scattergood Pulls the Strings', a series of Clarence Budington Kelland stories, the latter part of May on the same date as picture goes into national release. Film, the second being made by Pyramid for RKO, is using book's title with Guy Kibbee in the Scattergood role.

'Doe' Release 28th

Warners has set (28) as national release date for 'Meet John Doe.' Picture is now playing 15 special pre-release engagements with holdovers reported in all situations.

Hicks' Moveover

Russell Hicks has finished his role in 'Dive Bomber' at Warners and moves to Metro for the Marx Brothers comedy, on deal set by Lou Irwin.

Webster at Par

Paul Webster has been signed at Paramount to work with Ray Golden on the original being prepared for Judy Canova's first starrer on that lot.

Stevenson at WB

Tom Stevenson, currently appearing in 'Gaslight' at the Hollywood Playhouse, has been signed at Warners for spot in 'The Flight Patrol.'

Van Every Chored

Dale Van Every will script '10 Gentlemen From West Point' for 20th-Fox. Story is an original by Malvin Wald.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

DEARTH OF PRINTS FOR 'PRIVATES'; B.O. TERRIFIC

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

seven prints, only ones available locally, among the theatres.

Popularity of the old tune, 'In Apple Blossom Time', which the Andrews Sisters did in 'Privates', is causing studio to line up another oldtimer to work into the current 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy', which already has seven songs.

Recording of the Andrews Sisters singing 'Blossom Time' and 'Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy', also from 'Privates', has now reached a sale of more than 100,000 copies in a four-week period, according to Decca, which waxed the tunes.

Spot Sidney Miller

Paramount signed Sidney Miller for a featured part in the Henry Aldrich picture, 'Henry for President.'

Stanley Fields Set

Stanley Fields has been signed for a featured spot in 'Lady Scarface' at RKO. Deal was set by Max Shagrin.

Meeting Skeded Today On Cartoon Wage Scale at Pal

A new attempt to agree on minimum wage scales for cartoonists at George Pal Productions will be made at 4 p.m. today when company executives meet with representatives of the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Lyle Shrader, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, and Attorney George E. Bodle will handle the negotiations for the Guilders. The two groups spent nearly four hours yesterday talking pay rates, but were still far apart when it was agreed to recess the conference until today.

Kyser Opens Today

Kay Kyser ork opens a week's engagement at the Paramount theatre here today, in conjunction with the film, 'Power Dive.' Phil Harris combo is booked to follow on stage.

Ill in Pix

MRS. WILLIAM DIETERLE, wife of the director, yesterday underwent an operation at Hollywood hospital, where she has been for past two weeks. She probably will remain two more weeks.

JIMMY ELLISON yesterday was transferred from St. Vincent's hospital to his home and reported recovering from siege of the flu.

MILTON STEIN recovering at home from appendectomy.

JOHN ALTON
A. S. C.
WISHES TO THANK THE
CREW FOR THEIR
COOPERATION DURING
THE FILMING OF
"POWER DIVE"
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

Robert North Given Republic 'Ice' To Produce

Robert North has been assigned to produce 'Ice Capades of 1941', title and performing rights to which were acquired several weeks ago by Republic.

Ice troupe arrives today from its San Francisco engagement to prepare for opening at the Pan-Pacific Auditorium (18) and also will appear in the picture. Milt Gross and Jack Townley now are scripting and production is slated for later in the summer.

COLUMBIA WILL CO-STAR TOP WESTERN PLAYERS

Recognizing the increasing importance of westerns, Columbia for the first time will co-star outdoor players of box office calibre in two series of eight films each on next year's program. Charles Starrett and Russell Hayden, formerly with Harry Sherman's Hopalong Cassidy unit, will be teamed in one series. Bill Elliott and Tex Ritter will be bracketed in the other group of eight.

Film Preview

■ Continued from page 3 ■

first newspaper's mast-head becomes an 'antique' to his erstwhile friends; the man deserted by those he didn't know how to love—this man becomes a figure of tragic pity, the product of his era (1860 to 1940), representing his times, its political economy, its codes, its private and public morals and fluxes.

There is in Orson Welles' dramatic tale no cantankerous diatribe, no indictment except in the flow of cause and event. The ethics of the newspaper man, his power and the use of it, is kept separated from the awkwardness, the lovelessness, the groping futility of his private life. The tale holds dispassionately to the dramatic level, probing fiercely into an important public man's motives and the ways in which he and the powerful instrument he created reacted upon each other.

The story, in which Herman Mankiewicz shares a screenplay credit, tells in mounting detail and with arresting technique the life of a boy taken from a simple home to become a wielder of great wealth and influence, from the age of 25 to 80 in the Welles' performance. He sets out with certain ideals of private behavior and public conduct in the publication of his chain of newspapers. He zooms up politically. Is a persuasive demagogue. Marries and divorces. Is trapped in a so-called love nest by his wife and his political opponent, so that his hope for high public office crashes in an hour. He takes up the girl with whom a casual evening directed the subsequent course of his days; tries to make her an operatic star; fails, and will not relinquish that final pathetic ambition to achieve love and greatness vicariously when middle age and prestige slip away; dies in his great, richly furnished but emotionally barren castle, after old friends and counselers have dropped away—wanting at the last, as he cryptically says with a final word, only the bobsled he admired in his boyhood.

The tale is told in retrospect, starting with an investigation into the man's life by the compilers of a march-of-time kind of newsreel. In that search to uncover the inwardness of 'Kane', each of the important persons in his life is interviewed by a news reporter. With each additional anecdote and revelation, the compassion for Charlie Kane grows. And in the eloquent and ironic recital, pathos clings in a measure to each of the persons who helped condition the 'boss'.

As the substance of the two-hour fable-document is concentrated and indelibly impressed entertainment, so the technical achievement is masterful. Producing, directing and enacting the chief character, Orson Welles has a triplicate credit which places him, without any of the 'genius' bosh, up among the important craftsmen and creative minds of the business. As the actor he does a job, both in appearance and delivery, which is so good that one never thinks of 'Kane' as Welles. The performance is not mannered. It has vigor, humanness, dramatic proportion. As the director, Welles shows equal vigor and assurance, slashing, probing, marching the narrative, impatient often, short-cutting, holding up the suspense, the sense of importance, the documentary similitude.

Supporting performances are sharply etched. Especially impressive is Joseph Cotten as the uncompromising dramatic critic who refuses to praise an operatic washout because his boss happens to be married to her; Dorothy Comingore, as the plaintive girl whose ambition was cajoled far beyond her capacity, so that life with the man who wanted to make her a great singing star becomes unbearably lonely and barren; Everett Sloane as the tycoon's general manager, who relates much of his life in retrospect. Because all the characterizations are on such a high common level of excellence, no individual stands out beyond the others. Sharing the playing honors are Ray Collins, George Coulouris, Agnes Moorehead, Paul Stewart, Ruth Warrick, Erskine Sanford and William Alland, all of the Mercury Players organization, and new to the screen.

The film is a pictorial masterpiece. Gregg Toland, at the camera helm shares with Welles in a major degree the high excellence of the technical job. Noticeable is the swift way in which passage of time in indicated, with no laborious desolves and fades; noticeable the angles, the compositions, the dramatic effect of camera position. The camera eavesdrops rather than laboriously sets itself up for takes.

The music, composed and conducted by Bernard Herrmann, also is of a kind with picture's other merits—giving tonal dimension to the pictorial frame.

Production is on a lavish scale, having cost a reported million, and looking every dollar of the budget in all its entertainment values.

Story Buys

'Take a Letter, Darling', an original screen story by George Beck, has been bought by Paramount. It is the tale of a modern business woman with a male secretary.

Joel Malone, scripter of 'Nightcap Yarns' and other KNX programs, has sold 'Changed Identity' to Metro. Story was aired on the 'Nightcap' series.

WB Keeps Foulk

Warners has picked up its option on dialog director contract with Robert Foulk. He currently is working on 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Columbia Recording Tries To Avert Strike Today

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

P. E. Crowley and Jack LeCroix representing the company. CIO tops said the strike order was issued after the company refused to discuss wage demands for the 85 workers employed in the plant. The union is asking that the minimum ceiling be lifted from 60c per hour to 75c with corresponding increases in the other classifications.

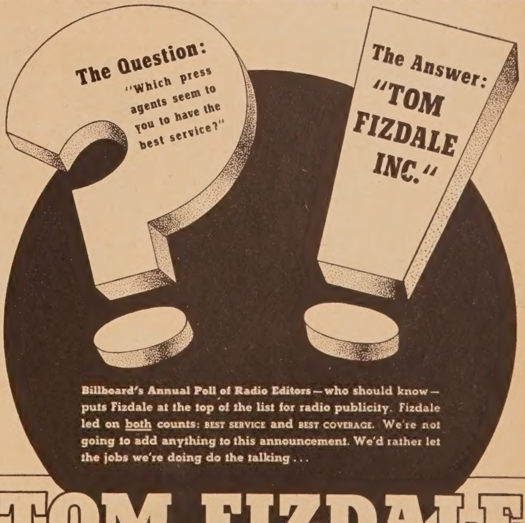
The strike vote was taken a week ago with orders fôr a slowdown being put into effect Monday. Leaders said when the slowdown failed to produce results that 10 a.m. today was set as the strike deadline. As the conference continued, however, both groups expressed hopes that an agreement may be reached in time to halt the threatened walkout.

A few minutes before midnight it was announced the negotiations had been recessed until 7 a.m. today with the strike order still standing.

Hamilton's Co-Op Shop

Helen Hamilton, a former film extra, has just incorporated and filed articles with the secretary of state for the Cinema Girls Gown Shop, a co-operative dress shop for girls of stage and screen that she now is ready to open. Miss Hamilton is selling stock in the venture at $10 per share, with each buyer limited to one share, and stockholders will share in the profits of the shop in proportion to their purchases.

AMERICA'S RADIO EDITORS VOTE:
"Fizdale Best Radio P. A."


The Question:
"Which press agents seem to you to have the best service?"
The Answer:
"TOM FIZDALE INC."

Billboard's Annual Poll of Radio Editors—who should know—puts Fizdale at the top of the list for radio publicity. Fizdale led on both counts: BEST SERVICE and BEST COVERAGE. We're not going to add anything to this announcement. We'd rather let the jobs we're doing do the talking . . .

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Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
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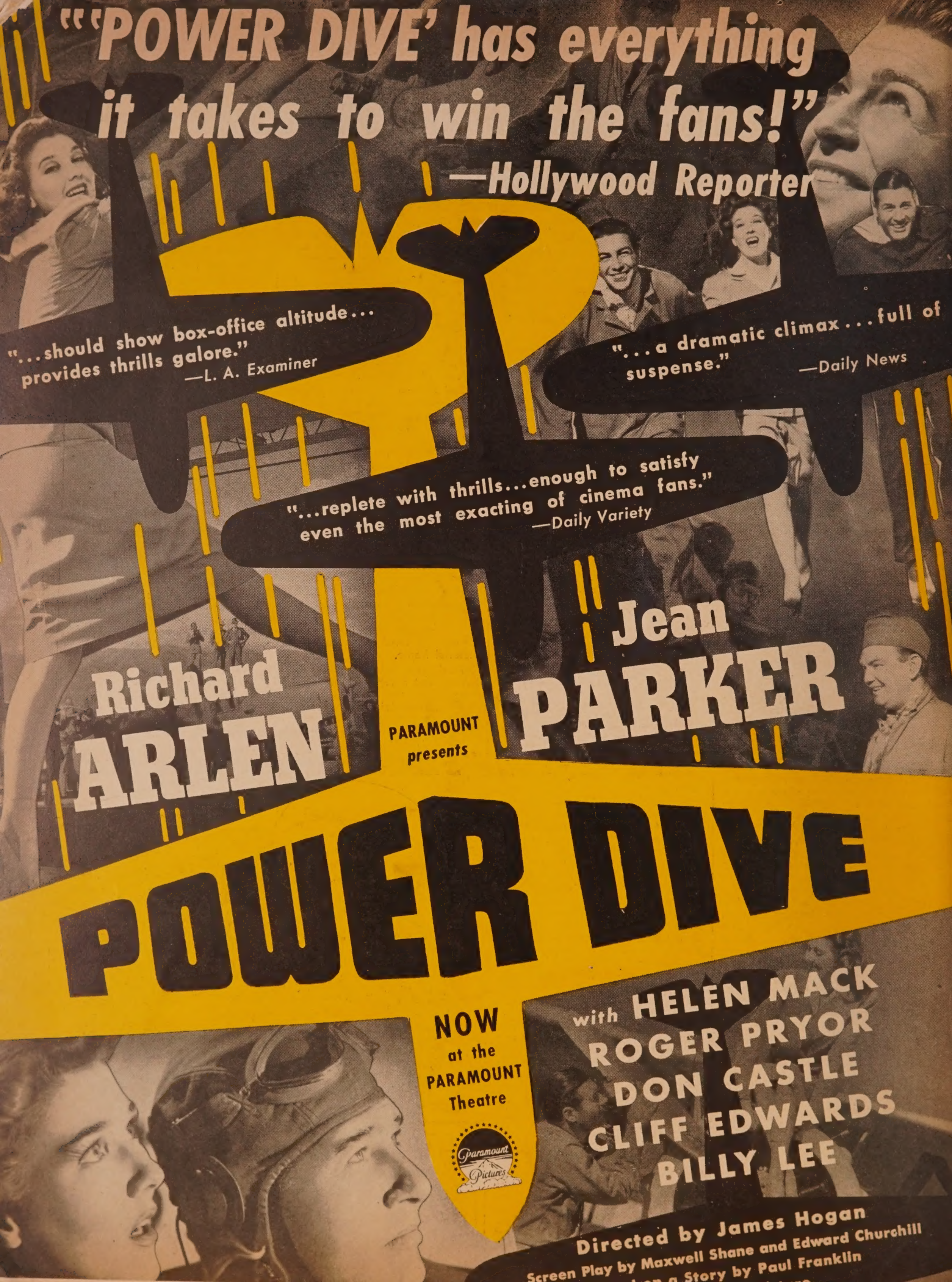

"'POWER DIVE' has everything it takes to win the fans!" —Hollywood Reporter

"...should show box-office altitude... provides thrills galore." —L. A. Examiner

"...a dramatic climax...full of suspense." —Daily News

"...replete with thrills...enough to satisfy even the most exacting of cinema fans." —Daily Variety

Richard ARLEN

Jean PARKER

PARAMOUNT presents

POWER DIVE

with HELEN MACK
ROGER PRYOR
DON CASTLE
CLIFF EDWARDS
BILLY LEE

NOW at the PARAMOUNT Theatre

Paramount Pictures

Directed by James Hogan
Screen Play by Maxwell Shane and Edward Churchill
on a Story by Paul Franklin

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF
Vol. 31 No. 27 43 Hollywood, C 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

UA SLIDING SCALE OKAYED

LOTS FACE BIG LABOR SHORTAGE

Hundreds of studio technicians worked double shifts yesterday, as many unions were unable to fill the calls for men. Carpenters, painters, grips, laborers and other classifications did overtime stretches on many lots, as standby calls for workers continued to pile up. Some studios were refusing to release men at the end of a shift for fear they would need them

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Wesley Ruggles, RKO Talk Package Deal

Negotiations are on for Wesley Ruggles to have production unit at RKO in conjunction with a package deal. Understood that Ruggles would have Cary Grant for two pix a year in the deal besides other actors. Jules Stein of Music Corporation of America has been handling deal with George Schaefer at RKO.

Juker Bill Idled

Sacramento, April 10.—The Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee today failed to pass out the juke machine tax bill for lack of sufficient votes on motion to table. The bill is considered dead although it can be taken up at any time. Representatives of the American Federation of Musicians declared the Musicians may have to resort to a general strike against making recordings unless they can otherwise protect themselves.

NY LEGIT OPENING

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

New York, April 10.—'The Night Before Christmas', which opened at the Morosco theatre tonight, is a doubtful Easter entrant. Script is said to have been promising but performers were strangely lacking in fun. Faults in testing another factor did not seem pertinent, for net result was mediocrity.

It has to do with yeggs who take over a luggage shop on Sixth avenue, New York, with idea of burrowing through cellar wall into adjoining bank vault. After hokus-pocus they

● Continued on page 4 ●

PRINZ JOINING ROACH ON UA MUSICALS

With the signing yesterday of LeRoy Prinz as producer and director, Hal Roach has completed production plans for his so-called Streamlined Features, musicals to be released through United Artists. Prinz, who until recently has been at Paramount as dance director for 12 years, re-

■ Continued on page 15 ■

Col Declares Divvy

New York, April 10.—Directors of Columbia Pictures declared a regular quarterly dividend of 68¾c today on preferred stock. Divvy is payable May 15 to stockholders on record May 1.

KELLY PLANES EAST AFTER SETTING PLAN

Sliding scale percentage table, giving United Artists producers returns based on the individual take of pictures for their forthcoming product in specified situations, was agreed upon and set as part of the organization's basic policy during final sessions here yesterday of producers and stockholders. Announcement to that effect was made by Arthur W. Kelly, vice-president in charge of domestic distribution, prior to his scheduled departure for New York by plane today.

Final conference of Kelly and Murray Silverstone, head of UA

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

PHILBRICK REPORTED AS BEING RETAINED

With thousands of extras working for the first time in more than a year, Howard R. Philbrick was reported last night to stand better than an even chance of being retained as general manager of Central Casting Corp. The probability that his executive assistant, Harold Melniker, will be called into military service, plus the influx of work, a picket line at Central, and the endorsement of several extra groups is said to be swinging the decision in his favor.

Certain executives who are understood to have been inclined to favor a change now are taking the position that beefs of the 'old time extra

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Roosevelt On Duty

Captain James Roosevelt's leave of absence has been cancelled and he reported for duty at the San Diego Marine Base at seven o'clock this morning. This will prevent his taking the trip to Mexico City today for the Motion Picture Festival.

DISNEY SHOWDOWN SKEDED TODAY

A showdown on negotiations between Walt Disney Studio and American Federation of Labor crafts is scheduled for 10 a.m. today, when Gunther Lessing, company attorney, huddles with representatives of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The Guild, which claims to have a majority of the 700 Disney employes, will be

♥ Continued on page 15 ♥

McDaniel in 'Wind'

Hattie McDaniel was set yesterday at Paramount as one of the chief players in 'Reap the Wild Wind.'

Skouras Lauds Pix on Greek Aid; Denies Golden State Move

Spyros Skouras planed out for Dallas last night, en route back to New York after nearly a week on the Coast. Skouras yesterday stated there was no deal on or contemplated for the acquisition by Fox West Coast or National Theatres of The Golden State circuit in Northern California. He denied emphatically that his mission to San Francisco had anything to do with the takeover of these houses, and said that his principal reason for going north was to participate in future film buying discussions.

R. A. McNeil, prexy and general manager of Golden State, on behalf

★ Continued on page 15 ★

Service

Within 15 minutes after a phone call from New York yesterday, Myron Selznick was on his way to the airport at Burbank en route to the east to handle a deal for a client now there. Selznick will return here Tuesday or Wednesday.

RKO Asks Metro 'Wind' Terms for 'Kane'

RKO is asking the same terms for 'Citizen Kane', soon to be given a general release, as was obtained by Metro for 'Gone With the Wind.' This will include a guarantee to exhibitors of 10% of the gross, with an insurance against loss. No date has as yet been set for the Los Angeles premiere, but decision will be made within next day or two.

Allen Bows Straight

Fred Allen makes his debut tonight as a straight comedy actor in the Norman Corwin comedy, 'My Client Curley', on Campbell Playhouse over KNX at 6:30 p.m. He will be supported by Larry Robinson, Beatrice Kay and Jackie Grimes.

Abbott Heads Indie

Harry Abbott, brother of Bud Abbott, has been made president of Slapstick Comedies, Inc., which will produce a series of two-reelers. Bud Abbott is financing new outfit.

Luci Ward's Thriller

Columbia has assigned Luci Ward to start work on an original western feature to be used as the first costarrer for Bill Elliott and Tex Ritter.

PREVIEWED

THE INVISIBLE GHOST
(Mono)

REVIEWED

THE GREAT MR. NOBODY
(WB)

(Preview and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Billie Burke leaves for New York next week.

Steve Fisher's 'I Wake Up Screaming' goes into third printing.

Betty Yoder passing a few days here before returning to Denver.

Lennie Hayton has been signed as conductor and music scorer at Metro.

Harold S. Bucquet is supervising final editing on Metro's new 'Dr. Kildare'.

Glenn Miller's three-week stand at the Palladium was set yesterday for May 2.

Kate Smith and Ted Collins fly out tomorrow for a weekend at the Grand Canyon.

Arthur Q. Bryan, radio actor, draws a comedy spot in Alexander Korda's 'Illusions.'

Robert Andrews yesterday started screenplaying his original, 'Mayor of 44th Street', at RKO.

Madeleine Carroll is due back at Paramount (21) to start her wardrobe preparations for 'Dildo Cay.'

Stuart Palmer in La Jolla for a few weeks filling mag writing commitment on 'The Puzzle of the Fancy Fish'.

John Carradine yesterday returned to work in 20th-Fox's 'Man Hunt' after several days out with sore throat.

Joan Bennett and Walter Wanger are spending the weekend on the William Leeds yacht in Catalina waters.

William Gell, Monogram franchise holder in London, and Harold Flavin, Monogram, NYC, American Aired last night for home posts.

Because of Good Friday, Universal has canceled its preview, scheduled for tonight, of 'Model Wife'. Preview will be held Monday instead.

Devery Freeman has been signed to a term writing contract at Metro and his first assignment will be a treatment on 'Meet the People' for Arthur Freed.

Charles Coburn has been signed at Columbia for one of the top roles in 'Our Wife', John M. Stahl production, with Melvyn Douglas and Ruth Hussey. Picture is slated to start next week.

Lewis Milestone will direct 'Joan of Paris', second feature slated for Michele Morgan at RKO and starts his preparations as soon as he completes direction on 'My Life With Caroline', at the studio next week.

Benny the Gouge sez—Fifth Column pictures are so numerous that somebody is going to beat the barrier with a Sixth Column.

Hollywood Inside

BECAUSE the Mexican government does not want to injure its diplomatic relations with Germany it has refused to allow Orson Welles to film his projected story of a Nazi plot in Mexico. Welles still plans to make the picture, but, at the same time he is being asked by Warners to make 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', and by George Schaefer, at RKO, to make 'How to Meet a Man', the Gene Towne and Graham Baker yarn. Welles' plans are complicated by the Mexican government's action, but it is not believed he will consider doing 'How to Meet a Man.' So far he has turned a deaf ear to the Warners offer. Officials of the Mexican Ministry of the Interior have informed Welles that permission cannot be granted by the government for him to produce his picture there because it would offend the national dignity. Hero of the story is a young American who helps to check a Nazi coup in Mexico. Government officials feel that the story implies that Mexico cannot take care of her own domestic problem, that the picture would make those who saw it believe that a tremendous Nazi group existed below the Rio Grande, and that it would offend Germany. Welles finished the story while he was in New York producing his legiter, 'Native Son.' Richard Baer, his business manager, and Gregg Toland, who was set to serve as cameraman on the picture, both have but recently returned from Mexico City where they went to set some of the details. Word was sent to Welles Sunday that the Mexican government's permission could not be obtained. He is now in Palm Springs, resting. Welles was to have had Dolores Del Rio in the feminine lead and also sought the services of Carmen Amaya, Latin dancer. He would have used Mexican labor in making the picture. Despite the noncooperation of the Mexican government he has not abandoned his plans for producing the film. William Randolph Hearst, it will be recalled, recently was in Mexico City. At a cocktail party given for him there by high government officials Hearst was introduced to Welles' business manager, Baer, but the subject of 'Citizen Kane' was not mentioned.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS has been notified by the Navy that stills from 'Dive Bomber' can be released to the press. Order gives the studio a terrific break on the picture, for such photos have been nixed until now by naval authorities. Stills showing dive bombing operations, aerial maneuvers and battle formations are among those Warners will be able to use. Newspapers, wire services and magazines have long been unable to obtain such pictures. Naval officials okayed all shots before they were made.

☆ ☆ ☆

NEW record for mail response, without any gimmick attachment, is claimed by Frank Graham, who directs himself in all the parts of 'Nightcap Yarns' over the Columbia Pacific network. Week ago Graham asked his listeners to write in if they enjoyed the programs and wanted them continued. Yesterday the count reached 10,068, according to Graham. KNX statisticians declare that no letter campaign, even with sundry giveaways, ever approximated Graham's record.

☆ ☆ ☆

STARTING tomorrow, Universal will have 15 prints of its 'Buck Privates' working in the Southern California area, taking care of 21 bookings. As an indication of the interest n the Abbott-Costello film, it was pointed out yesterday that opening day's gross on repeat run at the Warners San Pedro theatre was $27 more than picture garnered on opening day of the original run, at which time a new record was hung up for any Universal picture that has previously played the house.

☆ ☆ ☆

ON the recent draft board induction list appeared the name, Robert E. Smith. Everyone at Columbia studio assumed that it was their downtown publicity planter, Robert E. Smith. He allowed them to think so, while his pals showered him with honors and made preparations for a farewell party. In due time the studio pals will discover, with what reactions may only be guessed, that the draftee is not the planter but a Robert Earle Smith from Culver City.

☆ ☆ ☆

TEN years ago, Karen DeWolf published a small volume of verse under the pen moniker, Gypsy Wells. Book went to 500 copies only, so author figured she was entitled to snipe passages from her own book for her recently published volume, 'Take the Laughter.' Since then a dozen critics have trounced her for out-and-out plagiarism of Gypsy Wells' work. Writer now is trying to get over the fact that she IS Gypsy Wells.

☆ ☆ ☆

FOR the first time in the history of the studio, Republic is using the Los Angeles River for river scenes in 'Jungle Girl.' Before the rains came the river bed was bone dry, but the water flowing through the back lot, comes in handy now.

W. K. Hopkins Becomes Col Personnel Mgr.

William K. Hopkins has joined Columbia as director of personnel and manager of industrial relations. Hopkins, for 18 years a Union Oil Co. executive specializing in personnel and employe relations, also will continue to serve as district representative for the Training Within Industry, a unit of the Office of Production Manager, in Southern California, Arizona and New Mexico with offices in the Federal building and a field staff of 25.

Bette Davis, Carlson Test For 'Foxes'

Bette Davis and Richard Carlson report to Samuel Goldwyn Monday to start makeup and wardrobe tests for their roles in 'The Little Foxes' which William Wyler directs. Arriving Monday from Philadelphia are Teresa Wright, Charles Dingle, Carl Benton Reid, Dan Duryea and John Marriott, all legit players who will make their film debut in the Goldwyn production.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Kids who are named after notables are dated, definitely. Back in the days when the Cubs were the greatest ball club on earth there was a long-lived left fielder named Jimmy Sheckard who defied all and sundry scribes to guess his age. Presently one of the scribes discovered that the outfielder's complete name was Samuel James Tilden Sheckard, titled after a Presidential candidate back in the early days of the republic.

Grover C. Alexander, a sly old pitcher, was one of the few athletes who could hide his age with a sliding scale. He was named after Grover Cleveland, who ran for President three times, so Old Pete had a leeway of 12 years when you asked him about his birthday.

Shirley was the vogue for girl kids not so long ago, and now Miss Temple is coming back to protect the gals in future years. Along about 1960, when questioners get snoopy about ages, a Shirley won't have to tell whether she was born during the Temple infancy or the Temple renaissance.

Back in the old days it was customary to name a child George, after Washington, or John, after Adams, or Thomas, after Jefferson, and so on down the line until Ulysses S. Grant came along. That was a stopper, even for the most politically-minded parents. On rare occasions there was a Ulysses in the neighborhood but everybody called him Useless, so he changed his name to Joe.

★ ★ ★

While on the subject of youngsters, Adolphe Menjou and Gloria Swanson are doing scenes together in 'Father Takes a Wife.'

After the Will Hays office puts it under ethical scrutiny, the title probably will be 'Heavenzapoppin.'

Milton Berle gallops in with a new title for Bing Crosby's rancho, 'Son Valley.'

★ ★ ★

Big problem is to translate 'Hellzapoppin' to the screen. Another problem was to translate Abbott and Costello, who were translated so comically that the studio can't keep up with demands for prints. So Olsen and Yonsen are yumping over the fjords to Hollywood.

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Magazines are constitutionally ahead of schedule, but as far as the films are concerned they are making a sucker out of Father Time. Any time you pick up next month's issue you can find out who produced the best picture in 1942.

★ ★ ★

A film gal enjoys a church wedding because she is sure of star billing. The groom always plays a supporting role.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood has bought a lot of Broadway productions but it can't buy the Fifth ave. Easter Parade. So Wilshire blvd. is putting on one of its own, with a local cast.

★ ★ ★

Your modern kids eat spinach and
a lot of kindred greenery,
But the good old fashioned actor
thrives by chewing up the
scenery.

Film Preview and Review

The Great Mr. Nobody

(*Comedy*)

Warners production and release. Features Eddie Albert, Joan Leslie, Alan Hale, William Lundigan, John Litel. Supporting cast: Charles Trowbridge, Paul Hurst, Dickie Moore, John Ridgely, Douglas Kennedy, George Campeau, William Benedict, Helen MacKellar, Joyce Tucker, Mary Field. Directed by Ben Stoloff. Screenplay by Ben Markson and Kenneth Gamet, from a story by Harold Titus. Photographed by Arthur Todd. Edited by Rudi Fehr. Music by Adolph Deutsch. Reviewed at Warners Hollywood theatre April 10. Running time: 70 mins.

Here's a breezy comedy, tailor-made for Eddie Albert, who romps through the title part in his own inimitable style. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of other members of the cast, although most of them handle their assignments in satisfactory, if not outstanding, fashion.

'The Great Mr. Nobody' is an out-and-out B production, produced by Warner Bros. at a nominal cost and designed for the lower bracket of a twin bill. Despite this it contains plenty of comedy situations which will provide the average screen theatre patron with 70 minutes of mild entertainment. Most of the story falls on young Albert's shoulders and he makes the most of the lines and situations given him.

It's the story of a somewhat bewildered youth who despite a good job as a classified salesman on a newspaper, is constantly dreaming of a yacht with which he can sail to unknown places and at the same time he is head-over-heels in love with Joan Leslie. Albert is torn between his devotion to Alan Hale, a loud-talking roommate who aspires to the sea, and his love for Miss Leslie. In the meantime, he allows others, principally John Litel, to take from him credit for promotional stunts that prove a great aid to the newspaper's circulation.

Albert is forced through a series of predicaments before he clears up the mess, and in the end emerges as the real hero, the man who all his life has been misunderstood.

Aside from Albert, who gives a cleancut, convincing portrayal of the somewhat befuddled salesman, Alan Hale and John Litel turn in best efforts. Joan Leslie is exceptionally pretty in the film but fails to convince. William Lundigan belies the spoken line that he is an ex-football star and his work as the new publisher of the paper is lacking.

Paul Hurst and Dickie Moore make the most of small parts given them, and others in the cast are adequate.

Ben Stoloff did a capable job of directing, although he must have been somewhat handicapped in following the devious paths laid out in the screen play which is credited to Ben Markson and Kenneth Gamet. Camera work of Arthur Todd is flawless and Adolph Deutsch has provided pleasing background music.

Picture will satisfy those patrons who are not too exacting with their film fare and should prove acceptable when paired with heavier type of pictures, such as it is at the Warners house.

Trans-Lux Divvy

New York, April 10.—Trans-Lux Corporation today declared a dividend of five cents per share on its capital shares, payable May 1 to stockholders on record April 24.

The Invisible Ghost

(*Melodrama*)

Monogram release of a Banner Pictures production. Stars Bela Lugosi. Supporting cast: Polly Ann Young, John McGuire, Clarence Muse, Terry Walker, Betty Compson, Ernie Adams, George Pembroke, Ottola Nesmith, Fred Kelsey, Jack Mulhall. Director, Joseph H. Lewis. Producer, Sam Katzman. Associate producer, Pete Mayer. Story and screenplay, Helen and Al Martin. Photography, Marcel Le Picard. Film editor, Robert Golden. Production manager, Ed W. Rote. Settings, Fred Preble. Recording, Glen Glenn. Musical direction, Lange and Porter. Previewed April 10. Running time: 63 mins.

Boogie man Bela Lugosi stalks again and has been seen to much better advantage than in 'The Invisible Ghost.' Picture tries hard to stir sufficient horror to rate the 'chiller' brand but succeeds only slightly. A so-so production that will meet with a similar success in the minor situations.

Lugosi is a kindly man with a murderous 'M. Hyde' complex who goes around commiting unconscious killings. His seizures are brought on by the ghostly reappearances of his long-lost wife, who had eloped years before with another man. Unaware of his complex, Lugosi aids the police to search out the killer in his home, is finally trapped when the cops bring in his wife, hiding on the estate for a long time. Considerable confusion results from incomplete development of the plot, partly due to writing and partly to production limitations.

Polly Ann Young, the madman's daughter; John McGuire, in a dual role; Clarence Muse, the butler, and Betty Compson, the wife, play the principal roles with Lugosi in average fashion. Ernie Adams contributes a good bit as a victim.

Joseph H. Lewis directed from the story and screen play by Helen and Al Martin, and Sam Katzman and Pete Mayer produced.

Lustig Seeks $525,000 From Universal

New York, April 10.—William Lustig, agent, filed suit for $525,000 in New York Supreme court today against Universal Pictures. He charges that U persuaded the parents of Gloria Jean to breach a 10-year managerial contract with him. Plaintiff signed a representative contract in 1937 after allegedly spending $25,000 on the youngster in previous years.

Metro Takes 'Glory' In Australia

New York, April 10.—Metro has taken the Australian-made feature, 'The Power and the Glory' for distribution in Australia, with the picture already opened at the Mayfair theatre in Sydney. Film was made by Argosy Films, with the aid of a government loan. Production was started before the war crackdown on coin importations.

Wm. Nigh Will Direct University Bower

University Film Productions has signed William Nigh to direct 'No Greater Sin', original by M. C. Ransone which will be new concern's first offering. Picture, formerly titled 'Kiss of Death', is slated to start work at Fine Arts studio May 1.

Three Planes Cart Mexican Festival Party Out Today

Three planes, carrying 45 picture names and members of the press, take off this morning for the Mexico City Motion Picture Festival Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Ships leave here at 8 a.m. and the party will make an overnight stop in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Group is scheduled to arrive in Mexico City at noon tomorrow, with a reception at the city hall by the mayor first on the program. The Mexican motion picture industry will play hosts at a banquet tomorrow night. On Sunday there will be a special Easter mass at the Shrine of Guadalupe. That evening President Avila Camacho will hold a formal reception in the presidential palace.

Monday events include breakfast at Chapultepec Palace and sightseeing trips. Camacho has designated Monday as Pan-American Day and will make an international broadcast in the afternoon.

Jock Whitney, director of the Motion Picture Division of the Office of Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations between the American Republics, will head the group. Name of David O. Selznick was not included in the list of those making the trip.

Frank Morgan's name was added yesterday to others previously announced, which include Norma Shearer, Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Frank Capra, Wallace Beery, Francis L. Alstock, Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball, Sabu, Brenda Marshall, Kenneth Thomson, Esther Fernandez, Patricia Morison, Mischa Auer, Susan Hayward and William Holden.

When Paramount instructed Patricia Morison to make the trip, her suspension, which has been in effect at that studio for the past six weeks, was automatically lifted and she goes back on salary. She was suspended for refusing to appear in a Gene Autry picture at Republic.

STUDIOS FACE BIG LABOR SHORTAGE

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

a few hours later and not be able to get a call filled.

Carpenters were especially hard to find, hundreds of them having left the industry recently for steady work on defense projects. Tops in the American Federation of Labor said it was the first time since the defense work started that the studios have felt a real pinch. They expressed the belief that the scarcity of expert workers would increase when the weather improves and more men are put to work on defense programs.

Avert Col Corp. Strike

A strike at the Columbia Recording Corp. was averted yesterday when company executives agreed to negotiate wage demands with representatives of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, a Congress of Industrial Organization craft.

Spot Byron Foulger

Byron Foulger is set at Columbia for parts in two pictures through Columbia Management, doubling between 'Betty Co-ed' and 'I Was a Prisoner on Devil's Island.'

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

KATHRYN ADAMS, Universal actress, and Hugh Beaumont will be married at 8:30 Easter Sunday morning by the Rev. Allan Hunter at the Mount Hollywood Congregational church. Picture work for both players will postpone their honeymoon. Actors recently were married, before the camera, for a scene in 'Unfinished Business' at Universal. . . . Armond Rynhard, former Dutch and Belgian representative for Max Factor's, arrived here yesterday after a 10-month trip from the occupied countries. . . . Seventh annual Film Exchange Club dance, to be held night of (18), was yesterday shifted to the Elks' Club, due to destruction by fire of the Riverside Drive Breakfast Club, where the event was originally scheduled. Proceeds will as usual be devoted to the relief of film row workers. Music will be furnished by the Rudolf Friml ork. . . . Ronald Colman, Charles Boyer, Herbert Marshall, Brian Aherne, Nigel Bruce, Cary Grant are among film names slated to be present at the benefit show at the Riviera Country Club tomorrow and Sunday. Proceeds go to the British, Canadian, Anzac and Scottish War Relief Associations.

Attempts of the Screen Actors Guild to get Greta Garbo to appear on the Screen Guild-Gulf Oil radio program have met with a firm 'no' from the actress, because, according to the claim, she is afraid of the microphone. Offers to run a wire to Miss Garbo's home where she could do her performance absolutely alone still couldn't remove the 'mike' phobia enough for an acceptance.

AFTER working all night in an artificial rain at the Paramount ranch in 'The Great Man's Lady', Brian Donlevy reported at the studio to do a scene for a picture within a picture being filmed for 'Hold Back the Dawn' . . . Actor donated his day's salary to Bundles for Britain. . . . Frances Farmer lunching at Lucey's. . . . Bob McLaughlin reports for army duty at Fort MacArthur today.

Hank Gerzen, who reports for his army training trick today, last night was given elaborate going-away party by his fellow grips at 20th-Fox. Gerzen has been at studio 12 years.

FRANCES SCULLY, NBC's glamour reporter, will give a preview of what the film stars wear in the Easter parade as guest of 'Little ol' Hollywood', which gets a transcontinental airing tomorrow. . . . From Metro's cartoon department to the U. S. Army have gone Robert Gentle (Fort Ord), Paul Fanning (War College in Washington), Tom Ryan (Ft. Monmouth), Sam Dawson (Ft. Monmouth). . . . Rene Hubert, who usually designed the costumes for Gloria Swanson when she was active in pictures some years back, will again garb the actress, this time with 18 changes in RKO's 'Father Takes a Wife.'

Keep Schenck From Stands in Trial Defense Move

New York, April 10.—In a surprise move today, the defense rested in the Joseph M. Schenck-Joseph Moskowitz trial for income tax evasion before U. S. Judge Grover Moscowitz and a jury, without placing its star witness, Joe Schenck, on the stand.

Reason for failure to call Schenck was not revealed, but Daily Variety learned that the defense counsel argued on the matter and were split on the advisability last night, and finally decided that the Government had not made out a case, hence there was no sense in having Schenck testify when his testimony was not actually needed. Schenck arrived in court this morning fully prepared to go on the witness stand, but after an hour of delay in which attorneys thrashed out the matter again behind scenes, defense counsel Harold Corbin announced he had rested his case.

Just prior to the resting, Corbin placed a letter from the Treasury department in the record, which denied his request for permission to examine Leonard Mulligan, a Government Treasury agent. Corbin also told Judge Moscowitz he regretted his battle with the court on Wednesday, and offered to withdraw his demand for a mistrial. Judge Moscowitz accepted the offer and told the jury to disregard squabbles between counsel and the court or itself, but to accept only just rulings on the law which he would hand down later.

The case resumes Monday when Corbin will make his defense summary to be followed by summary made by U. S. District Attorney Mathias Correa, with Judge Moscowitz then giving his charge. Jury will likely get the case late Tuesday night or Wednesday. Today concluded the sixth week of the trial.

Victor Young Directs Ciggie Program

Victor Young returns to the air (17) as music director of 'Old Gold Presents', featuring Tommy Riggs and his character, Betty Lou. Constance Bennett draws the first guest assignment. Half hour show to be produced by Cal Kuhl from the script of Sam Moore, rides NBC's Coast red network.

KNX SUNRISE SERVICES

Series of Easter features will keep KNX on the air all night tomorrow. Following an hour of religious and classic music, station carries first of the sunrise services at 2 a.m. An hour later will be heard the special Easter message of Pope Pius via short wave from Rome. Services at Brookline, Mass., St. Louis and Arlington cemetery, Washington, follow.

Sunrise ceremony from Forest Lawn will be broadcast for one hour from 5:30 a.m.

UA Sliding Scale Okayed at Final Biz Session

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

worldwide operations, were held with Mary Pickford and Alexander Korda, owner members, culminating sessions during the past week which included David O. Selznick, Walter Wanger, Edward Small, David Loew, Hal Roach, Ernst Lubitsch, Sol Lesser, James Roosevelt, Arnold Pressberger, Gabriel Pascal, Richard A. Rowland and Dr. William Sekely. Plans for regional sales conferences also were set, the first to start (28).

'In accordance with the prevailing custom and basic foundation of United Artists established by the founders 21 years ago', said Kelly, 'each picture will continue to be sold on its merits, as heretofore.

'Included within the selling policy, and unanimously confirmed, certain formulae for selling individual pictures were agreed upon to apply to a number of situations. For these situations a sliding scale of percentage will apply, going up to 50% of the gross for important pictures, thus making it possible, based on box office results, for each producer to obtain a maximum return on his productions.'

Kelly canvassed the product to be made, details of which are to be disclosed at the regional conventions. The program, he stated, would contain the most impressive product the company has ever made, exceeding even that of last year, which included 'Rebecca', 'Thief of Bagdad', 'Foreign Correspondent', the advance price showings of 'The Great Dictator', 'The Westerner', 'Our Town', and 'My Son, My Son'.

Weather permitting, Kelly leaves today by plane, but Silverstone will remain here several days longer.

Philbrick Reported Being Retained As Central Head

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

players' were directed at Melniker, particularly in the circulation of petitions on studio sets. They also are said to contend that any reorganizational plans of Philbrick have been tied up by unionization of Central, and that he has not had a full opportunity to show what he can do.

Others are reported opposed to a change on the theory that if the impression gets around that a change was forced by a protest picket line, another picket line will be started every time a group of extras becomes peeved over some action at Central. The Extras Advisory Council also is keeping a strictly hands-off policy with reference to Central, directing its attention entirely to a campaign for a vote for Class B members in the Screen Actors Guild.

Walter Vogler, who is employed by many major studios to handle soldier sequences, said an impartial investigation had convinced him that responsibility for the poor quality of soldier extras being furnished studios rested with the Screen Actors Guild and not with Central Casting Corp. Vogler said he had spent several hours going over the situation with Philbrick and Melniker, and had been advised that the SAG furnishes the lists of members, as to their qualifications, etc. He said there is nothing Central can do but furnish men from these lists, whether or not they can drill, etc.

Tie Robin, Rainger

Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger have been signed to song writing contract for one year at 20th-Fox. They are currently writing numbers for 'Twenty-one Men and a Girl' for Associate Producer Harry Joe Brown.

Cole Committee, AMG Resume Negotiations On Franchise

A committee from the Screen Writers Guild headed by Lester Cole met with the Artists Managers Guild negotiating committee last night to resume discussion of the Guild's proposed franchise agreement with agents.

It was stated the conversation still is in the preliminary stage, with both groups reviewing the various provisions of the contract before getting down to actual negotiations. The session was held in the offices of Bert Allenberg, recently re-elected president of the AMG.

NY LEGIT OPENING

● Continued from page 1 ●

decide to blast and end up in delicatessen store.

Enacted in one set, whole affair is phoney. Only one or two characters are believable. That would not count much if play were diverting.

Phyllis Brooks left 'Panama Hattie' to join this cast, which seems an error. Louis Sorin does fairly well. Harry Bratsburg is the best of the tough guys, but in gist new play is mild cops and robbers story.

Derby 'Casters

Ted Husing and Clem McCarthy will handle the broadcast of Kentucky Derby May 3 under Gillette sponsorship for exclusive broadcast over CBS.

THE HOUSE OF MURPHY
announces
TONITE, FRIDAY the ELEVENTH
What a Night

seder
for mrs. murphy's relatives
chopped herring with egg
chopped chicken livers schmaltz
mrs. murphy's gefillte fish
russian borsht, sour cream, boiled potato
chicken soup with noodles and matzo balls
baked watertown goose, spiced apples
roast long island duck
roast spring chicken
matzo torte
cheese cake

good friday
for mr. murphy's relatives
lobster or shrimp cocktail
cherrystone clams
clam chowder
planked columbia river salmon
broiled maryland shad roe
fried filet of sole
brook trout saute
baby frog legs
crab legs newburg
desserts du jour

For Reservations Call CR 5-0191

Style Note:
The Easter Bunny's Wearing a Brown Derby This Season . . .

With the Bunny headquartering at the Brown Derby Liquor Store, you will see unusual gift baskets of assorted wines and liquors for every price and purse.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find one of the most complete liquor stocks in the country at competitive prices—each bottle stamped individually with the Brown Derby seal of approval.

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with still another
RKO-Radio

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FRANK ROSS
and
NORMAN KRASNA
present

Jean
ARTHUR
in
THE DEVIL AND MISS JONES

with
ROBERT CUMMINGS • CHARLES COBURN
Edmund GWENN - Spring BYINGTON - S.Z. SAKALL - William DEMAREST
Produced by FRANK ROSS - Written by NORMAN KRASNA
Directed by SAM WOOD, Director of "Kitty Foyle" & "Goodbye Mr. Chips"

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RKO RADIO PICTURES

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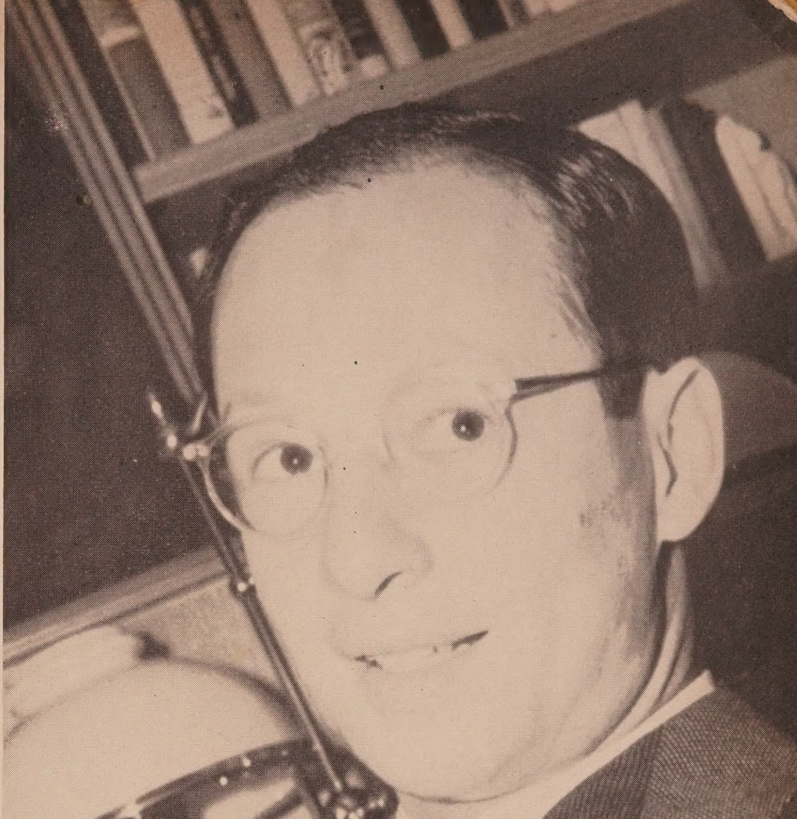
Now
AT BOTH
PANTAGES
and
HILLSTREET
Theatres!

produced by . . .

FRANK
ROSS

The Devil and Miss Jones



written by . . .

NORMAN
KRASNA

The Devil and Miss Jones

DIRECTED BY

Sam Wood

The Devil
and
Miss Jones

PRODUCTION DESIGNS

BY

William Cameron Menzies

The Devil
and
Miss Jones

JEAN
ARTHUR

The Devil and Miss Jones

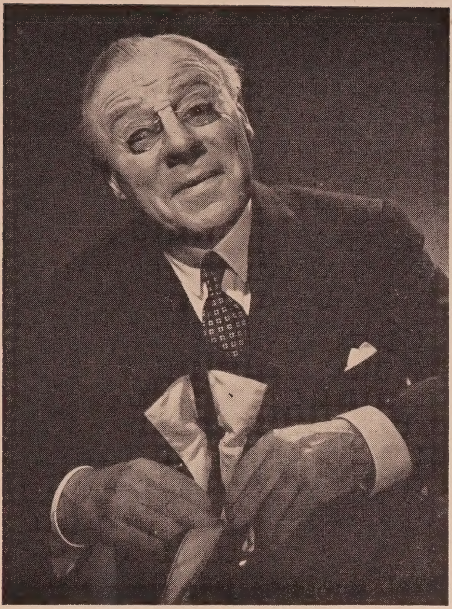
ROBERT
CUMMINGS

The Devil
and
Miss Jones

Charles Coburn

Management
IRVING SALKOW

The Devil
and
Miss Jones



Edmund Gwenn

as
HOOPER
(THE SNOOPER)

"This is the kind of a picture in which every role counts importantly. . . . Many people hold that an actor upon his first appearance, becomes immediately typed. That is, he can only play the roles for which his character sets him. But in the person of Edmund Gwenn, that belief is shattered. In 'Miss Bishop' you saw him as the kindly old professor, and in 'Foreign Correspondent' you saw him as a villainous cockney murderer, well here in 'The Devil and Miss Jones' he again plays a villain, but, so differently—the villain of the fifth floor shoe department. He is grand in a grand role."

—BOX OFFICE DIGEST.

Current Release
Plays
Inspector Coak
"SCOTLAND YARD"
20th-Fox

Forthcoming Release
Plays
Lord Fitzleigh
"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"
Paramount

Management
HAYWARD - DEVERICH, INC.

The Devil and Miss Jones

Federated Amusement Drive Hits All So. Calif. Agents

A drive by the Federated Amusement and Allied Crafts to force all theatrical agents in Southern California to line up under the American Guild of Variety Artists franchise code was disclosed yesterday. The Federation announced appointment of a policy committee composed of Federation Secretary C. J. Hyans, of AGVA; Thomas Meehan, of Los Angeles Bartenders; Eddie Pratt, of Musicians Local 47, and Carl Cooper, of Stage Employes Local 33, to work in cooperation with Federation crafts with whom agents have franchises and to prosecute bookers who are on the unfair list of the Central Labor council.

Secretary Hyans was instructed to send letters to all franchised agents advising them of the position of the Federation, which claims more than 20,000 members in Los Angeles County. These letters going into the mails today advise the agents of the various requirements in the AGVA code, particularly those which make the agent responsible for seeing that a performer is paid for his work. The agents are being advised:

That they may secure employment for and book only AGVA members in good standing, and must see that they remain in good standing during the term of their employment.

DAILY REPORTS

Daily written reports must be made to AGVA headquarters, listing all bookings of employment deals that have been handled by the agency.

The names of all artists booked and the places they are working must be included with the reports, together with a copy of their contract.

The agent also is being advised that he assumes all responsibility and liability on all contracts negotiated for artists.

In announcing the campaign, the Federation stated:

'At the meeting of the Federated Amusement and Allied Crafts held at Long Beach, composed of bartenders, stage employes, Musicians, AGVA and Culinary Workers of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, this group went on record as definitely supporting organizations affiliated therein with whom theatrical agents have signed franchises. Many complaints have been registered regarding violations, especially of Section 21, paragraphs A, B, C, D and F (AGVA), which have to do with employment of members in good standing in their respective crafts, sending in lists of people and places they are booking, also sending in contracts and being responsible for same.'

STAGE SCOOP!
KAY KYSER
and his entire COLLEGE OF MUSICAL KNOWLEDGE
AUDIENCE TAKES PART IN QUIZ
ONE WEEK ONLY
SCREEN
Paramount's "POWER DIVE"
PARAMOUNT
Direction Fanchon & Marco
FREE PARKING After 6 - 626 S. GRAND - 6th & HILL VA. 2041

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Our Wife'	Columbia	John Stahl	John Stahl	April 12
'Henry For President'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Hugh Bennett	April 9
'Cyclone On Horseback'	RKO	Bert Gilroy	Edward Killy	April 10
'Dr. Christian' No. 6	RKO	William Stephens	Erle C. Kenton	April 10
'Father Takes a Wife'	RKO	Cliff Reid	Jack Hively	April 11
'Angels With Broken Wings'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Bernard Vorhaus	April 8
'Desert Bandit'	Republic	George Sherman	George Sherman	April 9
'Belle Starr'	20th-Fox	Kenneth Macgowan	Irving Cummings	April 7
'Beyond the Law'	Universal	Jack Bernhard	George Waggner	April 7
'Abbott & Costello In the Navy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	April 8
'Halfway to Shanghai'	Universal	Marshall Grant	Noel Smith	April 9

15 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'The Son of Davy Crockett'	Columbia	Leon Barsha	Lambert Hillyer	April 15
'Enemy Within'	Metro	J. Walter Ruben	Richard Rosson	April 14
'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	April 15
'Barnacle Bill'	Metro	Milton Bren	Richard Thorpe	April 16
'Birth of the Blues'	Paramount	B. G. DeSylva	Victor Schertzinger	April 14
'Forced Landing'	Paramount	Pict. Corp.of Amer.	Gordon Wiles	April 17
'Paper Bullets'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Phil Rosen	April 15
'Murder In Uniform'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	E. B. Derr	Unassigned	April 17
'Saddlemates'	Republic	Lou Gray	Les Orlebeck	April 14
'Illusions'	UA	Alexander Korda	Julien Duvivier	April 15
'Sea Raiders'	Universal	Henry MacRae	Ford Beebe and John Rawlins	April 14
'Marshal Law'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ray Taylor	April 14
'Rhapsody In Stripes'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Unassigned	April 16
'Moonlight In Hawaii'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	April 16
'Navy Blues'	Warners	Jerry Wald and Jack Saper	Lloyd Bacon	April 16

18 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'Heaven Can Wait'	Columbia	Everett Riskin	Alexander Hall	April 21
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Unassigned	April 25
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	April 21
'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	April 28
'Secret of the Wasteland'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Unassigned	April 28
'Dildo Cay'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 1
Untitled Tim McCoy	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sigmund Neufeld	Peter Stewart	April 28
'Puddin' Head'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Joseph Santley	May 1
'A Yank In the R.A.F.'	20th-Fox	Lou Edelman	Henry King	April 21
'Michael Shayne' No. 3	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	April 21
'The Bouncer and the Lady'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Irving Pichel	April 21
'The Last of the Duanes'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	James Tinling	April 21
'The Little Foxes'	UA	Samuel Goldwyn	William Wyler	April 28
'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard'	UA	Edward Small	Tim Whelan	April 21
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corporation	Unassigned	June 10
'Smiling Ghost'	Warners	Harlan Thompson	Lew Seiler	April 21
'King's Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	April 21

Lasses White Assigned To Holt Westerns

Lee (Lasses) White has been signed at RKO to replace Emmett Lynn in the series of Tim Holt westerns, due to Lynn's illness. White's first is 'Cyclone on Horseback', which started yesterday with Marjorie Reynolds in the femme lead. Edward Killy is directing.

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from your negatives, including Kodachrome. Uniform, highest quality, color corrected, permanent, transparent prints on GASPARCOLOR film.
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ZaSu Pitts Is Joining RKO 'Epping' Series

Deal has been closed between ZaSu Pitts and RKO for actress to go into studio's 'Lord Epping' series as a regular member of the top players. Next will be 'Lord Epping in Scotland' with Leon Errol in the title role and Lupe Velez as the femme lead. Jerry Cady is now scripting.

Irving Cummings, 20th Sign New Contract

Deal between Irving Cummings and 20th-Fox whereby director is to make four pictures within the next two years yesterday was sealed after several months of preliminaries. Cummings starts new ticket after he finishes his current chore, 'Belle Starr.'

GIRL JOCKEYS RIDE AGAINST BOYS
Sunday at CALIENTE
in famous Beaux & Belles Handicap
also 2-Mile STEEPLECHASE • 13 JUMPS
4 OTHER FEATURES • 12 RACES
FIRST POST 1 P. M.

LA Mono Group Pulls Out for Frisco Regional Sat.

Los Angeles group to attend the first of the Monogram regional meetings in San Francisco tomorrow and Sunday pulls out from here tonight. W. Ray Johnston, company prexy, will preside at the sales powwow, with other speakers including Steve Broidy, sales manager; Lloyd L. Lind of the home office; Howard Stubbins, manager of the Los Angeles exchange, and Mel Hulling, head of the San Francisco office. Stubbins and Hulling are Pacific Coast franchise distributors.

Attending from the local exchange will be Marty Solomon, branch manager; Dudley Forey, head booker, and Salesmen E. J. M. McCarthy and Paul Davis.

Participating from Seattle will be Edward Crewe and William Duggin and from Portland Walter Wessling and George Jackson will attend. William McKendrick will be on hand from Salt Lake City and Connie Rose and Lon T. Fidler from Denver.

San Francisco delegation at the confab will comprise Gordon Allen, Clinton Meachem and Howard Butler.

PRINZ JOINING ROACH ON UA MUSICALS

■ Continued from page 1 ■

ports at Roach upon completion of the dance numbers chore on 'Aloma of the South Seas' at Paramount.

Roach's series of musicals, which will be made to run about 50 minutes each, are a new departure intended to take the place of the second feature on the duals, while keeping the program within shorter time bounds. First two, untitled, are in the preliminary script stage, with Paul Gerard Smith, Jeff Moffitt and Eugene Conrad on the writing chores. Another set of writers will be assigned next week.

Initial series will be five, with others to follow if these click. Names are to be used to sell the longshorts.

Hartmans Recalled

Paul and Grace Hartman, due to leave for the east to fulfill a dance engagement, have been called back to RKO for additional scenes and retakes on 'Sunny.'

Now!
SPENCER TRACY
MICKEY ROONEY
IN METRO · GOLDWYN · MAYER'S
MEN of BOYS TOWN
Directed by NORMAN TAUROG · Produced by JOHN W. CONSIDINE, Jr.
Companion Feature
"FREE AND EASY"
M-G-M HIT with ROBERT CUMMINGS · RUTH HUSSEY
World Famous Grauman's CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
General Admission 30c & 1 40c & 8 Week Days

Skouras Lauds Pix on Greek Aid; Denies Golden State Move

★ Continued from page 1 ★

of Mike Naify, general manager of T&D Jr. Enterprises, and E. H. Emmick, president of United California Theatres, joins in the denial that the Northern California circuits, in which Fox West Coast has a minority interest, have any contemplation or intention of disposing of any interest in the theatres they operate and control.

PRAISES INDUSTRY

Before leaving here yesterday, Skouras praised the picture industry for its wholesome support of the Greek War Relief. 'Never in the history of the industry', Skouras stated, 'has the response to an humanitarian cause been as great as in this drive. I cannot praise the industry enough for its share in the undertaking.'

By next Monday Skouras plans to send to Greece $500,000 already collected in American theatres for the relief fund, and later on hopes this sum will be increased to $750,000 from film houses alone. Of the $500,000 to be sent across next week, approximately $150,000 has been raised in California theatres, both circuit and independent.

Skouras stressed that Greece now, more than ever, was entitled to every possible aid on the part of the Democratic nations. 'Just as long as England is in the war; just as long as there is a war with Germany, Greece will be in it, fighting to the end', the National Theatre prexy, who is head of the Greek War Relief in this country, stated.

MAJORS MAY STOP PIX TO ANZAC

New York, April 10.—If the Australian government goes through with its proposed plan to have American distributors release through one central organization, and to all theatres, several of the large major companies have indicated they would stop sending pictures to Anzac territory.

With the likelihood that the amount of money remittance to the United States for all of the eight majors will be shaved $1,000,000 by the new coin freeze pact, few American distribs see any business sense in continuing to operate Down Under, and would step out of that market.

Hopper's Active

Hedda Hopper completed the first of her series of personality shorts for Paramount, featuring Kay Kyser, Ginny Simms and the band. Following today's Sunkist broadcast, Hedda hops to Victorville for a guest appearance at the rodeo.

THEATRE FOR RENT
Seating capacity 568
Completely equipped
NO. 23090

Obituary

WILLIAM J. MERRILL

William J. (Bill) Merrill, 43, vice-president and treasurer of RKO-Radio, died in New York early yesterday of a heart attack in his home at the Town House. Merrill, RKO executive for the past five years, previous to joining that company had held executive positions with a number of eastern firms not aligned with the picture business. He formerly was a vice-president and comptroller of the Royal Baking Powder Co., v.-p. and treasurer of the Great Island Holding Co., and v.-p. and comptroller of W. & J. Sloane.

Born in Franklin, Idaho, Merrill was a graduate of the Harvard Business School. He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Edna Merrill, of Richmond, Utah, and two children, June, 14, and W. J., Jr., 16.

WM. J. WORTHINGTON

Funeral services for William J. Worthington, 69, former stage and screen actor and organizer of Multicolor Film Co., will be held today at 4 p.m. in B. E. Dayton chapel, Beverly Hills. Cremation follows. Worthington, who also was a producer and director during his film career, is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. Rowland V. Lee, and a son, William E. Worthington. He died Wednesday following a brief illness.

WANTED—Beautiful sister dance team. Must be photogenic and good specialty dancers.
Apply at
CAMEO PRODUCTIONS
Fine Arts Studio
7250 Santa Monica Blvd.

Showdown on Disney, AF of L Battle Skeded Today

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

represented by Aubrey Blair, AF of L international representative; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

The major demand to be handed Lessing calls for recognition of the SCG as collective bargaining representative for all cartoon workers. The Guilders claim the Disney Federation is a 'company union', and insist that it represents only a small portion of the workers. Demands for agreements have already been submitted by the Teamsters and other AF of L crafts, but the outcome of negotiations hinges largely on the SCG demand for recognition.

Members have already instructed their leaders to take any action they deem necessary, and pledges of full support have been received from the International of the Brotherhood of Painters, with whom the Cartoonists are affiliated.

Tune For 'President'

Frank Loesser and Harry Barris have been assigned at Paramount to write a song for 'Henry For President.'

Merry Macs Holdover

Merry Macs have been held over at the Palladium, the new hitch taking them through May 1.

Guests Lola Lane

Lola Lane goes guesting on Bob Hope's airer (22).

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 28 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, April 14, 1941 5 Cents

IATSE LOCALS VETO TAKEOVER

COL. STRIKE PARLEY ON TODAY

A new attempt to settle the strike at the Columbia Recording Corp. will be made at 9 a.m. today, at a special conference of company and union representatives arranged by Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. labor conciliator. In the meantime, the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America announced that all offers to compromise wage demands have been withdrawn. The union has re-

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Charlie Skouras Due In Manhattan Today

Charles P. Skouras is due in New York today for a series of conferences with National Theatres home office execs. He has been conducting a series of divisional meetings preparatory to the launching of the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, which got started yesterday, Easter Sunday. Accompanying Skouras are Charles A. Buckley, head of the F-WC legal department, Andy Krappman and Tom Page.

M. C. Cooper Bedded In Nation's Capital

Merian C. Cooper, back from England after two months preparations on the Argosy picture, 'The Eagle Squadron', for United Artists release through Walter Wanger, planed immediately from New York to Washington last week and is held at the capital with siege of flu. Producer will return here this week.

Roosevelt Weds Today

James Roosevelt and Romelle Schneider will be married at 1 p.m. today at a ceremony to be performed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George P. Converse in Beverly Hills by Judge Arthur S. Guerin. Time of ceremony is contingent upon the expected arrival this morning of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt from Washington.

Arthur's 'Young'

First George Arthur production for Republic will be 'How to Die Young' story of the lads who hop up old jaloppies for dirt track racing, from original by Robert Andrews. Screen play is by Michael Simmons. Start is set for late this month.

REVIEW OF NEBR. ANTI-ASCAP LAW IN WASH. (28)

Lincoln, Neb., April 13. — Nebraska's anti-Ascap law, legally enmeshed since its enactment in 1937, and at present under an unconstitutional ban from the U. S. District court here, goes up for final review before the United States Supreme court in Washington (28). Attorney general's office here has been tipped to be ready for an hour's presentation of the state's side, which will probably be handled by William J. Hotz, who conducted the losing District court case as specially assigned prosecutor.

10,000 MEMBERS WANT HAND IN NEW DEAL

Studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes are preparing to turn thumbs down on any agreement that the International may attempt to negotiate in the East without consulting the 10,000 IATSE members here, it was disclosed last night by business representatives of the various groups. While admitting that several of the locals had asked the International for aid in setting new deals with the Producers, they said the members had no intention of surrendering their autonomy or of okaying a blanket contract that does not call for improved working conditions and other

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

MEXICO GOES WILD OVER H'D GOODWILL GROUP

Mexico City, April 13.—When the 63 people in the Hollywood party attending the Mexico City Motion Picture Festival struck Mexico City, the crowds in the streets, the cheering, laughter and happy tears of the people, the good will, were greater than at any time in the history of the relations between the United States and Mexico.

Even that occasion in 1910 when President William Howard Taft and President Porfirio Diaz stood on the border at El Paso, each in his own country, and shook hands, was eclipsed by the reception given the representatives of the American film

♣ Continued on page 8 ♣

Sturges' Idea

Preston Sturges is mulling a musical idea, tentatively titled 'Sittin' in the Ritz', as his next writer-director effort at Paramount.

Ratoff Moves Outfit To RKO-Pathe Lot

Needing more space than was available at Columbia for his independent production, 'Tonight Belongs to Us', Gregory Ratoff has moved his unit to RKO-Pathe lot and today starts selecting supporting cast. Headlining the production for Columbia release are Loretta Young, Dean Jagger and Eugenie Leontovich.

Discuss Welles' Future

George J. Schaefer and Orson Welles spent the weekend at Palm Springs discussing Welles' future productions at RKO.

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, April 13.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Amapola	Marks
Wise Old Owl	BMI
Walkin' By the River	BMI
Look At Me Now	Embassy
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Do I Worry?	Southern
I Understand	Feist
My Sister and I	BMI
San Antonio Rose	Berlin
Intermezzo	Schubert

LEDERER, CANOVA TOP 'PUDDIN''

Francis Lederer will play the top bracket with Judy Canova in Republic's 'Puddin' Head', designed as one of the studio's major efforts and budgeted at $750,000. Bulwarking cast also are Slim Summerville, Eddie Foy, Jr., and Ama Kruger.

Producer Albert J. Cohen and Di-

◆ Continued on page 5 ◆

Altschuler Quits Rep; Horwitz In Spot

Richard Altschuler, for past 18 months purchasing agent at Republic, has resigned. With his family, he left for the east yesterday and from there will shortly announce a new connection. Al Horwitz, head of Republic's camera department, moves into purchasing spot today, and Horwitz's assistant, Robert Johannes, moves up to head the camera squad.

John Payne Assigned Role In 'Day'

John Payne will play the male lead opposite Claudette Colbert in 20th-Fox's 'Remember the Day'. This will be Payne's first straight dramatic role at 20th, his previous appearances having been in musicals. He is currently in 'Sun Valley'.

Dietz Talks Outlines

Howard Dietz, head of Metro's advertising and publicity, is conferring with studio executives on proposed upping of national exploitation budgets on 'A Woman's Face'. 'Billy the Kid' and 'Love Crazy'.

Spot De LaMotte

Marguerite De LaMotte, returning to pictures, will have a role with Jean Hersholt in the next Stevens-Lang 'Dr. Christian' feature.

REVIEWED

WILDCAT OF TUCSON
(Col)

(Review on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Helen Hover to Honolulu for month's siesta.

Joan Crawford is training to New York on brief holiday.

Beverly Tropics inaugurating a Rhumba Club on (20).

Ann Miller has moved into new home with her mother.

Columbia's 'Blondie In Society' on location in San Fernando valley.

Bronislau Kaper is doing music score on Metro's 'Barnacle Bill'.

Peggy Carrol signed as dance director on Republic's 'Puddin' Head'.

Hal Rosson will shoot tests for Metro's 'Smilin' Through' this week.

Charles Hunt is unit production manager on Metro's 'Honkey Tonk'.

Jane Wyman out of Warners 'Bad Men of Missouri' with flu for several days.

Vincente Minnelli has been signed to term at Metro as music and dance arranger.

Joan Hathaway has been signed as dialog director on Universal's 'Abbott and Costello In the Navy'.

Patti McCarty, Columbia's new looker, spent weekend at Catalina posing for mag photographers.

Director George Cukor is in northern California for few days prior to starting new Greta Garbo film.

Arthur Murray's new dance, 'Trumpin', to be given special premiere at the Palladium Wednesday night.

Mary Orford, mag contact in Universal's home office, returns to New York today after brief interval at studio.

Chester Conklin has stretched original one-day bit role into three week built-up part in Columbia's 'Betty Co-ed'.

Bill Bacher passed a few hours here Friday between planes on his return to Chicago after resting up on a ranch in Arizona.

Larry Brunswick and David Lees, collaborators on forthcoming book, 'Lens Logic', back from camera trek to China and Japan.

The Extras Advisory Council has invited the dress extras, cowboys, dancers, singers and bit players to send representatives to its next meeting Tuesday night (15) at 1753 N. Highland. Chairman Harry Mayo will preside.

Benny the Gouge sez—With juke boxes popping up in every nook and cranny, the show business is going back to nickelodeon. Thar's gold in them thar nickels.

Hollywood Inside

AN APPEAL for a united front labor drive to defeat anti-labor legislation pending in the State Assembly was sounded Friday night by J. K. (Spike) Wallace, prexy of the Musicians Local 47. Speaking to representatives of various film unions and guilds at the Roosevelt Hotel, Wallace stated that the situation facing labor was critical. He said some of the pending bills would destroy the labor movement, and pleaded that the 'prestige and power of Hollywood' be thrown behind a movement to bring about their defeat. Wallace said that the Musicians were going on the air weekly over KFWB with an appeal for moral and financial support for the program. The first musical show is scheduled for Thursday night (17). Senator Robert Kenny also spoke on the situation at Sacramento and the necessity for a combined drive by labor. It was agreed that a permanent committee of one from each union and guild be formed. Delegates were to return to their organizations for approval and another meeting was called for Friday (18). Among those represented at the meeting were painters, cartoonists, laboratory technicians, machinists, set designers, film editors, publicists, readers, writers, actors and clerical workers.

☆ ☆ ☆

SINCE the press preview of 'Citizen Kane' and plans of RKO to release the film, mysterious efforts to 'invade his privacy' are reported by Orson Welles, writer-actor-director-producer of the much-discussed picture which was protested by friends of a publisher on the ground that the fiction too closely paralleled certain episodes in his career. Welles' draft board was solicited, without acquiescence because of the local prohibition, by a persistent inquirer to give intimate information about Welles' status, his affairs, his address. Persons representing themselves as real estate men (and who may have been just that) began making similar inquiries at Palm Springs where Welles stopped off on way back from setting his play, 'Native Son', in New York. While Welles and Dolores Del Rio were strolling in Palm Springs home grounds of Dr. Maurice Bernstein, who adopted Welles as a young lad, a news photographer dashed up in an auto and made pictures. Other approaches of similar nature have been reported by Welles within the past few days. The attempt to get information on Welles' army questionnaire were checked by his business manager, who learned the source of the inquiry.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT, which bought Dalton Trumbo's 'Remarkable Andrew' for $27,500, shelved it because the studio assumed that its somewhat anti-British flavor and its anti-war attitude would offend the English market and would be unpopular in many sections of this country, as well. Interesting commentary on that assumption is the fact that a London publishing house, Bodley Head Company, has bought the British rights and will issue the novel there immediately. 'Andrew' was bought here for pictures before publication, on strength of the first 10 chapters and an outline of the remaining chapters. Same London publishing company also has option to issue 'Johnny Got His Gun' after conclusion of the war.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS is sending photos of 100 stock girls, small feature part players and femme extras to all U. S. Navy bases in connection with the picture, 'Navy Blues', from which the gobs are expected to select the six most beautiful glamees. The selected beauts will then be called the Navy Sextette and will be exploited and popularized by Warners in an effort to have the gals approximate the distinction of the old Floradora Sextette. Sailors will be asked to pick ten, and out of these the six finalists will be named. They will be featured in the picture, given important billing and sustained exploitation. Studio is trying to find one of the original Floradoras to act as 'chaperon' for the Navy's choice.

☆ ☆ ☆

BIDS for loan of Dorothy Comingore, who scored with an outstanding performance as the singer-protege of the publisher in RKO's 'Citizen Kane', have been renewed by Paramount and Metro. Both these studios had made her offers after 'Kane', but RKO took up its option and is canvassing roles in forthcoming pictures which will be commensurate with actress' marked talents. Miss Comingore was previously at Warners and at Columbia, having terminated at latter studio on amiable settlement of stock contract because desired roles were not forthcoming. She is currently vacationing at Carmel with her husband.

☆ ☆ ☆

A SHOWDOWN in the American Federation of Labor drive to unionize the Walt Disney Studio has been postponed until this week. The decision is reported to still hinge on the attitude of executves toward the independent guild, which AF of L leaders have branded as a 'company union.' Aubrey Blair, AF of L organizer, and other labor tops are scheduled to contact Gunther Lessing, Disney attorney, today, at which time arrangements will be made as to future negotiations between the two groups. It is probable that the first get together meeting will be held tomorrow.

☆ ☆ ☆

DR. ORLANDO E. MILLER, who served a prison sentence in connection with a film stock fraud, is not the father of Patsy Ruth Miller, former film star, as was erroneously reported in a recent issue of Daily Variety. Father of the actress, Oscar W. Miller, died in June, 1939. Similarity of names coupled with the fact that Dr. Miller has a daughter named Ruth, also formerly in pictures, was responsible for the inadvertence.

☆ ☆ ☆

ORA O. PARKS again heads the Cole Bros. circus press department for the 1941 season, which opens April 25 at Louisville, Ky. Also in the press department will be A. E. Waltrip, G. Cornwall Spencer and William Oliver, latter functioning as contracting press agent. Spencer formerly worked on Chicago newspapers, and was with the Cole outfit during the season of 1939.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

By Greenland's icy mountains
And India's coral strand,
By subterranean fountains
And on the desert land
The scouts are prowling night and day
Over the hills and far away.

In near and distant nations,
By plane and horse and steam,
They seek strange situations
To stage a picture preem.
A film premiere would feel forlorn
In Hollywood where films are born.

★ ★ ★

Between Miss Jones and Daniel Webster, the Devil is one of the busiest individuals in Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

After wearing 24 gorgeous matador costumes in 'Blood and Sand', Tyrone Power will be satisfied if he never has to look another bull in the face.

Bob Taylor gallops from one cowboy picture to another and the next thing you know, he will break out with a croon.

Bicycle craze is coming back and Jerry Colonna feels right at home. He has natural handlebars.

★ ★ ★

Crime does not pay, according to the radio, but the screen villains are always busy while many a hero is out of work.

★ ★ ★

The ragged urchin looked with awe upon the moppet star
Who hastened to his labor in a swanky motor car.
The moppet, weary of his toil, cut loose a heavy sigh
And gazed with hopeless envy on the ragged little guy.

★ ★ ★

Tex Ritter, the hardy outdoorsman is sponsoring a girls' bowling team, which is a good idea in its way, but who ever heard of a cowboy spurring his trusty steed through a Brunswick-Balke arroyo?

★ ★ ★

Orson Welles, they tell us, wants to play 'Cyrano de Bergerac' in Technicolor, and Bill Fields has no ambitions in that direction, although he could do it without a make-up.

★ ★ ★

Toughest task in a film star's life is that of living up to his press agent's yarns. Joe Zilch, for example, suddenly discovers that he is a collector of first editions, which disrupts his mode of life. Up to that time he had always bought the edition carrying the eighth race.

★ ★ ★

The wrestler burped a woeful burp and hung his head in shame:
'The films have cast aspersions on the grand old grappling game.'
A startling revelation — for the world had never known
That anybody could malign the art of grunt-and-groan.

★ ★ ★

Milton Berle, the Beverly Hillbilly, took a look at the weather and ordered portholes instead of windows in his new house.

Film Review

Wildcat of Tucson

(*Western*)

Columbia production. Stars Bill Elliott. Features Evelyn Young, Stanley Brown, Dub Taylor. Supporting players: Kenneth MacDonald, Ben Taggart, Edmund Cobb, George Lloyd, Sammy Stein. Director, Lambert Hillyer. Associate producer, Leon Barsha. Original screen play, Fred Myton. Photography, George Meehan. Film editor, Charles Nelson. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, April 11. Running time: 59 mins.

Columbia's series of Wild Bill Hickok westerns have hit a steady pace for out-of-doors entertainment, and 'Wildcat of Tucson' is no exception. Starring Bill Elliott, series' latest entry is a neat package of better-than-average western formula aimed straight at satisfying those Saturday matinee and night audiences who find particular delight in the doings of sagebrush heroes. Elliott is an extremely likeable crusader against desert wrongdoing and hits the mark with his followers for solid, all-around satisfaction in the field of two-gun Gallahads.

Wild Bill is absent, leaving his younger brother in the doubtful caretaking hands of Dub Taylor, a clumsy, comical film cowpoke. Dave Hickok, incensed at the conniving of law and order with a slick confidence man to steal the Arizona ranches of old established settlers, gets himself jailed by trying to fight the settlers' battles. Taylor rides for Wild Bill and the latter works with a deadly smoothness to right all wrongs and round up the bad men. Elliott's Wild Bill character, in addition to the usual riding and shooting ability of such leads, has also a feeling of reality and depth that is without exception among our flock of screen gunwearers.

In addition to the Elliott talents, Columbia has gifted this oater with Stanley Brown, a young man whose personality indicates the ability to leap from straight prairie ballad to the feature production class with only a bit more training. Evelyn Young is the heroine, Kenneth MacDonald the chief villain. Both are more than eligible in their assignments. Dub Taylor's corny concertino playing and even more corny warbling are a refreshing relief from the accepted practice of stopping a gunfight for the crooning of some nostalgic ditty about the range. His comedy is broad and perfect for his audience. Ben Taggart, Edmund Cobb, George Lloyd and Sammy Stein lend the best of support.

Lambert Hillyer's direction never sluffs a scene in the original script by Fred Myton. George Meehan's camera is good, and Leon Barsha's production is all that could be asked in the western field.

Sparkuhl On 'Living'

Theodor Sparkuhl has been assigned to head cameraman spot on 'Among the Living' at Paramount. Haldane Douglas will be art director and Joe Youngerman assistant director.

BELIEVE IN $IGNS

Convinced that they have something in the modernized treatment of old melodrama, as tried out successfully in 'The Great Train Robbery', Republic executives are preparing to repeat and carry the experiment further with a streamlined version of 'From Rags to Riches', a whiskeroo from the ancient footlights. Joe Kane will produce and direct, as he did on 'Train Robbery'. Michael Simmons has been assigned to screen play.

U's 'Flame' Premieres At New Orleans Orph April 24

Universal's 'Flame of New Orleans' will have its premiere at New Orleans Orpheum theatre (24). Several cast players, plus a contingent of contract actors, will train out of here (21) on the Sunset Limited, arriving there (23) and returning (27). Producer Joe Pasternak, Director Rene Clair, Bruce Cabot, Roland Young, Andy Devine, Mischa Auer, all in the picture, and Hugh Herbert, Peggy Moran, Helen Parrish and Anne Gwynne will head the guest group. Marlene Dietrich, working at Warners, will not be able to attend.

Mayor of New Orleans has proclaimed the premiere occasion a city holiday and elaborate plans for entertainment and civic celebration have been made.

SMPE Set Program For Rochester

New York, April 13.—New improvements in sound, including demonstrations and papers on Western Electric Stereophonic, Disney's Fantasound, and Warners Vitasound, together with control tracks and multiple horns, will highlight the spring convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Sagamore hotel, Rochester, May (5-8). Joint meeting with the Acoustical Society of America (7) will include symposium and demonstration of Stereophonic system to be presented by Bell Telephone Laboratories.

Valentine Heads East

Lew Valentine, original 'Dr. I. Q.' of the radio-theatre quiz program, has left the combo following a Seattle engagement, and heads for New York. Valentine, who has been with the program for past two and a half years spent the weekend here before going east.

Betty Field Returns

Betty Field returns from New York today to resume work under her term Paramount contract, having finished role in Elmer Rice's play, 'Flight to the West'. She is being considered for role of Maria in 'For Whom the Bell Tolls.'

McLeod Ends 'Good'

Director Norman McLeod finished dramatic sequences on Metro's musical, 'Lady Be Good', on Saturday. Special dance numbers with Eleanor Powell still have to be shot during next 10 days.

20th Readers Write

Robert Metzler and William Bruckner, readers in 20th-Fox story department, have been assigned by Executive Producer Sol M. Wurtzel to write the script on remake of Zane Grey's 'Riders of the Purple Sage.'

Wallace Ford Seeking 'Press' For B'dway

Wallace Ford, who played the lead in 'Roar of the Press' with Jean Parker at Monogram, is negotiating with Scott R. Dunlap, producer for the stage rights to story. Ford plans a Broadway production this summer if suitable protection against the picture's playdates in the New York area can be set. It is likely Jed Prouty will repeat his managing director part in the legit presentation. Piece will be in two acts and 13 scenes.

Healy, Dandridge Set For Soundies Pix

Mary Healy and Dorothy Dandridge have been signed for short reel musicals to be produced by Cameo Productions for Roosevelt-Mills Soundies. Latter is commuting between 20th-Fox where she is working in 'Sun Valley', and the Fine Arts Studio, where Cameo films are being made.

Pete Smith Busy-ness

With one subject slated to start production early this week, another to follow soon and three in film editing process, Pete Smith will have five Specialties going within two weeks at Metro as a high mark for several seasons. Following a subject dealing with the U. S. Army, will be 'Water Bugs'. 'Lion Cub Adventures' and a dance short, 'Cuban Rhythm', are being edited, and 'Aero-Nutics' is having commentations recorded.

'Uniform' In Valley

Simulated battle scenes for Metro's Clarence Brown production, 'The Uniform', will be shot all this week near Calabasas. Clark Gable, co-starred with Rosalind Russell, will be in major scenes.

Set Marjorie Keeler

Marjorie Keeler, coming here from Chicago musical comedy stage, has been signed by Paramount for role in 'Henry for President'. She is sister of Ruby Keeler.

Trio For 'Ozarks'

Johnny Arthur, Edwin Stanley and George Chandler have been handed featured roles in Republic's 'Thunder Over the Ozarks'.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

'**AH, that's what I call a good com**edy situation', sighed Jim Jordan (Fibber McGee) as he cast an approving glance at Scripter Don Quinn. Then he made the mistake of tuning in the Maxwell House program. There it was, a slight variation of his pet fishing bit. Quinn grimaced a couple of times and then sat himself down at the typewriter to bat out another situation for tomorrow's program, sans fish and not too likely to be coincidental. Flipped Jordan, 'it'll probably be out of this world.' . . . When Eddie Cline started directing Universal's 'Hello, Sucker', he gave every member of the cast and crew an all-day sucker as a gageroo. Saturday, on completion of picture, the company retaliated by giving Eddie a gigantic all-year sucker, too feet in diameter, which director expects to last long enough for his grandchildren to polish off. . . . Charles Coburn, back from personal appearance tour with RKO's 'The Devil and Miss Jones', learned a bit of interesting personal history at the Savannah (Ga.) Theatre in his old home town—the fact that this year is his 50th anniversary in show biz. Actor started at that second oldest standing theatre in America as an usher in 1891.

Martha Raye, accompanied by Neil Lang, eastern hotel owner to whom she is engaged for marriage when her divorce becomes final, arrived here to check in at Warners for role in 'Navy Blues' as her first in films for some time.

RAY MILLAND, vacationing with his wife in New York, is going to get that boat trip from Manhattan to Los Angeles he's been dreaming about for years. They board the boat within the next few days—unless the hoodoo is still working—to bring him back here for Paramount's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' . . . Walter Wanger discusses phases of defense activities in an article in the American Magazine for May, under title 'Our Biggest Bother.'

Wilfred Buckland, first art director to receive film credit in the early Hollywood days, will be given a testimonial dinner Friday (18) by the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors and allied crafts in the industry. The affair will be held at the Hollywood A.C. Jesse L. Lasky will head a list of guest speakers. A program of entertainment also is being lined up.

THE Andrews Sisters and Sunny O'Dea had a score of newspaper and mag writers twitching with the boogie-woogie willies at Universal Friday when they played host to the scribes at lunch and on the set of

★ Continued on page 9 ★

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .
GEORGE ARTHUR PRODUCER
(REPUBLIC)

Pagano, Fessier Ogle Army Camp For Col Flicker

Producer Sam Bischoff at Columbia has dispatched Ernest Pagano and Michael Fessier, writers, as part of unit to Camp Haan, Riverside, on first stop on extensive scouting trip for 'You'll Never Get Rich', which may carry Columbia to U. S. Army camps on first major location jaunt to be undertaken with the defense program. Picture is slated to roll soon after May 1, with Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth co-starred.

Bob Alton has been imported from Broadway to stage dance and production numbers, and Columbia on Saturday signed Tommy Chambers, recording pianist, to accompany Astaire and Miss Hayworth in routines.

Bob Hope Plans Vacash For Crew In NY

Bob Hope figures on taking his entire radio troupe to New York for a two weeks 'vacash' upon completion of his work in Paramount's 'Nothing But the Truth'. Players to be taken east by the comic include Jerry Colonna, Brenda and Cobina, the Six Hits and a Miss, and Bill Goodwin. Present plan is to leave here May 27, with Hope making a personal appearance at the opening in New York of 'Caught in the Draft'.

CBS Lines Up Airers For Free Company

CBS has lined up two programs in the Free Company series for Irving Reis to direct. First will be Archibald MacLeish's 'States Talking', to be aired Sunday. Following sabbath he takes the rein on Paul Muni in Maxwell Anderson's 'Miracle of the Danube.'

Tune For Naish

Discovering that J. Carrol Naish has an excellent singing voice which has not yet been heard in motion pictures, William C. Thomas, of the Pine-Thomas organization, has engaged Frank Loesser and Victor Young to write a special song for him to be sung in 'Forced Landing', for Paramount. Song is 'Bandolero', with Naish singing it as a part of his role as the good bad man in the production.

New Lantz Character

Walter Lantz has created a new character, Woody Woodpecker, which he will feature in four of his 13 cartoons for Universal this season. Four others will feature Andy Panda, and four will be musicals, with the extra probably being a narration subject.

WHEN SPEED'S YOUR NEED
PHONE TELEGRAMS TO
Postal Telegraph
CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday, (April 5-11). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
Amapola	Marks	28
Wise Old Owl	BMI	27
High On a Windy Hill	BMI	26
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	22
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	19
Georgia On My Mind	Southern	19
Lullabye Lane	Warren	19
You Walked By	BMI	18
Walkin' By the River	BMI	18
Things I Love	Campbell	17
Do I Worry?	Southern	15
Song of the Islands	Marks	15

TAPLINGER TOPS DEFENSE BODY

Bob Taplinger, chief praiser for Warners, has been appointed chairman of a newly formed film group to be known as the Publicity and Trailer Division of the Motion Picture Committee for National Defense. This group will direct promotion for the sale of defense savings bonds and stamps. The national campaign gets under way May 1.

Taplinger was selected unanimously at a meeting of the Publicity Directors Committee Friday, with heads of the trailer departments from the various studios in attendance. The session, held at the Producers' Association, was called by Howard Dietz, of the Treasury Department. John Joseph presided.

Obituary

C. S. (TINK) HUMPHREY

Funeral services for C. S. (Tink) Humphrey, 64, will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the chapel of the Ross-Jones Mortuary, Van Nuys. Humphrey, for many years connected with the B. F. Keith Vaudeville Exchange, died of a heart attack Saturday at his home, 14345 Sherman Way in Van Nuys.

Humphrey, born in Lansing, Mich., first started as a song plugger there, later joining the Keith office and headed the Chicago end for around 28 years. He left the organization in 1930 and took up his residence in Hollywood two years later. During his vaudeville booking career he handled many of the top names, such as the Marx Brothers, Chic Sale and Al Jolson. He had been inactive here because of ill health since starting out with the Harry Sherman Productions at the time it was getting under way with its Hopalong Cassidy series.

Two daughters survive, Mrs. Audrey Kennedy and Mrs. Claudia Cage.

MIKE ALLMAN

Mike Allman, who with his brother operated the Snake Farm near Palm Springs, died last Wednesday and was buried Saturday at Sawtelle Soldiers Home as a war vet. The Allmans had supplied reptiles for motion pictures for many years.

First Bid

First request for world premiere of 'One Foot in Heaven', film dealing with the activities of a Protestant clergyman as written by his son, Hartzel Spence, has been received at Warners. It comes from Ft. Dodge, Iowa, where the minister organized the First Methodist church.

Clay Morgan In Town For Benny Tribute

Clay Morgan, assistant to NBC prexy, Niles Trammell, arrived from New York over the weekend to take charge of arrangements for the 10th anniversary tribute to Jack Benny at the Biltmore Bowl May 9. He remains here until after the dinner.

Show Plane For Charity

The German Messerschmidt brought to the Vultee Airplane Co. sometime ago for observation has been turned over to the British war relief groups in Southern California. Plane will go on exhibition at Gilmore stadium beginning April 17. Understood that Vultee turned down offers running as high as $50,000 from various firms to exploit the ship for their commercial purposes. Jackson Parks is boosting the show for the association.

Kennedy Chored

Edgar Kennedy today was set for the role of the veterinarian in Columbia's 'Blondie in Society', ninth of the Blondie series being directed by Frank Strayer. Kennedy will work with Arthur Lake, whom he directed as a child actor in silent days, Penny Singleton and Larry Simms as soon as he completes work in his 67th RKO starring short.

Gas'er Season Over

Screen Guild Theatre winds up another season for Good Gulf gasoline with Sunday's broadcast of 'Hired Wife.' Melvyn Douglas and Joan Blondell are bracketed.

Bill Stern Upped

New York, April 13.—Bill Stern, ace sportscaster for NBC, has been named director of sports events for the double network.

Smoker Options Welles

Liggett and Myers tobacco outfit has taken an option on Orson Welles for a radio show. It would be for Chesterfield.

Weiss Gives Decish On Ascap Washup As He Goes East

Little likelihood of any definite decisions on resumption of relations between broadcasters and American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers can be expected before annual meeting of National Association of Broadcasters in St. Louis, May 12-15, it was indicated by Lewis Allen Weiss, headman of the Don Lee network, on the eve of his departure today for New York. He was summoned to New York by directors of the Mutual network for another parley with the Ascap committee.

Weiss said that the Mutual board is still exploring formulae for a basis on which to proceed toward settlement of the music controversy and that all developing from this week's meeting would be the framing of recommendations for submission to the group of stockholders.

Through a gracious gesture by Gene Buck, Ascap prexy, the Don Lee network was enabled to use religious music, controlled by the Society, on its Easter and pre-Easter broadcasts from Forest Lawn and Hollywood Bowl, Weiss declared.

Committee representing CBS in the music scrap met with Ascap last Friday in New York to set up a basis of procedure.

SOEG, Universal In Session Tonight

Negotiations between the Screen Office Employes Guild and Universal get underway tonight, with a meeting between the SOEG and RKO tentatively set for Wednesday night (16). The SOEG demands have already been presented to both companies, and these sessions were arranged to begin discussing the various clauses in the proposed contracts. The SOEG negotiators who meet with Universal executives tonight are Prexy Glenn Pratt, Ben Batchelder, Lucy Monroe, Barbara Alexander, Harry Peale, Nate Golter. Attorney George E. Bodle will sit in to call the legal shots.

Mahoney's Malarkey

Wilkie C. Mahoney is set at Paramount to write gags for 'Birth of the Blues.' Technical assignments on the picture include Harold Schwartz as assistant production manager, Hal Walker, assistant director and Ernest Fegte as art director.

Goldsmith's 'Hawaii'

'Moonlight in Hawaii' is title of the filmusical Ken Goldsmith will make at Universal, with Charles Lamont to direct. The Merry Macs have been set for featured spot.

Snowflake's Subbed

Snowflake replaced Mantan Moreland on final day's takes for Republic's 'The Gay Vagabond', which washed up Saturday. Moreland was held in another picture.

Signs Nine-year-old

William Dieterle has signed Lindy Wade, nine-year-old, to good part in his production at RKO, 'The Devil and Daniel Webster'.

Maney Joins 'Blondes'

Jerry Maney has checked in at Universal for a part in 'Too Many Blondes.'

First Academy Still Show Opens Tonite With 500 Prints

The Academy's First Annual Still Photography Show opens tonight at the Academy's Review theatre, 1455 N. Gordon, with more than 500 prints entered by 59 of the top still lensers in the film industry. The affair, sponsored by the Public Relations Institute of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, will be made a regular event on the Academy's program each year.

Gold medals will be presented to the winner in each of the eight events. Certificates of merit will go to the eight second-place winners as a reward for their work.

Presentation of awards will start at 8 p.m., with Perry Lieber acting as emcee. The awards will be presented by Carole Landis, Jane Wyman, Anne Gwynne, John Carradine, Ronald Reagan and Walter Wanger, prexy of the Academy. The show is open to the public, and amateur camera fans will be permitted to bring their cameras and photograph everything and everybody.

During the two weeks' run of the affair there will be a 'special night' each night of the show. On these nights the various studios will turn out their stars and other employes to visit the exhibit. The following schedule of 'special nights' has been arranged: April 14, opening night; April 15, Academy night; April 16, Metro night; April 17, Warners night; April 18, 20th-Fox night; April 19, Universal night; April 20, freelance night; April 21, Paramount night; April 22, Columbia night; April 23, United Artists night; April 24, RKO night; April 25, Republic-Monogram night; April 26, press photographers night; April 27, closing night, when a special trophy will be presented for the most popular still in the show as selected by those who have attended.

The following are among the still men with pictures entered in the show: Virgil Apger, Ernest A. Bachrach, Frank Bjerring, Milton Brown, Clarence Bull, Eric Carpenter, Sherman Clark, Robert Coburn, Schuyler Crail, Ed Cronenweth, Warner Crosby, Mack Elliott, John Ellis, Ed Estabrook, Thomas Evans, Roman Freulich, Elmer Freyer, Milton Gold, Stax Graves, William Grimes, Fred Hendrickson, Jerry Hester, Ira Hoke, Eddie Jones, Ray Jones, Mac Julian, Alexander P. Kahle, Gene Kormann, Madison Stoner Lacy, Irving Lippman.

C. Kenneth Lobben, Gaston Longet, Bert Longworth, Bert Lynch, Hal McAlpin, James Manatt, Mickey Marigold, Clifton Maupin, John Miehle, J. C. Milligan, Fred R. Morgan, Ray Nolan, M. B. Paul, Frank Powolny, G. E. Richardson, Eugene Robert Richee, A. L. (Whitey) Schafer, Emmett Schoenbaum, Ned Scott, Merritt Sibbald, Oliver Sigurdson, Bert Six, Frank Tanner, Anthony Ugrin, William Wallace, William Walling, Charles Scott Welbourne, Lazlo Willinger, Jack Woods.

House Cuts Admish

Pickfair theatre at Pico and Fairfax has reduced its admission tariff from 25c to 20c. House, recently completed, is operated by Ben Mohi, indie.

COLUMBIA RECORDING PARLEY ON TODAY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

submitted its original demand that the minimum ceiling be lifted from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents, with an increase of approximately 10 cents per hour in the higher classifications.

The walkout started at 7 a.m. Friday, after the deadline had been shoved back 24 hours in the hope that Conciliator Fitzgerald would be able to arrange an amicable settlement. It is reported that an agreement had been reached between the local management and the union, but that the home offices at Bridgeport, Conn., turned thumbs down on the deal.

The call for a stoppage of work was then sounded, and the employes marched out 100%, according to union officers. This claim was not denied by company executives, who admitted that an agreement had been made that they would not even attempt to use their offices during the duration of the strike. The union said that 85 employes were affected.

A picket line was immediately established, with both male and femme workers marching. A sound truck was on hand to furnish music for the pickets. Strike headquarters were opened at 1030 N. Seward. It also was announced that flash picket lines would move in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. from time to time unless the strike is quickly ended, the first having been staged Saturday. It was reported last night that CBS executives would enter the negotiations today.

Columbia services the record business for the 11 Western states, handling a big portion of the radio transcription. The Bridgeport local of the union had advised union tops here that it will refuse to accept any transcriptions from west of the Rockies during the duration of the strike.

Robert Kennedy is chairman of the union negotiating committee, with William B. Elconin sitting in as international representative for the union, which is affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Original negotiations for the company were handled by James Hunter and James Murray, vice-presidents, with Paul Crowley, plant manager, finally taking over.

LEDERER, CANOVA TOP 'PUDDIN''

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

rector Joseph Santley start the picture (21), with more character and bit players than have ever previously been signed by a Republic feature. Extra calls total 1,500. Two large sets are being completed for 'Puddin' Head', one to occupy stage 4 entirely. Five songs by Eddie Cherkose and Jule Styne are spotted, 'You're Tellin' I', 'Puddin' Head', 'Manhattan Matinee', 'For Instance' and 'Hey, Junior!'

Fifth Ave. Theatre Opens Its Doors

Completed more than 15 months ago by Southside Theatres, but never opened because of inadequate film product, the Fifth Avenue theatre, deluxer on Manchester avenue, was formally opened last Saturday by Fox West Coast Theatres, which a short time ago closed a deal for acquisition of the house. Policy will be move-over from the Academy, a F-WC house located a little more than a block away on Manchester. Lester Witmore has been installed as manager by Stan Meyer, who is operating chief. F-WC also opened its Adams theatre in San Diego last Saturday after house had been shuttered since February for remodeling.

Iris Meredith Lead

Iris Meredith gets femme lead with Bill Elliott in Columbia's 'The Son of Davy Crockett'. Others in cast are Don Curtis, Paul Scardon, Richard Fiske, Stanley Brown, Lloyd Bridges, Eddie Laughton and John Tyrrell.

'Hyde' Washes Up

'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' washed up at Metro on Saturday, releasing Spencer Tracy who goes to New York on Wednesday for short stay before reporting at Ocala, Fla., for 'The Yearling'.

Timely

Omaha, Neb., April 13.—Decision of the Nebraska Supreme court outlawing Prosperity Club giveaways could not have been timed better, as far as saving showmen risks here. Omaha pot was up to $1,200, and the decision, declaring the giveaway scheme a lottery, came through just a few minutes ahead of theatre opening time.

Nunnally Johnson Duets On 20th 'World Shook'

Nunnally Johnson will have the associate producer spot and also do script on 'The Night the World Shook', at 20th-Fox. Screen play is an adaptation of Steven Wendt's novel, 'Eight Hundred Convicts March On Caraibo'. Jean Renoir, French director recently signed to term deal by 20th, will work with Johnson in preparations.

Writers Get Awards

Seventeenth annual one-act playwriting competition, sponsored by the Berkeley Playmates, of Berkeley, brought awards to six California writers. First prize, $100 and a special award of $25 went to Rosali Moore of Berkeley, for her playet, 'The Season's Greetings.' Other California winners were 'Remember, Jesu, Remember', by Julius Speedman of Los Angeles; 'Bread Upon the Waters', by Lill M. Lever, of Berkeley; 'Lamplight of Words', by Douglas Bronston of Hollywood; 'The Pictures Live', by Lionel Ormsby of Weimar, Cal., and 'Will the Spring Ever Come?' by Monica Ward of San Francisco. A total of 396 playlets was entered in the competition.

DeVinna's 'Barnacle'

Clyde DeVinna has been assigned to lens Metro's 'Barnacle Bill'.

Dowling Play Bows At Biltmore; Other Legit Spottings

After being dark for number of stanzas, Biltmore theatre relights tonight with the premiere of a two-week engagement of 'The Time of Your Life'. Eddie Dowling and Julie Haydon will interpret their original New York roles. Play is only one in the history of legit to be awarded both the Pulitzer prize and the New York Drama Critics award. On May 22 Biltmore opens a summer run with the new version of 'Pins and Needles' at bargain summer prices. Musical has the original New York cast which has just completed 16 weeks at the Studebaker theatre in Chicago.

'Rose Marie' will hold for a third week at the Mason, where Arthur Spitz is presenting operetta at motion picture prices. It will be followed (23) by 'The Merry Widow'.

'Gas Light' continues to attract patrons to the Hollywood Playhouse and looks assured another two weeks or more.

Pair For 'President'

Margaret Hayes and Christian Rub join the cast of 'Henry for President' at Paramount.

Title Changes

Monogram's 'At the Villa Rose' now titled 'House of Mystery'. Feature was made in England by the Associated British Picture Corp., and is being released in the U. S. by Mono.

'Washington Correspondent', Republic, to 'White House Correspondent'.

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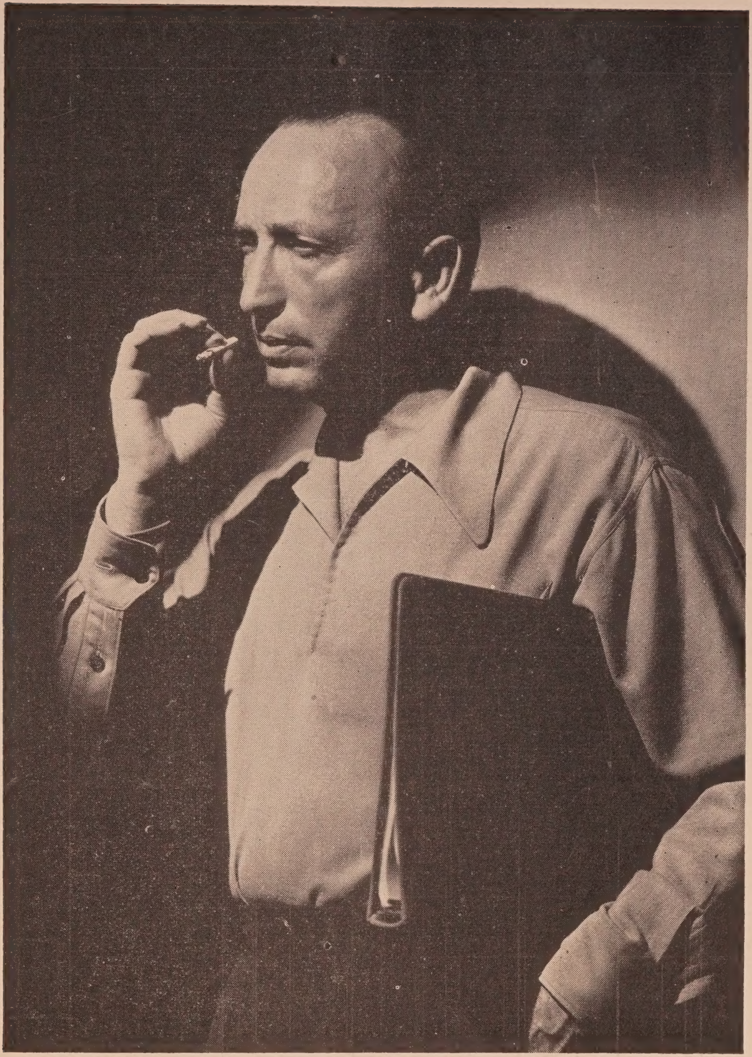
"The Sea Wolf"

A WARNER BROS. PICTURE



MICHAEL CURTIZ

DIRECTOR

In Production
"DIVE BOMBER"

"The Sea Wolf"

A WARNER BROS. PICTURE

Screen Publicists Meeting (16) On NY Request

Telegrams calling a special membership meeting of the Screen Publicists Guild for Wednesday night (16) were sent out over the weekend under instructions from Prexy Lesley Mason. The session will be held at Guild headquarters on North Vine.

The first business on the agenda will be request of the New York Guild for support in its fight for recognition as collective bargaining representatives for eastern flacks. A resolution pledging full support has already been drafted by the executive board and is certain of approval by the membership.

Other important matters to be taken up are adoption of the new national constitution, and the question of cooperating with other guilds and unions in fighting state legislation aimed at labor. It is probable that a delegate or committee will be named to accompany delegations from other unions to Sacramento to confer with members of the General Assembly on state legislative matters.

Lockheed Recreation Presents Playlet

'The Night of January 16th' opens a four-day run at the Assistance League Playhouse Thursday night with the Lockheed Employes Recreation Club presenting. A press opening will be staged Wednesday. Cast consists of former radio, stage and film players now in aviation work at Lockheed. Leads are Jean Brown, known as Sandra Allen in radio; Lloyd Hanson, film player; Burt Miller, who appeared in the play's original presentation here under the title of 'Woman On Trial'; and Charles Alexander Bell, New York legit actor. Richard A. Walsh is producing and directing with Bernard C. Koch as associate producer and Frank Trumble as associate director.

Yawitz On 'Blackie'

Paul Yawitz has been signed at Columbia to write the screen play for 'The Secret of Boston Blackie', second of the series starring Chester Morris. William Berke will supervise production.

Shumate At U

Harold Shumate has checked in at Universal to write an original melodrama under the title 'Bad Lands of Dakota' under supervision of Milton Feld.

Bookings

William Morris agency has set a number of bands and other entertainers for dates in various spots during the next few months. Will Osborne and his ork go into the local Paramount for two weeks, during run of Par's 'Caught In the Draft.' Ted Lewis combo has been signed to appear in a night club scene in U's newest Abbott and Costello picture, 'Oh, Charlie.' Lewis and his band also will appear in a Universal short. Ray Noble and ork open at Catalina Island May 17 for a month's run. Slim and Sam open April 29 at the Swanee Inn here.

MEXICO GOES WILD OVER H'D GOODWILL GROUP

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

industry. Taft and Diaz met on a bridge to exchange greetings. This time the bridge was crossed, and it was truly a national holiday.

As a personal appearance tour the junket was a terrific success. As a noble experiment in building good will the trip left little to be desired. As a stimulant to the already huge interest in American motion pictures it was tremendous.

Fully 250,000 people greeted the Americanos. Each of the quarter of a million expressed the greatest hero worship and adoration those in the junketing group had ever seen. Ambassador Josephus Daniels, who gave a reception for the group, said the visit of the picture crowd was 'the greatest single gesture of good will' ever made by America.

Jock Whitney, director of the Motion Picture Division of the Office of Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the Americas, said that 'Hollywood just doesn't know what it is.'

On Saturday night the stars made personal appearances at four theatres, the Chino, which seats 4,200; Alameda, 3,500; Olympia, 2,220; Magerit, 1,700. On Sunday they visited the Rex, 1,200 seats; Palacio, 2,200; Iris, 3,300, and repeated at the Olympia and the Alameda. There were 600 Mexican police used Saturday night to fight back the crowds. On Sunday the Mexican officials fully realized the popularity of the stars and 1,200 police were used. The police work was magnificent, for three buses, loaded with the troupe, had to inch along heavily packed streets between each appearance.

Tops in popularity were Norma Shearer, more her beauty than for her acting; Mickey Rooney, because he represents the true boy; Laurel and Hardy, who are almost national heroes; Joe E. Brown, because he is 'sympatico' (genuine and sincere), and Kay Francis because she is charming, sophisticated, and well groomed in her films. Frank Morgan was especially well liked as were Sabu, Patricia Morison, Johnny Weissmuller, Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Mischa Auer, Susan Hayward, William Holden, Brenda Marshall, Brenda Joyce, Mary Gordon and Wallace Beery. Esther Fernandez, Mexican star of 'Rancho Grande' who is studying English at Paramount where she is under contract, had a special kind of reception. Laurel and Hardy are called 'Gordo and Flaco' (fat and thin), and they probably have a greater audience appeal than any in the group, because they have made their pictures in Spanish, delivering the lines themselves.

SELZNICK RECEPTION

David O. Selznick because of his production 'Rebecca' and 'Gone With the Wind'. Frank Capra was also given a rousing welcome when he stepped onto the stages of the houses visited.

Entire trip was a tremendous experience for those in the party. Newspaper correspondents that have covered many events of international importance were overwhelmed. The stars on the trip said they had never been so passionately greeted before.

There was a little 10-year-old boy standing at the station when the train bearing some of these stars came in. He saw Johnny Weissmuller. 'Atrza Tarzan' he thrilled. Then as if afraid those around him would not understand how important it was for him to be the first one in all Mexico City to spot Weissmuller he threw back his head, beat his tiny fists upon his breast and shrieked 'Tarzan' again and again.

There was the policeman at the Hotel Reforma entrance (one among the many) who was overwhelmed by the crowd. He pleaded: 'Please. Why don't you be sociable? Be sociable and go away.' These two incidents cannot demonstrate the dynamics of the crowd. Words are impossible, save such words as terrific, colossal, stupendous and unequaled.

Among those on the committee to arrange details of the personal appearances and the showing of the pictures were Joe Mullins, Mullen and Oscar Brooks, Warners; Exchange Heads Bob Graham, Paramount; Charles Niblo, Metro; Rafael Sevilla, Columbia; James Urbina, United Artists, and Enrique Zeniert, attorney of the Major Exchange and representative of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association in Mexico City. Theatre owners who joined in the program were Luis Castor, who owns the Chino and 10 other houses; Emilio Azacarraga, owner of the Alameda; George Noonan, of the Olympia, and Fernando Garcia, manager of the Iris. The Iris is one of 11 houses operated by Echevarria & Co. Noonan is a brother of Sally O'Neill and Molly O'Day.

PICTURES SHOWN

Some of the pictures shown at the several theatres were given advance premieres and will not actually be booked until one or two months from now. Others were opening. Advance premieres were 'The Letter', Warners; 'Victory', Paramount; 'This Thing Called Love', RKO; 'Pot o' Gold', Globe; 'Mr. and Mrs.', RKO. 'Chad Hanna', 20th-Fox, and 'The Invisible Woman', Universal, were those opening. 'Pride and Prejudice', Metro, had a repeat showing. A Mexican film, 'Creo En Dios', independently produced by Fernando De Fuentes, and released through Grovas & Co., starring Fernando Soler and Isabella Corona, also was premiered.

Brenda Joyce, Les Peterson and Carl Schaefer were stranded at Zacatecas when the train pulled out 15 minutes ahead of schedule. They commandeered a broken down car. Galloped some 10 or 15 miles across gopher mounds and threw cactus to a water stop where they haled the train and climber aboard. The car owners refused to accept money when it was proferred, stating in broken English that it was 'too much of an honor to assist a distressed picture star who also is a blonde.' Money was finally forced upon the reluctant driver.

The plane party had no large difficulties save at the overnight stop at Mazatlan. There, during the summer season hotels are packed and it was almost impossible to get rooms. Finally, all were quartered in one hostelry with such gentlemen as Selznick, Whitney, Capra and the actors sleeping in a dormitory on cots while the femmes doubled up in private bedrooms. The plane party had to stop at Mazatlan Friday night when head winds prevented arrival at Guadalajara.

President Avila Camacho so far has not appeared at any of the functions. Tomorrow will be taken up with visiting governmental departments, shopping, and squeezing in a few moments for visiting, which has been impossible because of the full program.

LA Civic Opera Co. Enters Season Big Pledge

Seeking to overcome past season deficits which have necessitated a last-minute call on sponsors to make up, Los Angeles Civic Light Opera association is entering upon its 1941 season at the Philharmonic Auditorium with a $20,000 guarantee against losses already pledged.

Under the new setup David R. Faries, president of the association; Edwin Lester, its general manager and stager; Homer Curran and Louis Lurie have each pledged $5,000 as a guarantee against the current season's productions dipping deeply in the red, as has been the case during the past two seasons.

Last year the light opera festival dropped around $16,000, and the year previous about $12,000 loss was reported on the season. This, in spite of a high budget set up at the start of each season, and the hefty grosses garnered during the short seasons here and in San Francisco.

Civic Opera association opens its 1941 season at the Philharmonic here May 19, with production again entrusted to Edwin Lester. Emulating the plan adopted last year, the San Francisco opening will likely be a week later, with the various operettas and productions alternating between the northern and southern California metropolises.

Association has reached a decision to call off its production of 'Porgy and Bess', and instead will wind up its season with a lavish production of 'Cabin In the Sky'. 'Cabin' is to be brought to the Coast intact, with Tod Duncan and Rex Ingram in the lead roles and the Katherine Dunham dancers featured.

Thiery's 'Admirals'

Jacques Thiery goes on the treatment of 'Tomorrow's Admirals,' Naval service picture at Paramount.

Ill in Pix

MRS. C. B. ALLEN, wife of Metro's head cashier, is recuperating at Hollywood hospital after major abdominal operation. Dr. Donovan Johnson performed the surgery.

MRS. MORRIS STOLOFF, wife of Columbia studio's music director, underwent operation at Cedars of Lebanon on Friday, Dr. Stanley Imerman performing surgery.

PRIVATE SECRETARY

Woman, who is now employed with one of the industry's top ranking stars desires position in that capacity. Excellent references. Available April 21st.

Box 14, Daily Variety

Goldwyn Cites Big Pic Biz Charity Angle

Motion picture industry is tops in charity, according to a statement issued by Samuel Goldwyn, chairman of the Permanent Charities Committee, covering a period of nine months. In that time the committee has collected a total of $1,014,450, of which $469,617 was donated to the Community Chest, $440,000 to the Red Cross and $104,833 for Greek War Relief. Total leads all amounts collected by other industries for charity during that time.

Other members of the committee are E. J. Mannix, Harry M. Warner, Y. Frank Freeman, William Goetz, David O. Selznick, Edward Arnold and Leslie Mason.

Margaret McKay East On Gibbons Yarn

Margaret McKay, story editor for Ben Cohn Productions, leaves for Boston this week to work with Mrs. Zelda Mayer, sister of the late Floyd Gibbons, on research on the newspaper and radio columnist's life. Rights to do a picture around Gibbons' career were purchased recently by Cohn from Mrs. Mayer and the Chemical Bank and Trust Co., trustees of the estate. Cohn is now negotiating for a release and for a name player to play the title role. He expects to get production underway within the next 90 days.

Frank Lloyd, Skirball Ogle Locations

Frank Lloyd and his production executive, Jack Skirball, have gone by plane to Lake Tahoe region to spot locations for Lloyd's next independent production for Universal, 'I, James Lewis'. Accompanying also are Joe Skirboll, business manager, and John Goodman, art director. Party returns tomorrow. Screenplay adapts the sea story from Gilbert Gabriel's novel. Lloyd will take his company to Tahoe for two weeks, and will shoot sea stuff off Catalina later, starting (29).

☆ Gab ☆

★ Continued from page 3 ★

'Abbott and Costello in the Navy.' Scene represented taxi dance hall, and the number was 'Gimme Some Skin.' Helping host luncheon were Bud Abbott, Claire Dodd, Dick Foran and other members of the cast, chaperoned by Director Arthur Lubin. . . . Martha O'Driscoll, Dolly Loehr and Brad King, Paramount players, will join group of diplomats, authors and educators in celebrating Pan-American Day at a special conference in Brown Hall, USC, this afternoon. Consular officials from 19 Latin American countries will be in attendance. Conference will be broadcast in part to South America.

Richard Lane, doing featured role in Universal's 'Tight Shoes', has played in an average of 25 pictures per year, in parts requiring not less than one-week's salary check, for the past three and one-half years. This is his 90th film since coming from New York stage in July of 1937.

IA LOCALS VETO TAKEOVER; WANT HAND IN NEW DEAL

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

requests contained in their demands.

The union heads pointed out that in all of their communications to the International they made it plain that they had no desire for the International to take over the negotiations. They said the IATSE constitution provided that the International extend them every aid in reaching an agreement with the employers, and that this was the only request that had been made.

Several of the business representatives and board members have been meeting two or three times weekly, and it is understood the consensus of opinion is that no eastern deal will be okayed unless the membership has a hand in negotiating it. They said the workers are still burned over their conditions demands being sidetracked last year when they were handed a 10% wage boost, which they claim resulted in a decrease in their annual earnings.

A showdown in the situation is expected within the next 10 days. Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, now is in New York for conferences with unions in the Studio Basic Agreement, as well as with George E. Browne, prexy of the IATSE. The opening conferences have been delayed in the hope that decisions will be handed down by the Wage-Hour Administration on disputed classifications. These, however, are expected before May 1.

Motion Picture Film Technicians Local 683 has made no request of the International, and is proceeding to handle its own negotiations. International Sound Technicians Local 695 also has been proceeding on its own, as has Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727, and others. Many of the crafts, however, have been sitting back and awaiting developments.

The situation may be solved by the International calling the business representatives east to discuss their demands and secure their tentative approval before going into a huddle with company executives.

a.m. Dailies

Scott In Track Deal—

Randolph Scott reported to be a member of one of the Los Angeles syndicates that will bid for the purchase of the bankrupt Golden Gate Turf Club at a bankruptcy sale scheduled to be held within the next 60 days.

Schumann-Heink Wed—

Barbara Ernestine Schumann-Heink, granddaughter of the late Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink, and James Goodbody were married in Tucson Saturday.

Flagstad To Portugal—

Kirsten Flagstad, Metropolitan Opera soprano, flies for Portugal this week from New York in an effort to join her husband, Henry Johansen, in Oslo, Norway.

Olivier Joining RAF—

Laurence Olivier announced in London that he will become a pilot in the Fleet Air Arm. His wife, Vivien Leigh, is there with him.

Adams, Beaumont Marry—

Kathryn Adams and Hugh Beaumont, both film players, were married yesterday in the Hollywood Congregational church.

Dennis O'Keefe Signs New RKO Contract

Dennis O'Keefe has been signed to a new term deal at RKO, calling for his exclusive services, following the completion, with 'Lady Scarface', of his two single picture commitments at the studio. First picture was the Kay Kyser starrer, 'You'll Find Out.' RKO intends building O'Keefe up with important assignments.

Keep Ryan, Weldon

Sheila Ryan and Robert Weldon had their options taken up for another year at 20th-Fox. Contract players had romantic leads in the Charlie Chan feature, 'Dead Men Tell.'

Planted

Warners

Ed Gargan, Tom Dugan, Frank Orth, 'Navy Blues'.

Harry Holman, Vera Lewis, Eddie Fetherstone, 'Manpower'.

Frank Faylen, Elliott Sullivan, William Yetter, 'Sergeant York'.

Frank Mayo, Alexander Liftwich, Richard Kipling, Jack Wise, Eddie Graham, 'The Gentle People'.

Metro

Ian Hunter, 'Smilin' Through'.

Edward McWade, Lee Kohlmar, George Pauncefort, 'Bargain Counter'.

Columbia

Harry Tyler, 'Obituary'.

Jean Gabin Initials In 20th 'Tide'

Jean Gabin will make his screen bow for 20th-Fox in 'Moon Tide', a Mark Hellinger production to which a director has not yet been assigned. June Carlson is in line for one of the femme roles in the psychological tale of a dissolute Swede and the would-be femme suicide he fishes out of the sea from a San Pedro bait fishing boat to modify his depressed and futile life. John O'Hara is on the screen play.

Strohm On Locales

Location Manager Lou Strohm is making survey of tuna fishing boats in San Diego harbor for Metro's 'Barnacle Bill', and is making arrangements for filming scenes off Mexican coast.

She's Here

Metro starts seven-year-old Jackie Horner's screen career with Jeanette MacDonald in 'Smilin' Through.' She has appeared in several legit shows.

RKO, Disney Sign New Pact For Two Features

Contracts have been signed between RKO and Walt Disney Productions, giving the former distribution rights to two additional Disney animated features. Already holding releasing contracts for 'The Reluctant Dragon' and 'Bambi', newcomers are 'Dumbo' and the first feature-length Mickey Mouse cartoon, untitled.

RKO and Disney have also extended releasing deal for the Disney short subjects.

'The Reluctant Dragon' now is nearing preview date and is slated for release next month. Picture is a combination of live action, starring Robert Benchley, and animation. 'Dumbo' likely will hit release around August and will be followed during the winter months by 'Bambi'. Just when the Mickey Mouse feature will be ready depends on how fast suitable story can be lined up and the lengthy production time requirements met.

Medley, Kaplan Suit Ended Out-of-Court

Out-of-court settlement for $6,000 has been made in the personal injury action brought by Eddie Medley (Medley and Duprey) against Louis and Anna Kaplan, operators of the Yost theatre in Santa Ana. Medley, who was struck on the head by a counterweight while waiting to do a vaude turn at the Yost on New Year's Eve, last, sued through Attorney Mort E. Feiler for $50,000. Actor has fully recovered from his injuries and plans to resume his vaude bookings at once.

Allen Up For Termer

Paramount is negotiating with Barbara Allen for a term contract. Radio and film actress is now working at the studio in 'Buy Me That Town.'

Next For Carey Wilson

Carey Wilson's next Miniature for Metro will be called 'Ghost Gold' and will deal with mystery of rich gold mine legend of Death Valley.

Births

SON, weighing 10 pounds, to Mrs. Russell Kelley, Saturday at California Lutheran hospital. Father is a landscape set dresser at Columbia. Baby has been named James Michael.

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***EDMUND GOULDING** is Director*

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

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Vol. 31 No. 29 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, April 15, 1941 5 Cents

BLOCK COLUMBIA PLANT OPENING

NLRB HITS DISNEY MOVE

The National Labor Relations Board is preparing to press unfair labor practice charges against the Walt Disney Studio, it was disclosed yesterday, on the eve of a conference scheduled for today between Gunther Lessing, Disney attorney, and American Federation of Labor tops. Scores of affidavits have been filed with the NLRB by the Screen Cartoonists Guild and the Society of

♥ Continued on page 12 ♥

Edw. Hyman Arrives For Lookaround

Edward L. Hyman, associate of Leonard Goldenson and Sam Dembow, Jr., in Paramount Theatres, arrived from Phoenix where he looked over the Paramount-Nace houses. He leaves within the next day or two for Salt Lake City. Hyman was accompanied by Harry Nace and latter's son, Harry Nace, Jr.

Thornton Quits Small

C. W. (Ted) Thornton, treasurer and executive business manager of Edward Small Productions for the past two and a half years, has resigned, effective upon the appointment of a successor. Thornton plans an extended vacation before announcing a new affiliation, which has already been negotiated. Before joining Small, Thornton was with Erpi as treasurer of General Service Studios.

Mock at Columbia

John Mock has joined Columbia as assistant story editor to D. A. Doran. For the past three years Mock has been story editor for Paramount in London.

LEGIT OPENING

TREAT HER GENTLY

Houston, Texas, April 14.—For a first play, George Batson's 'Treat Her Gently' is surprisingly good. It is a well staged, bright farce, moving speedily with sustained suspense and has a particularly well developed second act. Dialog is topical, with sly references to Mrs. Roosevelt, to the

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

RADIO RECEIVES ACCOLADE FROM PIX

In a precedental tribute to a radio program, Producers Assn. and the three talent Guilds Sunday join forces in the presentation of a silver plaque to Gulf Oil's Screen Guild Theatre. Mary Pickford makes the award, which will be accepted by Emcee Roger Pryor on behalf of the show and its sponsor.

Kudos presented by Screen Ac-

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

WB Reties Bacon

Warners has picked up director contract option on Lloyd Bacon, whose next assignment is 'Navy Blues', starting tomorrow.

COLLARITES REFUSE TO CROSS PICKET LINES

A move termed by unionists as an attempt to reopen the Columbia Recording Corp. plant was defeated yesterday when clerical workers refused to cross the picket line of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America. Simultaneously, it was announced that the union had negotiated a new wage deal with Allied Phonograph & Record Manufacturing Co., and that both Allied and RCA-Victor had agreed not to handle any work of Columbia during duration of the strike.

Company officials admitted that a call had been sent out for White Collarites to report, but that all of them had refused to cross the picket

★ Continued on page 12 ★

Rise Stevens En Route For MG 'Soldier'

New York, April 14.—Rise Stevens, contralto at the Metropolitan Opera, is en route to Hollywood to start work on 'The Chocolate Soldier', in which Nelson Eddy will be starred by Metro. Stopovers for concert appearances include brief sojourn in Cleveland. While on Coast Miss Stevens will make her first concert tour of the west, reappearing with the San Francisco Opera Co.

Cowdin, Blumberg Due From NY Tomorrow

J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of Universal's board, and Nate Blumberg, company prexy, are due here from New York tomorrow to attend the Deanna Durbin-Vaughn Paul wedding. Blumberg returned to New York Sunday from Panama where he attended Universal's Latin American sales convention, accompanied by Joseph Seidelman, foreign sales chief.

John Stahl Works

John M. Stahl signals work today on 'Our Wife' which he is producing and directing at Columbia. Melvyn Douglas, Ruth Hussey, John Hubbard and Charles Coburn head the cast and Henry Sharp will photograph.

'Nocturne' Goes (28)

Warners will launch 'Hot Nocturne', from the Edwin Gilbert play dealing with the band business, on (28). Curtis Bernhardt has been assigned to direct. Gilbert and Robert Rossen adapted story to screen.

Swann at Par

Francis Swann checked in at Paramount yesterday to start work on the screen play of his 'Out of the Frying Pan.'

PREVIEWED

FOOTLIGHT FEVER
(RKO)

MODEL WIFE
(U)

(Previews on page 3)

H'D GOODWILL TROUPE FADES FROM MEXICO CITY

By CHARLES DAGGETT

Mexico City, April 14.—Hollywood's good will expedition to Mexico left here today after the most frantic and exciting two and one-half day demonstration this country's capital has seen since Zapata took the land away from the rich rancheros and started giving it back to the Indians.

How the stars who made this trip will ever again be satisfied with the mild expressions of Nordic favor they receive from crowds in the States after the heart-swelling spectacular appreciation given them here is a question. In this land where pic-

♣ Continued on page 11 ♣

Hartman's Vacash

Don Hartman leaving for month's vacation after finishing his chore on script of 'Nothing But the Truth' at Paramount.

'Fantasia' Sound Plan Gets Simplification

The composite sound distribution effects employed in Walt Disney's 'Fantasia', requiring special wiring and equipment for road showing, have been simplified so that all the diverse perspective sounds can be approximated on one standard sound ribbon. Concentrated version was run off experimentally yesterday, and RKO may distribute the picture with the standard tracts, reaching much wider release than under present complicated projection requirements.

SWITCHES BASE

The Producer-Screen Actors Guild Standing Committee which recommended elimination of all casual extras who worked 10 days or less in 1939 has switched its base to 1940, it was learned yesterday. The work of compiling statistics on the earnings of extras in the independent field, etc., will be completed within two weeks, and the names of several thousand atmosphere players will be removed from the list of those available to accept studio calls.

The plan has already been approved by the extras themselves. Committee members are said to have felt that it would be better to take 1940 as a base from which to begin eliminating, since 1939 figures were more or less out of date. It is understood that records at Central Casting Corp. show that 7,000 extras were given work out of that bureau during the past year.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Freeman Bernstein back in town after three years in New York.

Donald Thornburgh and Fox Case, CBS execs, back from out-of-town calls.

Robert Sherwood and Jack Kirkland, playwrights, TWA-Stratolined in from NY yesterday.

Meyer Lewis, western director of the American Federation of Labor, planed to San Francisco yesterday.

Preston Foster in dungarees scraping barnacles off his cruiser, Zoa III, at Balboa preparatory to spring sailing.

Charles Gartner and the missus here on visit. He formerly was press agent for Paramount's home office in New York.

Helen Parker, script girl on 20th-Fox's 'Miami', doing her chores in wheel chair, having fractured leg in fall at home.

Irving Barry pulls out for New York this midweek, after several weeks' sojourn here on Greek War Relief matters.

Andy Krappman, aide to Charles P. Skouras, and Tom Page, Fox West Coast film statistician, planed in from Milwaukee.

Leo Carrillo is guest of honor at Pico celebration of Pio Pico festival Saturday to commemorate founding of first mission in this territory.

Bing Crosby and Mary Martin started rehearsals on their songs in 'Birth of the Blues' at Paramount yesterday. Picture is slated to roll Friday (18).

Bud Abbott Sunday night hosted dinner party at his Sherman Oaks home in honor of Arthur Lubin, who is directing Abbott and Costello in Universal's 'In the Navy'.

Eddie Bracken, accompanied by his wife, will attend the premiere of Paramount's 'Reaching For the Sun' in Detroit Friday, thence to New York and his home town, Long Island City, for brief vacation before returning to the studio.

Bette Davis arrived from the east yesterday and reports today to begin wardrobe tests for 'The Little Foxes' under direction of William Wyler at Samuel Goldwyn studio. Teresa Wright, Charles Dingle, Carl Benton Reid, Dan Duryea and John Marriott, all legit players, also checked in from the east yesterday to prepare for their film debuts in the picture.

Benny the Gouge sez—They do it better over here—dropping a 'Pot o' Gold' instead of a pot of explosives in a neighbor's front yard.

Hollywood Inside

RECENT purchase of 'Drivin' Woman', unpublished novel by Elizabeth Pickett Chevalier, by Metro is reported to have had some curious circumstances behind the buy. Miss Chevalier is understood to have had an idea for the story and to have submitted a 90-page outline to MacMillan's Publishing Company in New York for possible okay to go ahead with the yarn. Idea leaked to the studios, who immediately requested copies of the outline from publishing concern and the bidding started. Metro's top price is reported to have been $25,000 cash as an advance payment and another $25,000 to be paid as soon as work is written, plus 25 cents per copy up to a total purchase price of $100,000. With $25,000 now in the bank Miss Chevalier is now busy writing her book, both for delivery to Metro and to MacMillan's, which will publish it in 1942.

☆ ☆ ☆

METRO commissary patrons are doing a burn over the change in policy since the departure of Frances Edwards, claiming said switch in policy included a hike in prices, as high as 50% on certain food items. A top flight director recently put on an indignation act when he was handed a 90 cent ticket for a sandwich, pie and coffee. The smaller fry are giving the Culver City hamburger joints a play, claiming the 25-cent minimum in the dining room and upped prices are out of their class. Four hostesses are now employed in the dining room. Is reported that commissary, which is operated as a convenience for employes, has not been doing anything like paying its way, and that management feels new prices are not high for the class of foods served. Commissary is now operated by a former employe of Brittingham Catering Co.

☆ ☆ ☆

ACTRESS who recently finished the femme lead in a picture for an independent company, didn't make many friends while fulfilling the assignment according to studio rumors. Femme is understood to have finished the picture without posing for special portrait stills, using one excuse or another to dodge the duty, causing company to be forced to dig up old portraits taken during the time a couple of years ago when it was helping her to get re-established. At time actress signed to do the picture she made the provision that studio was to plant no local publicity on her assignment, apparently preferring that her Hollywood contacts know nothing of her association with the small company, in spite of the fact that it was this same outfit that played a big part in bringing her name before the ticket-buying public a few years ago.

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SPRING employment peak for extras reaches high at Warners this week with 287 called for five pictures and further castings set for two additional films. In 'The Gentle People' 100 are working; the 'Sergeant York' company has 84 extras on the set and 50% increase expected within the week; 'Manpower' is using 53; 'Bad Men of Missouri' is employing 46, and 'Dive Bomber' is slated to use heavy increase for next week. 'Navy Blues' and 'King's Row' will swell the extra call by double the number now at work.

☆ ☆ ☆

FOLLOWING up cue dropped by Rear Admiral C. W. Nimitz, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, in a recent special bulletin extolling mass singing as good for the morale of the Navy, Warners will make special trailers for exclusive Navy distribution of songs chanted by Ann Sheridan and Martha Raye for 'Navy Blues'. In addition to songs from that picture, trailer also will include old Navy tunes, like 'Haul In the Bowline', 'Haul Away, Joe', 'Paddy Doyle' and 'Johnny Boker'.

☆ ☆ ☆

HELEN V. SMITH and Eve Benedict, starting together as secretaries at 20th-Fox, have become a 'hot' writing team and have also sold a number of yarns individually. Helen Smith, formerly Helen Vreeland, resigned from studio secretariat and is now the wife of an ex-Navy officer, working at home. She has sold three originals and is collaborating with Eve Benedict (Eve Golden, sister of Max Golden) on a Navy wife tale. She has written two originals.

☆ ☆ ☆

TOP Hollywood correspondents meet today at the Brown Derby to receive a reply from the Producers' Publicity Directors Committee to their demand that Coast reviewers be given an opportunity to see films before they are screened in New York or elsewhere. The news writers also are asking that previews be stepped up so they can be previewed two or three weeks in advance of their release to exhibitors. Douglas Churchill is chairman of the writer group.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS hosted 1,500 Catholic priests and nuns at the Forum theatre yesterday at showing of 'A Dispatch From Reuters', 'The Pony Express' and 'The Romance of Robert Burns'. Private matinee is an annual Easter Monday event initiated by Harry M. Warner for priests and nuns not permitted to attend public screenings. Group of guests represented convents and parochial schools from Santa Barbara to San Diego.

☆ ☆ ☆

BREAKDOWN on script of 'Illusions', Alexander Korda production rolling at General Service studio tomorrow, shows that $25,000 of its budget will be used for extra talent during the 48-day shooting schedule. Twenty-six days out of the 48 total call for heavy extra mobs, the largest day listing a call for 325 while the rest average around 250. Julien Duvivier will direct.

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THE SCREEN READERS GUILD is seeking a conference with Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact, to discuss the question of outside readers. Bill Koenig, head of the SRG, said Guild would ask that outside readers be included in present agreement organization has with the major companies.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Mickey Mouse was all swelled up as he read the glad tidings from the animation factory. He was about to be starred in a full-length feature, and he felt bigger and bigger every time he read the news.

In the midst of his inflation he was interrupted by a familiar greeting from his old pal, Donald Duck.

'Hya, Mickey,' quacked Donald, who was repulsed by a quick brush-off.

'Listen, jerk,' said Mickey snootily. 'From now on, you will address me as Mr. Michael Rodent.'

Moral—An actor is an actor, even when he is born in an ink bottle.

★ ★ ★

Scents of spring, not only in the breezes but in the studios. After 'A Whiff of Heliotrope', the boys are contemplating 'The Odor of Violets'.

War would be a positive pleasure if it were conducted on the Abbott and Costello plan.

Maybe Kay Kyser's gang is corny, as some of the swingsters contend, but it's golden corn.

★ ★ ★

If all the wars were like the feuds
on mike and picture screen
This weary, wobbly world would
be a sweetly peaceful scene.

★ ★ ★

Speaking of feuds, the Ascap-BMI embroglio has reached an advanced stage of lethargy.

★ ★ ★

'Glamour', says Howard Hawks, 'is often a detriment to an actress', but the gals will keep right on going to beauty salons.

At least one picture will not be preemed in its native background. 'The Road to Moscow.'

Eddie Griffith is about to shoot a number of scenes for 'Dildo Cay' under water in the Bahamas. The logical outcome is a world premiere in a glass-bottomed boat.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood is the town where you can find the latest creations in male and female garb. Also Bing Crosby and Greta Garbo.

★ ★ ★

He wears a wide sombrero,
Your modern caballero,
And spurs that clink
And shirts of pink
And green and purple sheen.

But when he craves to wander
To canyons over yonder
He rides with speed
Upon a steed
That runs by gasoline.

★ ★ ★

In some ways the Hollywood cowboy is more efficient than his forebears who rode the wide open spaces. It takes an expert to climb into a low-hung car with a ten-gallon hat.

Orson Welles used modern war technique in 'Citizen Kane.' It went off like a delayed bomb.

Perpetual motion is an impossibility, according to the scientists, but almost any film exec works 24 hours a day, according to his press agent.

Film Previews

Model Wife

(*Comedy*)

Universal production. Stars Joan Blondell and Dick Powell. Supporting cast: Charlie Ruggles, Lee Bowman, Lucile Watson, Ruth Donnelly, Billy Gilbert, John Qualen, Lorraine Krueger and Glen Turnbull. Produced and directed by Leigh Jason. Screenplay, Charles Kaufman, Horace Jackson and Grant Garrett, from original story by Leigh Jason. Photography, Norbert Brodine. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Harold H. MacArthur. Film editor, Arthur Hilton. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Previewed at Alexander, Glendale, April 14. Running time: 78 mins.

Dependable audience entertainment is generated in this well-knit, amusing and showmanly production which has the quality and substance to hold its own amongst fast competition in the regular runs. Comedy is right down the alley for the great mass of customers and the playing and direction exploits every diverting element worked up in the original story and screenplay.

Of special interest to the trade is the fact that 'Model Wife' is the first package deal in which the profit-sharing arrangements of participants is so widespread. The stars, Joan Blondell and Dick Powell; the director, Leigh Jason, who also wrote the original yarn, and the script writers, Charles Kaufman, Horace Jackson and Grant Garrett, got no immediate coin for their effort, but will share in percentage of the returns.

They were assembled by Charles Feldman, who functioned as producer of the picture, sharing that responsibility, as credited, with Leigh Jason. It reflects directly and impressively on Feldman's showmanly ability that each member of the package deal so well justifies his hitch in the prearranged alignment as it came to Universal for the making of the film and its release. It goes far also in displaying some peculiar merits of the coordination of talent effected in this comparatively new type of talent delivery.

Joan Blondell is at her best, turning in a spirited comedy performance on the distaff side of a bickering marital comedy based on plans to prepare for an heir and the husband's efforts to get his smart wife out of the business world in readiness for the blessed event. Dick Powell takes another marked stride forward in establishing himself amongst the ablest light comedians in a mature and engaging role as an employe of a hard-boiled femme proprietor of a modiste salon. Charlie Ruggles contributes one of his inimitable prissified characterizations as the oldest of the employes who finally turns on his tormenting boss in rebellion with Powell.

Lucile Watson is the proprietor and does an excellent job in giving the kind of resistance which develops comic friction in the romantic involvements. Her son, very ably played by Lee Bowman, is a deter-

● Continued on page 4 ●

Footlight Fever

(*Comedy*)

RKO production. Features Alan Mowbray, Donald MacBride, Elyse Knox, Elisabeth Risdon, Lee Bonnell, Charles Quigley. Supporting players: Georgia Backus, Bradley Page, Mantan Moreland, Chester Clute, Jane Patten. Director, Irving Reis. Producer, Howard Benedict. Screenplay, Ian Hunter, Bert Granet, from an original by Granet. Photography, Robert De-Grasse. Art director, Van Nest Polglase; associate, Carroll Clark. Costumes, Renie. Film editor, Theron Warth. Previewed April 14. Running time: 70 mins.

A rather horrid example is held up to youngsters bitten by the acting bug in 'Footlight Fever', but, as it's all in fun there is a modicum of laughs in store for family audiences who happen to view this slapstick, much-to-do-about-nothing entry from RKO. There is no sensible recommendation to be made to exhibitors who might play it other than, because of its senselessness, feature will serve as adequate supporting material in the smaller situations.

Two prime muggers, Alan Mowbray and Donald MacBride, hit an extremely broad interpretation of the main characters, an impoverished stage director and an equally penniless legit producer, respectively. The scramble that the two boys put up to stage the latest brain child of Mowbray's is stretched a bit thin in spots and piled on too thick in others, but in-between a spot of dialog or situation helps to carry the load along its over-long 70-minute distance.

Pair make several bad stabs at coin raising, but are finally successful when they tackle Elisabeth Risdon, a wealthy recluse who forsakes her self-imposed exile to again tackle life and forget her mourning for a long-lost sailor. Miss Risdon puts up the cash, not without handicaps; the show's a hit; her niece, Elyse Knox, gets her romance with Lee Bonnell, the play's lead; the villain, Bradley Page, is foiled, and etc.

Howard Benedict's production did not have much budget leeway to work with but the mounting is satisfactorily handled. Irving Reis, in directing, overcomes the noticeably jerky pace in the first few reels when he begins to let things run wild, come what may, and garners the laughs. Ian Hunter and Bert Granet crammed the script with a great deal of material, some of which would be best dropped to allow full play to the surefire gags. Robert DeGrasse photographed ably and other technical aides are okay.

SOEG, U Execs Meet

Universal executives and the negotiating committee of the Screen Office Employes Guild spent several hours last night discussing demands of the Guild for a basic agreement covering wages and working conditions. The session was adjourned until Thursday (24) when the talks will be resumed.

Burt Kelly Resigns Associate Producer Post at Universal

Burt Kelly yesterday resigned as associate producer at Universal, after three years' tenure, to take an executive producer job elsewhere, concerning which announcement was to be made shortly. Severance from Universal was amicable.

During his term at U, Kelly turned out around a dozen features. Previously he had been with KBS Productions, with RKO and Republic in production capacity. Pictures which had been intended for his slate at U will be reassigned to other associate producers.

Roach Sets Moffitt

Hal Roach has signed Jeff Moffitt to write screenplay for 'Tanks a Million', and Dorothy White to script 'Miss Polly', initial productions slated for the five series of four each of Streamlined Features for United Artists release. Twenty odd-length hybrid short-features are to be made within next two years.

AGVA, Musicians Sesh

Committees from the American Guild of Variety Artists and the Musicians Local 47 go into a huddle today to arrange a joint program covering licensing of agents handling members of these groups.

Takes Ronell Ditty

'The Merry-Go-Round', tune by Ann Ronell, has been set as one of the five numbers in 'The Parson of Panamint', Harry Sherman production for Paramount. Ellen Drew will sing tune.

Fields, Fingerle Set

Harry Fields and Marlene Fingerle, piano duo, have been signed for an appearance on the Al Pearce radio program Friday. Harold Leyton agented.

LEGIT OPENING

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

administration and to debutantes singing at Versailles. It skims over capital-labor situation on the order of 'The Philadelphia Story' but remains essentially bedroom farce.

Ruth Chatterton carries the main burden of the show. She is excellent as the smug, sophisticated book reviewer and free love advocate who falls for a young radical writer but turns to a publisher after the author is bedizened by a debutante.

Barry Thomson is suavely correct as the publisher. Elaine Ellis gives a standout performance as the debutante. With looks, talent, she should be screen material.

Hayden Rorke is not impressive but adequate as the author. Myrtle Tannehill and Marjorie Wilson were practically eliminated in the rewriting. Producers are Harold J. Kennedy, Juss Addiss and Hayden Rorke.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

CHARLIE FOY has a drummer at his night spot who always talked about his wife and kid he was taking care of. Other night the drummer came in looking as white as a calcimined wall. Foy asked him what was wrong. He said to the boss, 'you must help me.' Foy said 'I'll call a doctor'. The drummer replied, 'I don't need a doctor' and flashed a draft board ticket showing him he was set in the 1A class. . . . Nat Devirich, Pete Smith and Lee Jason are sunning at the Lone Palm in Palm Springs. . . . Miriam Jay, niece of Mike Newman, West Coast exploiteer for Columbia, will do one of the top roles in 'Here Today', play by George Oppenheim, which opens at the Hollytown Little Theatre Thursday.

'The Little Foxes' were busy animals according to checkup of play's record during its run. Piece traveled 25,000 miles, did 81 one-night stands and played before audiences 763 times.

MERLE OBERON is giving cocktail party tomorrow between 6 and 7 p.m. at General Service to introduce Julien Duvivier to the Hollywood press and celebrate first day's shooting on Alexander Korda's 'Illusions', in which she stars. . . . Sammy Lewis arrived in Hollywood to remodel Slapsie Maxie's nitery for May 1 opening. Maxie Rosenbloom returns here in two weeks. . . . Executive dining room at the Samuel Goldwyn studio reopened yesterday with a flourish after having been closed since producer suspended activities some months ago. . . . Peculiar slant on Robert Presnell being signed by Samuel Goldwyn to screenplay 'The Seventh Cavalry', slated as a Gary Cooper starrer, is that writer knows something about that service arm. His father was regimental surgeon for the Seventh Cavalry and Presnell, when a boy was regimental mascot.

Jack Benny at last is to be honored by his home town of Waukegan, Ill. City fathers have under consideration the proposal to change the name of South Butrick St. to Jack Benny St.

VIRGINIA JOHNSON will give a dance concert, billed as 'The Eternal Heroine', at Assistance League (21). . . . Earl Carroll has sent out a call for girls for his new revue for next Friday at 4 o'clock at the theatre. The only requirement is that femmes 'must be beautiful.' . . . Antoine De St. Exupery, French writer and aviator, is here as house guest of Jean Renoir while working out screen treatment of former's non-fiction, sociological book, 'Wind Sand and Stars'.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

WMA

Represents . . .

ROBERT BUCKNER PRODUCER

Under contract Warner Bros. - First National

Bob Whitson Buys Site for 750-Seat H'wood Deluxer

Bob Whitson yesterday announced purchase of a site and immediate construction of a 750-seat deluxe theatre at Sunset and Golden Gate avenues, Hollywood. New house is near the Whitson Vista theatre.

Ken Bushy remains as manager of the Alto theatre, operation of which has been taken over from Southside by Fox-West Coast. House has been placed in the 30c city break zone.

Lou Cowan's Quiz Kids Set For Benny Again

Lou Cowan's Quiz Kids make their third successive guest appearance with Jack Benny Sunday. Unable to make the trip east for their guest shot on Bill Stern's Colgate Sportsreel, Gerard Darrow and Cynthia Cline fulfill the commitment here with Stern flying out for the solo program Sunday.

Burton's on 'Parade'

Val Burton is assigned to work on the script of 'Paramount Parade' after completing chore on 'Henry for President'. Monte Brice and Eddie Moran have finished their work on screen play of 'We're in the Navy Now' and have checked off the Paramount lot.

Mountain Lives Up

First live program from Don Lee's new mountain top studio will be telecast over W6XAO Friday and Saturday. Following day the stock roadster race at Ascot in Southgate goes into video panels.

Bandwagon West

Fitch Bandwagon rolls out this way next month to pick up three music crews for the Sunday air series. Skinnay Ennis leads off (11) to be followed successively by Freddy Martin and Phil Harris.

John Harris Arriving

John H. Harris, prexy of the Harris Amusement Co., planes in today from Pittsburgh to complete arrangements for the opening of his ice show at the Pan Pacific Auditorium Friday (18).

Arden Initialer

Robert Arden, KFWB-KFOX commentator, initials a series of three lectures tomorrow at Filmarte theatre. Percentage of the proceeds will be donated to British and Greek war relief funds.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing 10 pounds, one ounce, was born Sunday (13) in Queen of Angels hospital to Fay Carroll (Mrs. Henry Slate). Father is a member of the Three Slate Bros., currently with the Earl Carroll show, and mother was with Carroll prior to her marriage.

BOY, weighing seven pounds, was born yesterday to Mrs. John Sutherland at Queen of Angels. Mother is Paula Winslow, radio actress; father is screen and radio writer.

BOY, weighing eight and one-half pounds, was born Sunday to Mrs. Larry Barnett at Hollywood hospital. Father is with band department at Music Corp.

ACTORS GUILD KEEPS ADMISSION LID TIGHT

The Screen Actors Guild is still holding the lid tight on the admittance of new extras, an announcement yesterday disclosing that only 13 Class B applications were approved during the past month. Those given a favorable nod are June Atwell, Joseph Diskay, Loretta Fought, Josefina Fuentes, Helene Hindin, Charlotte Hunter, Claire Laub, Rudy M. McIntosh, Edwin G. Marty, Dolores E. Navarro, Beverly Ray, Maury Roberts, Marie Steadman. Class B approvals in New York were Alma Brock, Pat Dee, Hazel H. Kempf, Hildred Price, Joanne Marshall, Gudrun Hansen, Jane Wickersham.

The following Class A Junior applications have been approved: Mahli Adler, Nick Arno, Leah Baird, Richard Bartell, Rodney Bell, Barbara Britton, Frances Brix, Barbara Brown, E. Munro Brown, Cary Bruce, Lillian Carmen, Micheline Cheirel, Dude Chick, Nadaine Conner, Jeanine Crispin, Billy Dawson, Irene Denny, Sten Englund, Tom Garey, Viola Griswold, Kay Harris, Gloria Hills, Howard Hughes, David Hoffman, James Jewell, Madeleine LeBeau, Katherine Leslie, Edgar Licho, Peggy Lynn, John Maxwell, Sidney Melton, Mary Ellen Meyran, Barbara Moffett, Sunnie O'Dea, Hermes Pan, Tommy Perry, Peter Peters, Jr., Buster Phelps, James P. Pickard, Bob Pittard, Robert Regent, Mona Rica, Vernamae Rodik, Verdamae Rodik, Konstantin Sankar, Patsy S. Shaw, Muriel Sherman, Bill Shirley, Mickey Simpson, Robert F. Smith, Eddie Stanley, Tom Stevenson, Richard Talmadge, Alice Talton, Jean T. Wallace, Elsie Weller, John Whitney, Joan Winfield and William Arthur Wright.

Applications of Class B members are now passed on by a committee composed entirely of Class A members. Approval was taken out of the hands of Class B members when the Producers threatened to insist the books be thrown open to all extras because requests for cards for certain players were denied by a committee named by the former SAG Council.

Assembly Request

A request that the General Assembly adopt a resolution authorizing appointment of a committee to investigate Central Casting Corp. was made in a communication sent to Speaker Gordon Garland last night by Ed Dahlen, sponsor of a picket line at the extra bureau. Dahlen stated Gov. Culbert Olson also was being asked to keep his hands out of the film industry. Dahlen is demanding that the 'old-time extra players' be given a better shake in distribution of extra jobs.

ROSTEN GIVES OPINION

Film actors think that Producers should eliminate propaganda pictures and feel that 'too many pictures have trifling plots', according to opinions voiced by Class A members of the Screen Actors Guild in a survey conducted by Dr. Leo C. Rosten of the Motion Picture Research Project. The actors were evenly divided upon the influence of the box office.

Most of them criticized the kind of story in which they were asked to perform, it was disclosed by the SAG yesterday. 'Too much gag humor and not enough real humor', is an example of their criticism. Another was 'the great weakness is material and inability to develop writers for this medium. We are still rehearsing plays and stories instead of creating for the screen.'

Other comment was 'pictures this year seem to be getting down to earth and telling about things that matter'. 'Writing has become more adult in the past three years'. 'Each year our pictures are improving from story standpoint'. Others, however, were not so hopeful, commenting: 'Our pictures lack the overtone and thoughtfulness of many foreign made pictures'. 'Too much talk and not enough action'. 'Too little care in points of plain good taste'. 'Too much standardization'. 'Too many typical movies'. 'Pretty shoddy, well-worn stuff.'

Some felt that Producers by improving the calibre of pictures would meet boxoffice tastes. Others expressed the belief that the American films had been directed below the intelligence of the American box office.

In commenting on the star system, a small percentage felt 'too much footage is devoted to drama personality', and 'too many stories are made to fit the personality of contract stars.' Quantity production, especially of B pictures was criticized. Many recommended elimination of B pictures while others merely commented on the sacrifice of quality in B productions. Some felt double features were like an extra pair of trousers with a cut-rate suit, immediately branding the product as second rate.

Preview

● Continued from page 3 ●

mined suitor of Miss Blondell who is trying to keep her marriage to Powell a secret so she can continue to work when Bowman takes charge for his mother. John Qualen has good scenes as the janitor, and Billy Gilbert does his customary amusing stuff as the proprietor of a music shop to which the frugal folk of the neighborhood come for free concerts. Ruth Donnelly, Lorraine Krueger and Glen Turnbull also show well in support.

Leigh Jason has a canny eye on the widest and most dependable audience for this kind of farce comedy in his able direction. He socks his laughs. His characters remain genuine, to make their problems all the more amusing. He gets in a few moments of moving emotion to vary the mood, and tells his tale with appropriate tempo.

Screenplay by Horace Jackson, Charles Kaufman and Grant Garrett is a neat and excellently crafted piece of fun for any audience, giving the players rich opportunity and the director sound substance to deal with.

Norbert Brodine on the camera and Jack Otterson on the art direction head the consistently good technical contributions to give the production nice display.

Kay Kyser Will Garner Around 15G For Par Spot Stint

Kay Kyser will pull down around $15,000 as his share of his current single week's booking at the Paramount theatre. Band is heading the Fanchon & Marco house for a terrific $42,000 on the week, which ends tomorrow night, an all-time record.

Total admissions played to on Easter Sunday was 14,622, with a gross of $8,501, setting a new one-day record for the theatre. On Saturday the combo played to 13,354 customers. Good Friday business was $300 in excess of amount garnered by Kyser on the Friday of his previous engagement at the house, in 1939. Up to last night Kyser gross had reached $31,000. 'Power Dive' (Par) is on screen.

Kyser and his band fly out Thursday on a southern dance and concert tour that will cover 10,000 miles in seven days. First stop is El Paso, followed by Amarillo, Fort Worth, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, New Orleans, Austin and Tulsa. Next week's broadcast will emanate from Randolph Field, San Antonio. Lyle Thayer of Music Corp. accompanies the band, which is due back (27).

AFRA Code In Effect

The new transcription code of the American Federation of Radio Artists covering wage scales and working conditions becomes effective today. After today no AFRA member will be permitted to perform for transcriptions at less than the approved minimum scales. The new scales of the Los Angeles chapter of the American Guild of Variety Artists also are effective today. Both have previously been published in Daily Variety.

Mull AMG Franchise

The Screen Writers Guild executive board met last night to receive reports from committees negotiating with Producers on a contract renewal and with the Artists Managers Guild on a franchise program for agents.

Story Buys

Paramount has purchased 'Channel Port', original screen yarn by Leonard Lee and has signed writer to do the screenplay. Fred Kohlmar will produce. Kohlmar also has been assigned the production reins on 'Take a Letter, Darling', original by George Beck.

BEVERLY HILLS ENGLISH HOME
Attractive two-story residence. 3 family bedrooms, 2 servants' rooms. Nice garden. 700 block. Want offer.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

Sturdivant Assigns Several More F-WC Managers

B. V. Sturdivant, manager of the Citrus Belt of Fox-West Coast houses, yesterday announced several managerial changes. Charles K. Long transfers from the Strand, Pasadena, to the Studio at San Bernardino, replacing Lester Fountain. Harry Kye of the State, Redlands, is transferred as manager of the Temple, San Bernardino. George Zeschank, assistant manager at the Park, Pasadena, becomes manager of the State at Redlands, and Edwin Eaton, assistant at the Fox, Pomona, is transferred to the managerial post at the Strand, Pasadena.

Radio Receives Pic Accolade

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

tors, Writers and Directors Guilds, and Producers Assn., carries the inscription: 'Award to Gulf Oil Company's program for eminent achievement in furthering the advancement of the allied arts of motion pictures and radio.'

Program marks the end of the third season, for which Gulf has contributed a total of $800,000 to the Motion Picture Relief Fund for construction of home for indigent workers in the industry.

Metzger's Moveover

Lou Metzger has turned the Broadway theatre in San Diego, a 900-seater, into a moveover house policy, following the Spreckles. Mike Lustig, who recently joined the Metzger group after being associated with Samuel Goldwyn, has been made manager of the Spreckles.

'Miss Jones' Holdover

'The Devil and Miss Jones' (RKO) holds for a second week at the RKO and Pantages theatres, starting next Friday. For the holdover week a new supporting feature, 'Mr. Dynamite' (U) will be added, replacing 'The Lone Wolf Takes a Chance' (Col).

'Barbara' Dated Here

'Major Barbara', English-made film which United Artists is distributing, will follow 'That Hamilton Woman' at the Four Star theatre here. Latter is now in its fourth week with indications it will stick three or four more stanzas.

New Sacto House

Sacramento, April 14.—Erection of a 750-seat first run theatre here this summer is announced by the Blumenfeld Theatre circuit. It will be chain's fifth theatre in Sacramento. Cost is placed at $150,000.

Sets Andrews Sisters

Sherrill Cohen has booked the Andrews Sisters to top the stage show at the Orpheum theatre week of (30). Major Bowes' Spring Festival is at the house currently, winding up week's engagement tonight.

Ill in Pix

GEORGE ROSNER is in Cedars of Lebanon hospital with a heart ailment. He will be confined in the institution about three weeks.

RAY JONES WINNER IN ACAD STILL SHOW

Ray Jones, Universal still cameraman, captured top honors in the First Annual Still Photography Show of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which opened last night in the Academy's Review theatre at 1455 N. Gordon. Jones was the only lenser to win two gold medals, being followed by Elmer Fryer, of Warners, who received two certificates of merit.

Winners of first place medals were Emmett Schoenbaum, 20th-Fox, for best posed portrait study with a portrait of John Carradine from 'Chad Hanna'. Ray Jones, Universal, for best action portrait, subject was Marlene Dietrich. Jack Woods, 20th-Fox, best posed portrait of two or more people with a picture of Mary Astor and Dean Jagger from 'Brigham Young—Frontiersman'. William Walling, Universal, best posed production still with a picture of Marlene Dietrich and Bruce Cabot in 'Flame of New Orleans'. Merritt Sibbald, Metro, best action production still (exterior) for skiing scene from 'The Mortal Storm'. Ed Croneweth, Metro, best action still (any type) with a picture of Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney from 'Strike Up the Band'. Charles Scott Welbourne, Warners, best fashion still, subject, Brenda Marshall in 'Footsteps In the Dark'. Ray Jones, Universal, novelty in still picture classification with a picture of Deanna Durbin.

SECOND HONORS

Those who took second honors and were presented with certificates of merit were: Ed Estabrook, Universal, for picture of Baby Sandy in best posed portrait study class. Roman Freulich, Universal, for portrait of Deanna Durbin in best action portrait class. Thomas Evans, Hal Roach, for portrait of John Hubbard and Carole Landis in posed portrait of more than one person class. Robert Coburn, Sol Lesser, best posed production scene for choir scene from 'Our Town'. Elmer Fryer, Warners, best exterior action production still for scene from 'The Sea Hawk'. Bert Six, Warners, best action still (any type) for shot of Humphrey Bogart in 'High Sierra'. Frank Powolny, 20th-Fox, fashion still of Brenda Joyce. Elmer Fryer, Warners, novelty still picture for still from 'The Sea Hawk'.

The theatre was filled to capacity as the awards were presented by Walter Wanger, Academy prexy, Rosalind Russell, Carole Landis, Jane Wyman, Anne Gwynne and John Carradine. Scores of visitors brought cameras with them and spent the evening shooting closeups of the celebrities.

A total of 636 entries were submitted in the competition by 59 of the top ranking still cameramen in the film industry, and more than 500 of the pictures have been hung in the exhibit, which will continue until Sunday (27). The stills were judged on visual attractiveness, reproduction quality for publication, composition and technical quality. Only pictures made in connection with motion pictures from March 1, 1940, to March 1, 1941, were eligible.

The affair is sponsored by the Public Relations Institute of the Academy. The supervisory committee in charge is composed of Perry Lieber, chairman; John Joseph, Howard Strickling, George Brown, Louis Smith, Harry Brand. Robert Taplinger, Frank Seltzer, Jock Lawrence, John LeRoy Johnston and Donald Gledhill, executive secretary of the Academy.

JUDGES LISTED

Judges who made the awards are Peter Piening, Life; Vernon Pope, Look; Tom Maloney, U. S. Camera; Mike Kennedy, Chicago Tribune; Thomas Sherman, St. Louis Post-Dispatch; Stanley Kalish, Milwaukee Journal; Arch Luther, Philadelphia Inquirer; Warden Woolard, Los Angeles Examiner; Charles Judson, Los Angeles Daily News; Stanley Gordon, Los Angeles Times; Gene Withers, Los Angeles Herald-Express; Harold Swisher, Hollywood Citizen-News; George Watson, Acme Newspictures; Don Brinn, New York Times-Wide World Photos; George Reineking, International News Photos; Dick Strobel, Associated Press; Gregg Toland, cinematographer; Farciot Edouart, technical expert; Ken Clayton, Des Moines Register-Tribune.

Al O'Keefe Breezes For Trek Into Utah, Colo.

Al O'Keefe, Universal western district manager, pulled out last night for Salt Lake City and Denver, to be away about 10 days. O'Keefe returned over the weekend from Seattle where he installed Foster Blake, former Los Angeles exchange salesman, as branch manager for the company. He replaces L. J. McGinley who in turn has gone to Indianapolis to replace Had Hull, who died recently.

Howard Stubbins Heads Mono Group In

Monogram exchange group, headed by Howard Stubbins, Pacific Coast franchise distributor, pulled in yesterday from company's first regional convention of the 1941-42 season, held at San Francisco over the weekend. Sales Manager Steve Broidy and Lloyd Lynn, head of the Monogram contract department, who participated, returned here and will leave Thursday for Chicago where second regional is skedded for next Sunday.

McGowan's Gaggeroo

Robert McGowan will act as dialog director and gagman on 'Henry for President' at Paramount.

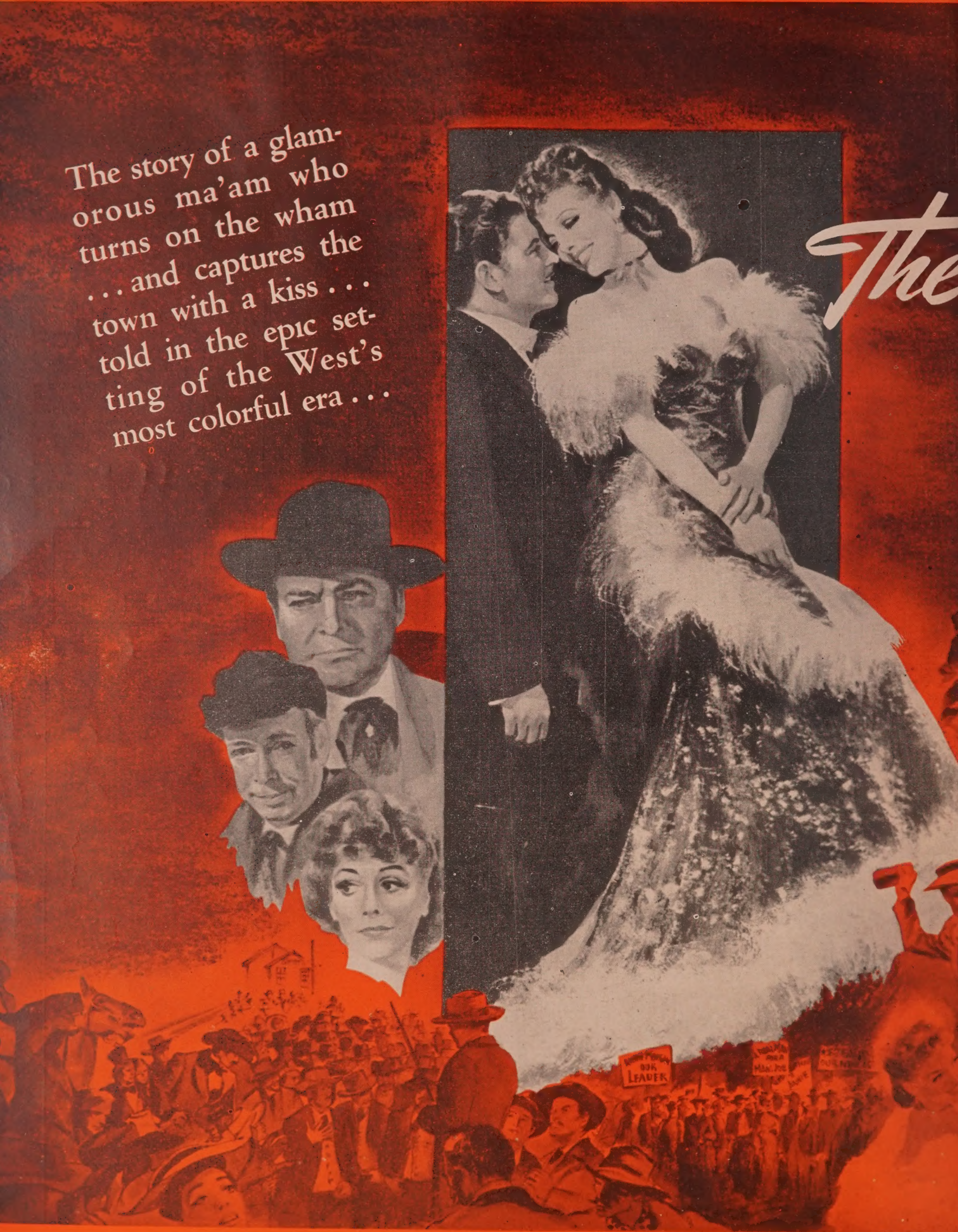
PRODUCTION STARTING

(Columbia)

'Our Wife'
Dir.: John M. Stahl
Asst.: Reginald Callow

TAKE A BOW!
FIBBER McGEE & MOLLY
(MARIAN & JIM JORDAN)
TODAY BEGIN THEIR SIXTH YEAR ON THE AIR FOR JOHNSON'S WAX—6:30 P.M. — NBC - KFI —
UNDER MANAGEMENT NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO. PROGRAM AND TALENT SALES
NBC — Sunset & Vine
Alex Robb, Manager
HO 6161

From the Producer-Director who gave you "Mutin



The story of a glamorous ma'am who turns on the wham ... and captures the town with a kiss ... told in the epic setting of the West's most colorful era ...

Produced and Directed by **FRANK LLOYD**

Associate Producer

on the Bounty"... "Cavalcade"... "Wells Fargo"

FRANK LLOYD PRODUCTIONS, INC.

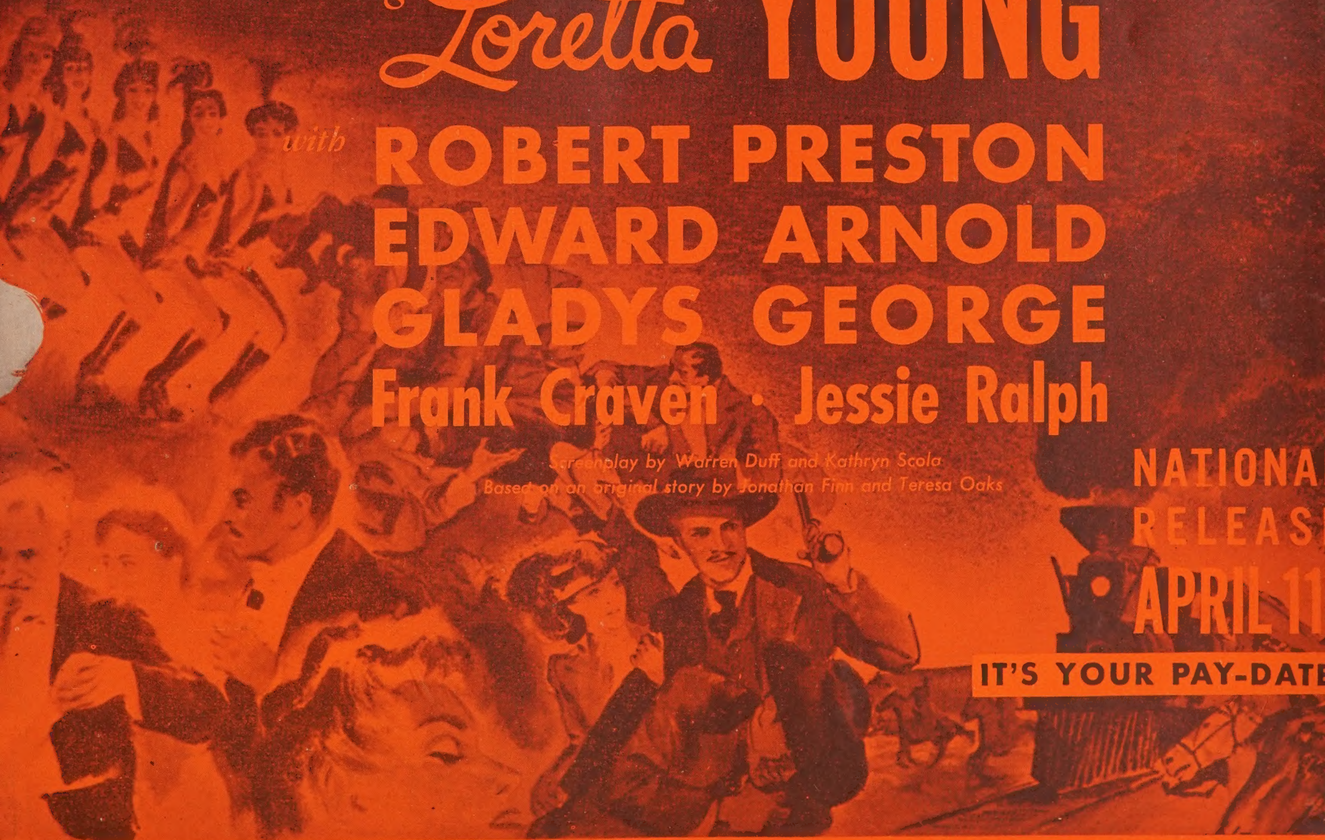
presents

LADY FROM CHEYENNE

starring Loretta YOUNG

with ROBERT PRESTON
EDWARD ARNOLD
GLADYS GEORGE
Frank Craven · Jessie Ralph

Screenplay by Warren Duff and Kathryn Scola
Based on an original story by Jonathan Finn and Teresa Oaks



NATIONA
RELEAS
APRIL 11

IT'S YOUR PAY-DATE

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My deep appreciation
to all the people of
Universal.

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PRODUCER and DIRECTOR

"THE LADY FROM CHEYENNE"

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

JACK H. SKIRBALL

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Ready for shooting
A FRANK LLOYD PRODUCTION
"I, JAMES LEWIS"
(Tentative Title)

"THE LADY FROM CHEYENNE"

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Thank You—
Frank Lloyd and Jack Skirball

ROBERT PRESTON

"THE LADY FROM CHEYENNE"

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Central City Readies Two Operas For 10th Season

Denver, April 14.—For its 10th annual play festival, opening July 5, the Central City Opera House Association will break its nine-year practice of presenting only one play. This year both 'The Barber of Seville' and 'Orfeo Ed Euridice', better known as 'Orpheus' will be given alternate performances.

Two complete casts are being signed, made up largely of Metropolitan Opera stars and a local chorus. Frank St. Leger will again produce and direct, with Robert Edmond Jones, who produced and directed the first several years, back in charge of settings and costumes.

Engagement runs three weeks, with 'Barber' presented 15 times and 'Orpheus' 10. House, with its 800-seats, will be tariffed at $2.50 top during the week to $3.50 for Saturday nights, and a flat $5 for the opening.

Donlevy's Additions

Brian Donlevy reports back to Metro for four days added scenes in 'Billy the Kid.' He finished in Paramount's 'The Great Man's Lady' Saturday, and following 'Kid' additions, goes into the Bing Crosby starrer at Paramount, 'Birth of the Blues'.

Planted

Universal

Ed Stanley, Ray Spiker, Chuck Morrison, Russell Hicks, Eugene Jackson, John Dilson, 'Beyond the Law'.

Dave Thursby, Dorothy Vaughan, Grace Lem, 'Half Way to Shanghai'.

Paul Ellis, Paul McVey, Marek Wyndheim, Paco Moreno, Jerry Mandy, Reid Kilpatrick, Eddie Coke, 'Too Many Blondes'.

Robert Emmett Keane, James Farley, Edna Hall, Brick Sullivan, Patsy O'Byrne, Loren Raker, Doris Herbert, Virginia Engels, Richard Crane, Eddie Dunn, Lee Kass, Dick Alexander, Don Terry, Mickey Simpson, 'In the Navy'.

William Hall, John McGuire, Mary Field, Stanley Blystone, Dick Alexander, Ernie Adams, Jack Clifford, 'Sea Raiders'.

Warners

Eddie Graham, Cyril King, Charles Drake, Garrett Craig, Garland Smith, Charles Sherlock, 'The Gentle People'.

Charles Drake, 'Sergeant York'.

Jeffrey Sayre, 'Manpower'.

Ernie Stanton, Leslie Dennison, 'The Flight Patrol'.

RKO

Neil Hamilton, 'Father Takes a Wife'.

James Patten, 'Cyclone On Horseback'.

Robert Smith, 'Parachute Battalion'.

Lindy Ware, 'The Devil and Daniel Webster'.

Paramount

Rudolph Cameron, 'The Parson of Panamint'.

Edward McWade, 'Nothing But the Truth'.

Columbia

Fred Kohler, Jr., Alan Hale, Jr., 'Betty Co-ed'.

H'D GOODWILL TROUPE FADES FROM MEXICO CITY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

ture fans yank out their knives and slash their seats to ribbons if they don't like a show there hasn't been a single instance of theatre seat mutilation since the gang arrived.

Junketeers have taken it big every minute of the long 60-hour riot. Sightseeing was out. Shopping was almost impossible to sandwich in between events. Mexico's bosom is broad and warm and the picture people have been given an example of hospitality they cannot forget. Mexico won't forget it either.

There have been some mild complaints from the local press, but so far there has not been a press conference with the Mexican press, although some of the more enterprising, on a catch-as-catch-can basis, have snagged interviews from individuals in the party.

Government officials, although hospitable and sporting to a fault, have expressed some displeasure over the fact that the junketeers are not remaining here four full days. The Motion Picture Industry Festival, decreed by President Avila Camacho, was to have lasted that long, but Hollywood cut it short.

Entertainment has been of a kind few of the group have ever seen before. Official government receptions have been stiff, hot and crowded, but the night spots, a fiesta, savage frenzied dances by native Indians, a superb riding exhibition by gentlemen riders and a ball last night at the Theatre of Fine Arts, one of the most beautiful and expensive houses in the world, have all brought gasps from the picture people.

Mrs. Oliver Hardy, so far, is the only casualty. Last night, at the brilliant ball, she slipped on some steps and sprained her ankle. She had to be returned to the hotel for medical attention. Today she was hobbling painfully.

Ball, attended by more than 2,000 persons, with the women charming in decollete and the men all in dinner clothes, save for the high ranking army and navy officers in their gold-braided, lavish uniforms, was a brilliant affair. The music was splendid and the stars really gave out with expressions of awe when they saw the great solid glass curtain, which it took Tiffany two years to make, in the Theatre of Fine Arts.

President Avila Camacho showed today as the party left for the airport. He held a brief reception and expressed regrets that he had not been present during most of the fiesta.

Those planing out were Frank Morgan, Wallace Beery, Frank Capra, Mickey Rooney, Brenda Joyce, Norma Shearer, David O. Selznick, Mischa Auer, Johnny Weissmuller, Patricia Morison, Esther Fernandez, Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball, Sabu, Joe E. Brown, Brenda Marshall, William Holden, Kay Francis and Susan Hayward. The Laurels and Hardys, and Mary Gordon, left on the train. Plane party will spend the night at Guadalajara, arriving in Hollywood late tomorrow afternoon.

Vic Connors in H'wood For Conferences On AFRA Setup

Vic Connors, newly appointed national organizer for the American Federation of Radio Artists, arrived yesterday from San Francisco to confer with local AFRA officials. He is scheduled to return to San Francisco tonight to wind up his affairs there and will then go to New York to establish headquarters.

Connors resigned as executive secretary of the Bay City American Guild of Variety Artists to accept his new post.

'Crockett' Scheduled

'The Son of Davy Crockett' is scheduled to start shooting tomorrow at Columbia with Bill Elliott in the lead as the last of his current season's westerns. Iris Meredith has the femme spot and Lambert Hillyer directs from his original story. Leon Barsha produces.

'Rich' Catches Steps

Chorus rehearsals for 'You'll Never Get Rich', Columbia's Fred Astaire-Rita Hayworth musical, got underway yesterday at the Hollywood Masonic Temple under the direction of Bob Alton.

Pair Join 'Society'

William Frawley and Herbert Rawlinson have been set for feature spots in 'Blondie in Society' at Columbia.

Moral Lament

Sacramento, April 14.—It is now legal to take virtually everything else from an entertainer, excepting wardrobe, and the typewriter of a newspaper reporter, under a bill just signed by Gov. Olson. Measure declares them exempt from attachment or execution along with a chiropodist's instruments, waiters' uniforms and a cook's implements.

'Gas Light' Tour Of Canada In Shafer's Book

George Shafer, now presenting 'Gas Light' at the Hollywood Playhouse, is planning a tour of Canada with the company shortly after closing of the local run Saturday. Local troupe, which will be held intact for tour, will probably open in Vancouver. After a tour of the Dominion, Shafer then plans hitting New York in the late summer or early fall for a run there.

Because of the small operating nut and play's English background, Shafer figures Canadian tour will give him a reasonable profit for the jaunt. 'Gas Light' run at the Playhouse the past six weeks has yet to dip into the red. Small nut is also a factor in Shafer's New York plans, where he believes that by using the cut-rate houses and selling English angle a profit can be shown.

Schenck, Moskowitz Case May Go To Jury Tomorrow

New York, April 14. — Federal Judge Grover Moscowitz today refused to dismiss the income tax evasion charges against Joseph M. Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz. In making his plea for dismissal in the chambers of Judge Moscowitz, Harold H. Corbin, defense counsel, insisted the government had failed to make a case and that improper evidence had been admitted. He said one avenue of defense had been blocked by refusal of the Treasury Department to permit him to question agents.

U. S. Attorney Mathias Correa said he had advised the local office of the Treasury to give Corbin any information he desired. He said several agents were called, but that the court rejected their testimony as immaterial.

The jury will be recalled tomorrow when Attorney Corbin starts his summation. He will be followed by the prosecutor Wednesday morning, with probability that the case will be given to the jury late Wednesday.

'Scarface' Rolling

'Lady Scarface' went into production yesterday at RKO with Judith Anderson in the title role, replacing Marjorie Rambeau, who failed to complete another assignment in time for the new part. Added to the cast yesterday were Arthur Shields, Marion Martin, Mildred Coles, who reports as soon as she recovers from recent appendectomy; Eddie Conrad and Horace MacMahon.

U's Featuret Starts

Set for featured spots in Universal's musical featuret, starting today, are Henry King and His Orchestra, The Kings Men, Eleanor Hansen, Billy Burt, Jimmy Dodd and Dinorah Rego. Reginald Le Borg is directing.

Obituary

HENRY W. O'MELVENY

Henry W. O'Melveny, 82, senior member of the legal firm of O'Melveny and Myers, which numbers motion picture organizations and theatres among its clients, died yesterday in Good Samaritan hospital, where he was taken three days ago. Up to last year the law firm was known as O'Melveny, Tuller and Myers, but was changed following the death of Walter K. Tuller.

WHEN SPEED'S YOUR NEED PHONE TELEGRAMS TO
Postal Telegraph
CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

NLRB Is Preparing To Press Disney Unfair Charges

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

Motion Picture Film Editors accusing Disney of 'sponsoring a company union'.

Walter Spreckels, NLRB regional director, declined to state whether Washington had been asked to set a date for a hearing in the Disney case, but other board attaches hinted that sufficient evidence had been uncovered to warrant action. They expressed the belief an early hearing would be ordered unless an amicable agreement was reached with the unions demanding recognition as collective bargaining representatives for the workers.

Aubrey Blair, AFofL international representative; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and George E. Bodle, counsel for the SCG, are scheduled to confer with Lessing this afternoon. It is understood that both union tops and the rank and file workers are clamoring for drastic action if company executives persist in their refusal to talk agreements. Lot stewards have been meeting with the Cartoonists daily to get a consensus of opinion as to their views on what action should be taken.

The SCG claims to represent a majority of the 700 Disney workers, while the Teamsters, Film Editors and other groups also are demanding agreements.

a.m. Dailies

Bercovici Sues Chaplin—

Konrad Bercovici, novelist, yesterday filed $5,000,000 plagiarism suit against Charles Chaplin in New York Supreme court, charging the comedian-producer had used the plaintiff's idea in 'The Great Dictator' without having received either credit or payment. Bercovici also specified in his suit that he had a contract with Chaplin since 1937 to write originals for the defendant, for which he was to receive 15% of gross plus screen credit. Part of the damages asked were for alleged work on 'The Haymarket Riot' and 'The Cry of the Wolf', screenplays he says were ordered by Chaplin and Paulette Goddard.

Flynn Driver Injured—

Max Carmel, chauffeur for Errol Flynn, was painfully but not seriously injured in auto smash on way here from San Diego Sunday.

Don't Forget....
You Have a Date....
National Convention of
The Variety Clubs
of America
Traymore Hotel
Atlantic City, N. J.
May 15th, 16th & 17th

COL'S BIG FAMILY

Columbia has signed term contract deals with Claire Trevor and John Hubbard, bringing the total of its current contract list, including special picture commitments, to 40, or 27 actors and 13 femmes. Studio has no assignment as yet for Miss Trevor but Hubbard goes immediately into 'Our Wife'. Actor's contract with Hal Roach was taken over by Columbia in inking the term deal.

JAMES ROOSEVELT TAKES BRIDE IN RITES HERE

Exchanging vows in a double ring rite before a bower-altar in a private home in Beverly Hills yesterday afternoon, Captain James Roosevelt, eldest son of the President, and Miss Romelle Theresa Schneider, his former nurse, were married in a civil ceremony. In the presence of the groom's mother, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who planed here for the occasion; intimate friends of his, the bride's mother, Mrs. Jerome M. Schneider, and other relatives, the service was read by Municipal Judge Arthur S. Guerin in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George P. Converse at 1029 Hanover drive.

Just prior to the ceremony, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, bestowing the President's as well as her own blessing, took the 25-year-old Wisconsin girl who was soon to become the bride, in her arms and expressed her happiness. Grouped about the wedding bower, decorated with Easter lilies, aside from Captain Roosevelt's mother and the bride's mother, were the groom's sister, Mrs. Anna Boettiger and her husband, John Boettiger, Seattle publisher; the bride's sister, Miss Phyllis Schneider, and Mrs. Lon F. Tubbs, and among guests in a limited list of 25, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Henigson, Mr. and Mrs. Reeves Espy, George Cohen of Loeb, Walker and Loeb, and his wife; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Howard, Arthur Ungar, editor of Daily Variety, and Mrs. Ungar; Miss Helen McKenzie and James Benjamin, and the hosts, Mr. and Mrs. George Converse (the former Anita Stewart).

The bride was given in marriage by her brother, George Schneider, a student at Notre Dame. Matron of honor was Mrs. Maurice Benjamin, whose husband, close friend of Captain Roosevelt, was best man.

Captain Roosevelt, on short leave from his post with the U. S. Marines, was not in uniform. The bride wore an heirloom brought for her by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt—a diamond pin—which had belonged to the latter's mother, and also on her simple traveling dress the diamond clip sent to her by the President. The groom's gift was a diamond and ruby bracelet.

The nuptials were followed by a patio luncheon. Jan Rubini's string orchestra furnished the music, with Salvatore Sanatella at the piano.

The bridal pair departed shortly afterward on a brief honeymoon to an undisclosed destination. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt planed east to keep a speaking engagement in Charlotte, N. C. The Boettigers motored to San Simeon.

Captain Roosevelt leaves on foreign duty Friday.

WB Dates 'Bullets'

Warners has set starting date for 'Bullets For O'Hara', William K. Howard directing, for (21).

Play Review

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

A first night turnout of city swells went slumming last night through William Saroyan's double prize winner of last year. Theatre Guild's comedy-drama of life that passes through a waterfront saloon at the foot of Frisco's Embarcadero left most of the sitters as confounded as those who voted it the prize stage piece of the year—not once, but twice.

Being a Saroyan play, the action must take place where liquor is poured and every man spouts philosophy, most of it either deeply significant or just plain daffy—take your choice. 'We're all nuts', lets go a minion of the law, and some of the payees must have agreed with him, or what were they doing there?

What's the play about? Those who know their Saroyan can give the answer fast, 'What difference does it make? You'll have the time of your life trying to figure out what the Fresno Armenian is driving at unless deep in the folds of the play you can detect a fluttering clue. It's fun though, like trying to put together a jigsaw puzzle with a dozen pieces missing.

Eddie Dowling, who shares in the presentation and directed, with Saroyan, has the meatiest role as the spendthrift who drowns something or other in drink and takes up with every prostie that frequents the dive. He gives the role a colorful touch and an even, restrained performance. Julie Haydon, Hollywood's own, isn't overburdened with work as one of the soiled doves who rests her insteps at Nick's Pacific Street Saloon, Restaurant and Entertainment Palace.

Good bits are sprinkled throughout the three acts, five scenes, with a drunk, a cop, a hoofer, an Indian fighter, a barkeep and a lovesick Elmer drawing ovations for their contributions, extraneous and detached from the main theme (?) as they are.

Cast is one of the largest to trod the Biltmore boards in some time. Supporting Dowling and Miss Haydon are Blackie Shackner, Housley Stevens, Sr., John Farrell, Leo Chalzel, Ross Bagdasarian, Edward Andrews, Henry Jones, Fred Kelly, Reginald Beane, Nene Vibber, Grover Burgess, Hene Damur, William Bendix, Charles Kane, Arthur Hunnicutt, Ann Brody, Howard Barnhart, Marilyn Monk, Evelyn Geller, Carmel White, Eva Leonard-Boyne, Ainsworth Arnold, Tony Albert.

'Time of Your Life' will be on view at the Biltmore for two weeks. It's worth seeing if for no other reason than to try to savvy how the voting goes back east on what constitutes the best stagecraft of a year of plays.

Block Columbia Plant Reopening This Forenoon

★ Continued from page 1 ★

line, although only a few are union members. They declined to say whether this move was part of a plan to try to reopen.

Negotiations between the company and the union apparently had bogged down yesterday, but it was stated they would be resumed at 9:30 a.m. today when another attempt will be made to reach an agreement. Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. labor conciliator, is expected to sit in on the session. While hoping that an amicable settlement would be reached, unionists said they were going ahead with plans for a monster demonstration in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Saturday night.

Officials of the union said letters were being sent to retail outlets of Columbia warning them they would face a secondary picket line if they stocked any records handled by Columbia. They said it also was possible that a permanent picket line would be established at CBS, which they claim is the parent company of Columbia. Studios who secure air trailers from Columbia also have been requested to suspend business with the company pending outcome of the strike.

Officers of the UERMW of A said the new deal with Allied called for a minimum scale of 72½ cents per hour, with an average throughout the plant of 84½ cents per hour. They said contract also calls for vacations with pay, closed shop, and blazes the way for severance pay for workers called into the military service.

The strike at Columbia was called at 7 a.m. Friday (11) when the company was reported to have refused to negotiate the union's demand that the minimum ceiling be tilted from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents. The union had offered to compromise these demands, but withdrew their offer after the walkout had started. About 85 workers responded to the strike call, completely suspending operations at the plant which handles the bulk of the transcription business west of the Rockies. Strike headquarters have been opened at 1030 N. Seward.

Robert Kennedy is chairman of the union negotiating committee, working in cooperation with William B. Elconin, international representative of the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Paul Crowley is local manager of Columbia, which has its home offices in Bridgeport, Conn.

Title Changes

'Love At First Sight' is release title for the latest El Brendel comedy at Columbia.

Columbia's 'Singapore' to 'The Blonde From Singapore'.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE
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M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offic

UNION BOLTS COLUMBIA PARLEY

PAINE, MILLS SEE MUTUAL ON TUNE-UP

New York, April 15.—John Paine, general manager, and E. C. Mills, chairman of the administrative committee, of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, were scheduled to meet with Mutual's copyright committee in Chicago tomorrow to go over the terms of two licensing plans which were offered the network. Twosome as part of Ascap's radio committee had initial

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Atlas Purchases More RKO Common Stock

New York, April 15.—Further indication that Atlas Corporation (Odlum) will have an increased influence in RKO is seen in the purchase of 17,631 shares of the corporation's common stock, as revealed in the Securities Exchange Commission tabulation for February. Deal gives Atlas 762,127 shares of RKO common, or more than one-fourth of the 2,740,000 shares outstanding as of January 1, last.

Levey Goes East Thurs. On Mayfair Pic

Jules Levey, head of Mayfair Productions, planes for New York Thursday to confer with Olsen and Johnson on filming of 'Hellzapoppin' at Universal. Levey will be accompanied by H. C. Potter, who will direct; Glenn Tryon, associate producer, and Nat Perrin, writer. Levey remains east two weeks while others return to Coast the first of next week.

Jack Baxter Arrives On Shorts Series

Jack A. Baxter has arrived in Hollywood from New York to select a studio where he plans to produce a number of musical shorts for the new Select-O-Vision company, first of the selective coin-in-slot movie machines on the market. Baxter expects to sign a number of film personalities in addition to top dance bands and vocalists.

Cansinos in 'Blondes'

Jose Cansino and Carmela Cansino, dance team, have featured place in Universal's Rudy Vallee starrer, 'Too Many Blondes.'

MELNIKER QUITS CENTRAL TO JOIN ARMY

Harold Melniker is resigning as chief executive assistant at Central Casting Corp. to enter the military service Thursday (24). He has been directed to report at the Army induction station on that date, and expects to be sent to Fort MacArthur for a preliminary shakedown. Be-

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Welles Talks Ciggie

New York, April 15.—Chesterfield, which is looking around for a new half hour show, has talked to Orson Welles but has not obtained an option on his services.

BAD FAITH CHARGE HURLED BY OUTFIT

Union leaders walked out of a negotiations meeting with the Columbia Recording Corp. yesterday when company officials refused to increase their offer of a 1.7 cents per hour wage increase. William Elconin, international representative of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, accused the company of 'bad faith', and stated that secondary picket lines faced any retail outlets patronizing Columbia during the strike.

The meeting lasted only 10 minutes Donald W. Thornburgh, vice-

★ Continued on page 12 ★

Mexican Festival Party Gleeful Over Pix As U. S. Defense Weapon

By CHARLES DAGGETT

That motion pictures are the United States' greatest weapon in defense of America against totalitarianism and that film stars are the most powerful of plenipotentiaries was the collective opinion expressed yesterday by those who returned via Guadalajara in three plane loads from the Mexican Motion Picture Festival at Mexico City.

Already plans are hatching for junkets to other Latin-American capitals. High United States government officials believed, and are now convinced, after what happened in

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Fleming to Florida

Director Victor Fleming leaves tomorrow for Ocala, Fla., with Hal Rosson, cameraman, to line up scenes for main unit of Metro's 'The Yearling.'

Altschuler Joins Lab Outfit in New York

Richard Altschuler, who resigned from Republic last week, assumes post of vice president and general manager of Consolidated Laboratory, Inc., in New York this week. He was formerly president of the American Record Company.

Binnie Barnes Works

Binnie Barnes reported back to work at Republic yesterday in 'Angels With Broken Wings' after a week's layoff to recover from injuries received during scuffle in the picture.

MAJORS FOREIGN RECEIPTS 56% OF AMOUNT YEAR AGO

New York, April 15.—Despite increased revenue from such lesser markets as China, the Philippines and Cuba, major film company income from foreign sources generally is only 56% of what it was a year ago. Ten to 20% boost from the smaller territories, representing only about one per cent of the foreign total, is insufficient to compensate for the loss of the principal markets.

Because of coin export restrictions the income from Great Britain is only about two-thirds of that received a year ago. Latin-America is up about 10%, while the revenue from other countries is about follow-

◆ Continued on page 12 ◆

NATHANSON MAY RESIGN FAMOUS, CANADIAN POST

New York, April 15.—It is possible that N. L. Nathanson, head of Famous Players-Canadian Corporation, Paramount's operating partner in Canada, may resign, due to increasing activity with the British-Canadian war services. As vice-chairman of Canadian Broadcasting, he also acts as financial advisor for the Canadian government's network. Whether he will find it essential to give up the Paramount theatre operation for the duration to devote his time to war services is not definite. It is understood, however, that renewal of his operating agreement with Paramount, coming up in July, is by no means certain.

H'wood Names Offered For Summer Plays

New York, April 15.—Among Hollywood film names being offered for summer theatre engagements are Stuart Erwin, who wants to appear in 'Male Animal'; Charles Butterworth, for 'George Washington Slept Here'; Eddie Bracken, for 'The Nervous Wreck' or 'June Moon', and Freddie Bartholomew for 'Remember the Day.'

Storm Leads Chiller

Gale Storm is signed for the femme topper in Republic's 'Saddlemates', a Three Mesquiteer which starts today. Les Orlebeck directs. Lou Gray produces. Forbes Murray and Glenn Strange get important featured roles.

William Tops 'Geese'

Warren William has top support spot in 20th-Fox's 'Wild Geese Calling.'

PREVIEWED

ZIEGFELD GIRL (MG)

(Preview on page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Mrs. Guy Kibbee celebrated a birthday yesterday.

Universal studio cops are sporting natty new uniforms.

Art Campbell is art director on Metro's new 'Tarzan'.

Roy Disney left for New York yesterday on business.

Fred Brookins, Little theatre grad, is being tested at Warners for contract.

Bob Fender is a new member of Warners studio publicity department.

Herbert Wilcox, Anna Neagle and Stuart Robertson arrive today from Toronto.

Rita Johnson in from New York via American Airlines to resume picture work at Columbia.

From 200 to 300 extras will be used during the next week in battle scenes for Metro's 'The Uniform'.

Greer Garson prepping for several weeks' vacation, following completion of 'Blossoms In the Dust' at Metro.

John Christ of the J. Walter Thompson radio staff in New York due here next week to begin an army hitch.

Emmett Lynn has returned to his 'Whopper' role in RKO's Tim Holt series, after having been bedded six weeks with the flu.

O. B. Hanson, NBC chief engineer, back to New York after checking up on facilities for the chain's new studio in Frisco.

Mills Music, Inc., has acquired publication rights to songs and music score for Columbia's 'Time Out For Rhythm' and 'Betty Co-ed'.

Charles Levy, of RKO's New York publicity staff, arrived yesterday for a brief stay and look around the studio. This is Levy's first studio visit in the 16 years with RKO.

J. Cheever Cowdin arrives today from the east and will be followed tomorrow by Nate Blumberg. Both are coming in to attend the marriage of Deanna Durbin and Vaughn Paul Friday.

Tonight is 'Metro Night' at the First Annual Still Photography Show of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which opened Monday in the Academy's Review theatre at 1455 N. Gordon. Judy Garland will be the major attraction.

Benny the Gouge sez — Milton Berle is about to toss a testimonial dinner for that outstanding scholar, Maxie Rosenbloom, the Luther Burbank of Cauliflowers. Ain't higher education grand.

Hollywood Inside

LOYALTY carries a higher value to Jim and Marian Jordan than a few extra thousand dollars a week. Finishing off six years on the air for Johnson wax yesterday, the Jordans (Fibber McGee and Molly) were baited with twice the coin they're getting to swing over to Swan soap for Lever Bros. after their current sponsorship expires. The Jordans gave the proposal a polite turndown with the explanation, 'they (Johnsons) gave us our big chance and stuck with us and we're not leaving them for any consideration'. The 'Fibber' program reposes in top position in the Hooper ratings and holds third spot in the latest Crossley release.

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THE only hitch in seven hour visit here of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt to attend son James' nuptials came when someone forgot to call American Air operations chief and inform of First Lady's wish to board the Mercury at Grand Central terminal. Departure time at Lockheed came and Mrs. FDR hadn't showed. The ship waited, as last info Mrs. Roosevelt would embark there. Soon call came from GC airport Mrs. Roosevelt was waiting patiently there for the ship. Plane immediately hopped over, picked up their last passenger and winged out a half hour late.

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INHIBITIONS by officials of Douglas Aircraft Corp. and British Purchasing Commission against disclosure by 20th-Fox company of locations where shots with bombers are being made for 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' were not, as had been surmised, to keep the plane scenes secret from the public eye, but because scenes would attract crowds which might get out of hand and interfere with regular plane operations. So Director Henry King and his crew are working at secret airport.

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FOLLOWING success of Universal's Abbott and Costello service number, 'Buck Privates', which was especially relished by the lads in uniform, studio is getting avalanche of letters from other branches of the U. S. military, especially the Air Corps and the Marines, asking that comic pair give their ranks a whirl. Studio has scripts in preliminary work which may take Abbott and Costello through every branch of the service. Intended as numbers from which a selection of an official song for recruits of the Naval Training Station at San Diego were to be selected within the next few days, 'Bring On the Navy' and 'They're Off to See the World' were submitted to Commander Schulten and base station committee by Universal studio. Songs are by Don Raye and Gene de Paul, cleffed for Universal's new Abbott and Costello feature, 'In the Navy.'

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ON the unconfirmed rumor that the U. S. Navy is about to make changes in its uniforms, Warners is holding off scenes in its 'Navy Blues' until studio is certain of any possble alterations which would outmode its picture. Report about change of gobs' dress, while not official, is reported to come from reliable source, with need said to be based on need for less conspicuous duds.

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BERT LAHR, in Minneapolis en route from Rochester, Minn. to Milwaukee with 'DuBarry Was a Lady' company, declared his deal with Metro was still hanging fire. He and the studio are still about $2,000 apart on the bargaining. It was recently announced that comedian already was slated for Metro's 'DuBarry' and Paramount's 'Panama Hattie.'

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THE mystery of 'L. T. Crossley' at the William Esty agency has finally been solved. It developed that he's a mythical being, invented by Bill Moore to act as buffer between his office and callers. The L.T. in Crossley reports means 'less than one', which is the exact count on Esty's George Spelvin.
means 'less than one', which is the exact count on Esty's George Splevin.

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LARGEST sepia print order turned out by Metro laboratory in past two years will be 357 for 'Ziegfeld Girl'. Tint prints, of blue-orange combination, are a special color developed by J. M. Nickolaud, head of Metro laboratory.

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THE MOVING PICTURE PAINTERS LOCAL 644 has decided to defer election of a recording secretary until the regular election of officers in June. At that time both a recording and a financial secretary will be selected.

Coast League Baseball Results

San Diego, 4; San Francisco, 3 (10 innings).

Los Angeles, 3; Sacramento, 2.
Seattle, 13; Oakland, 2.
Hollywood, 9; Portland, 7.

Darrieux Seeks Divorce

Cannes, France, April 15.—Danielle Darrieux has filed suit for divorce here against Henri Decoin, film writer-director-producer. Husband of the actress, however, will continue as her manager.

Julian Johnson, 20th-Fox Pact Effective May 30

Julian Johnson has a new year's contract at 20th-Fox as story editor, going into effect May 20. This will make his 10th year on the Westwood lot. Recently expanded department has bought 28 properties since Jan. 1.

Alan Mowbray East

Alan Mowbray has trained for Philadelphia where he will open a week's personal appearance at the Earle theatre Friday (18). From there he goes to Newark and New York for a week each on bookings lined up by the Music Corporation of America.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was a time when beards were emblematic
Of dignity, of wisdom and of age.
A youthful doctor never felt emphatic
Unless he spoke behind a hedge of sage.

Your doctors now are shorn and sanitary
To shun the germs that waft when breezes blow
And now the wind chimes, waving light and airy,
Are backgrounds for a motion picture show.

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Martyr to the cinema art is Walter Huston, sitting in the House of Murphy and straining a flock of corned beef through a flock of whiskers.

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A hat is a medium designed for the expression of individuality, chiefly among femmes. A male skimmer is largely conventional, fashioned by somebody in a Connecticut hat factory and chosen by the wearer's wife. Now and then a bachelor wears a hat until it becomes an antique. To him it is a mark of genius but to his neighbors it is a refugee from the dust bowl. It is the feminine hat that radiates latent emotion. There was Jeanette MacDonald's new spring bonnet, a straw sailor, topped by a nest of feathers in which nestled two eggs.

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Barbara Stanwyck also runs to vitamines in her new lapel decoration. Instead of the ordinary costume jewelry, Barbara wears a tangerine, plucked off a tree in her garden. It is a good idea if the gals don't go too far. What if they grow watermelons?

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If the boys keep on postponing 'How Green Was My Valley' it will break out with a crop of hay.

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Pride goeth before something or other. Olympe Bradna, decked in her new spring finery and driving her first new car, became tangled with mechanical difficulties in the hills near Santa Barbara and telephoned for assistance from a nearby peasant's cottage. Olympe rode back to the hotel on the handlebars of a motor scooter, in all her spring finery. And were her cheeks red?

Cliff Nazarro has been working so continuously that he can't take a vacation. So his next job is 'You'll Never Get Rich.'

Earl Carroll's latest call for femme thesps in his new revue is simple and direct. 'They must be beautiful.' Modern drama runs to glama, or words to that effect.

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Don King breaks into pictures with a lot of potential horsepower. He got that way jerking gasoline.

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Modern version of the old axiom, 'Business before pleasure', is the new Paramount story, 'Take a Letter, Darling.'

Preview

★

Ziegfeld Girl

(*Drama With Music*)

Metro release of a Pandro S. Berman production. Stars James Stewart, Judy Garland, Hedy Lamarr and Lana Turner. Features Tony Martin, Jackie Cooper, Ian Hunter, Edward Everett Horton, Paul Kelly, Charles Winninger, Philip Dorn. Supporting cast: Eve Arden, Dan Dailey, Jr., Al Shean, Fay Holden, Felix Bressart, Rose Hobart, Bernard Nedell, Ed McNamara, Mae Busch, Renie Riano, Josephine Whittell and Sergio Orta. Director, Robert Z. Leonard. Screenplay, Marguerite Roberts and Sonya Levien. Original story, William Anthony McGuire. Musical numbers directed by Busby Berkeley. Photography, Ray June. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Daniel B. Cathcart. Musical presentation, Merrill Pye. Gowns and costumes by Adrian. Film editor, Blanche Sewell. Musical score, Herbert Stothart. Musical direction by Georgie Stoll. Songs: Nacio Herb Brown, Gus Kahn; Roger Edens; Harry Carroll, Joseph McCarthy; Edward Gallagher, Al Shean. Vocals and orchestrations, Leo Arnaud, George Bassman and Conrad Salinger. Previewed at Four Star theatre April 15. Running time: 134 mins.

In 'Ziegfeld Girl' Metro has produced a worthy cinematic echo of that stage institution through which a show world genius helped publicly to glorify the American girl and was himself glorified by her, as she came in waves to grace his salon of follies.

The picture fills its frame with girls as beautiful, decor as lavish, song and dance and clowning as beguiling as anything Florenz Ziegfeld ever assembled behind his footlights and under his battery of spots. It also tells a compelling story of the backstage legend of this assembly of beauty for entertainment — how the girls were picked, where they came from, how they behaved, what happened to some of them and the men who courted them and pampered them, left them or married them.

They have made a dazzling presentation and a strong drama of their legend—Pandro S. Berman, the producer; Robert Z. Leonard, the director; the screen playwrights, Marguerite Roberts and Sonya Levien, working from the original story line by the late William Anthony McGuire, friend and associate of Ziegfeld; Busby Berkeley, director of the musical numbers, and a combination of playing and technical talent capable of lofting the grosses to the ceiling.

James Stewart, Judy Garland, Hedy Lamarr, Lana Turner are a combination of names to spin the turnstiles and entrench for runs even in the most decadent theatres. In the secondary bracket are Tony Martin, Jackie Cooper, Ian Hunter, Charles Winninger, Edward Everett Horton, Paul Kelly and Philip Dorn to head a strong and select support.

The showy numbers and the fetching songs bedizen the eye and ear, but balancing these lighter diversions is a drama mounting gradually to a tragic note, which gives the principal players deeply moving scenes of genuine emotion and dominate the more than two-hour show. The specialties, the comedy with which Ziegfeld relieved his parades of gorgeous fleshlings, are also worked in to round out the pattern and to give the mood variety and the staging contrast.

Upon anecdote and familiar le-

● Continued on page 13 ●

'Kane' Preems at El Capitan May 8; Day-Dates with RKO

'Citizen Kane', the Orson Welles-RKO picture, will be premiered here at El Capitan theatre night of May 8, at a $2.20 top. Thereafter, opus will be day-dated at the boulevard legit house and the RKO Hillstreet, downtown, on a two-a-day policy for El Capitan and three-a-day at the Hillstreet.

Deal for the acquisition of the El Capitan was closed yesterday, and house, for the first time in its career will be devoted to road showing of a motion picture. Policy mapped out calls for unreserved seats at matinee performances, at a top admission price of 75c, and one nightly performance at each theatre, all seats reserved at $1.10 and $1.65.

Day-dating of El Capitan with the RKO Hillstreet, for first time in history, has occasioned some comment in industry circles, as deal leaves out the Pantages theatre, regular daydater with RKO. Under the setup, regular run of film attractions ordinarily played day-date at the two houses, will be screened solo at the Pantages during the run of 'Kane' at the downtown theatre.

El Capitan, which has a seating capacity of 1571, is scaled for a possible $1,862 at the single night performance and slightly better than $20,000 per week. Hillstreet, with a capacity of 2872 and its two matinees and one night show could do as high as $40,000 per week if playing to absolute capacity.

Len Hammond Gets Commish as Captain

Len Hammond, acting associate producer at 20th-Fox, has received a commission as captain in the U. S. Army Signal Corps. He will be attached to Col. Nathan Levinson's unit. He has traveled around the world as a cameraman, and since 1937 has been a production assistant at Metro and at 20th-Fox.

Next For O'Keefe

Dennis O'Keefe, who was recently signed to a term contract at RKO, is scheduled for one of two pictures as his next assignment following the current 'Lady Scarface.' Studio has lined up either 'Journey Into Fear' or 'Weekend For Three' as his next, depending on which faces the cameras first.

Roy Rogers '40 Finale

The eighth and last Roy Rogers starrer for Republic's 1940-41 series will be 'Bad Men of Deadwood.' James Webb is working on screen play. Joe Kane will produce and direct. 'Deadwood' will follow 'Nevada City.' Rogers goes on five to six weeks personals between the two films.

Castings For 'Law'

Fuzzy Knight, Nell O'Day, Elaine Morey, Roy Harris, Charley King and Ethan Laidlaw are in support of Johnny Mack Brown in his Universal starrer, 'Marshal Law', starting today under direction of Ray Taylor. Will Cowan is associate producer.

Mala in 'Dawn'

Mala, just back from Alaska where he appeared in an Eskimo film directed by Ewing Scott, reports at Paramount for part in 'Hold Back the Dawn.'

Unlucky?

New York, April 15.—Stepin Fetchit, denying the story that he was stranded and broke in Minneapolis recently, and continuing his personal appearance tour, is changing the spelling of his last name to 'Fechit', so there will be 12 instead of 13 letters in his handle. He claims 13 brought him bad luck over a period of many years.

Anti-Consent Bill's Opposition Mounts In Minnesota

Minneapolis, April 15. — Last-minute outside opposition to Northwest Allied's anti-Consent Decree bill continues to mount and the Minnesota State Senate is delaying its vote on the measure. State Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Minnesota division of the American Association of University Women have joined the Minneapolis Parent-Teachers Associations, Fifth Federation of Women's Clubs and the Federal Motion Picture Council in writing every senator asking for defeat of the bill on the grounds that it makes block booking mandatory in the state and would place the state's stamp of approval on such a policy.

Measure passed the lower house 103 to 3 the week before last and was expected to breeze through the senate. Now it is admitted that many senators have changed their minds and will be on the negative side. Although it will come before the senate with a favorable committee recommendation, vote is likely to be much closer than previously expected.

Metro, Warners, 20th-Fox and United Artists have been fighting the measure, which, contravening the decree's groups-of-five selling plan for product, would allow regular practice of selling with a minimum 20 per cent cancellation and no forced selling of any films.

In fighting back in the senate, Northwest Allied is distributing circulars denying that block booking is abolished under the decree and would be perpetuated by the proposed law. Circulars claim the legislators are being 'misled' by untruths and that the organizations represented as opposing the bill never have been actually polled.

If the bill passes, film companies are expected to seek a restraining order and fight its constitutionality in the courts.

Ratoff Sets Masters

Gregory Ratoff has signed George Ballanchine and Adolf Bolm, ballet masters, to stage ballet sequences in 'Tonight Belongs to Us' and to instruct Loretta Young in the dancing art. Ratoff is producing and directing the film for Columbia.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

STARS were on the field and in the boxes when the Hollywood Baseball Club opened its home season against Portland last night at Gilmore Field. Pre-game ceremonies were brief, high-lighted by Abbott and Costello cross-firing their baseball routine in front of a mike at the home plate. Tyrone Power shed his coat to pitch the first ball with a windmill windup. For the convenience of the photogs Power pitched three balls, all close to home plate. Large film colony turnout included the Hunt Strombergs, the Leon Schlesingers, J. P. McGowan, Sam Jaffe, Jack Cummings, Charles Coburn, Pandro Berman, Tony Martin, Lana Turner, Dorothy Lamour, Bob Hope, Pat O'Brien, Francis Gifford, Bob Murphy, George Hickey, Dave Butler, Harry Joe Brown and Sally Eilers, the Phil Bergs, the Howard Greens, Gail Patrick, Red Golden and Eugene Pallette. . . . 'Colonel' Billy Edwards, studio flack, is a gag disher-outer but couldn't take it yesterday when the tables were turned. The Colonel gave out a piece of copy reading: 'Rudy Vallee has just one superstition—he will wear nothing but striped neckties.' Copy was returned with the notation: 'What? No g-string?' and the ensuing kidding by his associates caused the Colonel quite a pet.

Mary Lou Cook of the Merry Macs is wearing a new chapeau she calls the 'Hedda Hopper Hat.' It's a concoction of flowers and veils that would make even Hedda pale.

LA CONGA starts a series of 'Tin Pan Alley Nights' tonight, honoring Ascap tunesmiths. Tonight's impromptu event will have Ned Washington as honor guest with Milton Berle, Dan Dailey, Jr., Jack LaRue and others participating. . . . Lovey Lane, dancer of the Africonga, and Maxine Conrad, singer, open the new show at the It Cafe tomorrow night. . . . Turning agent for his friend, Donald Douglas, former Chicago columnist, J. Carrol Naish has interested William H. Pine and William C. Thomas in the novel which Douglas spent three years writing, 'The King's Highway.' Producers, now making 'Forced Landing', in which Naish appears, have optioned the book.

Gracie Fields and her husband, Monty Banks, take off on tour of South America in interests of British war relief as soon as he finishes in 20th-as soon as she finishes in 20th-Fox's 'Blood and Sand' and gets release from standby for possible added takes.

MATTY FOX forgot the rules covering talking business at the corner table in Universal commissary's Sun Room yesterday and it cost him $10. When boys demanded the cash, Fox said he had only a $100 bill, but couldn't duck the issue because a bystander stepped in with the proper change . . . Fines are given to Margaret, waitress who serves the table. . . . Jerrold Brandt threw a party at the House of Murphy to celebrate his call for army service. . .

■ Continued on page 12 ■

Zanuck Appoints Acad Group To Define Sound Systems

Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, yesterday appointed a subcommittee to prepare definitions for performance characteristics of sound recording systems and theatre sound reproducing systems. The group is composed of Thomas T. Moulton, chairman; John K. Hilliard, Dr. Burton F. Miller, Loren Ryder, Charles Sawyer, George Urey and Gordon S. Mitchell, manager of the Council.

This subcommittee will attempt to correlate all of the various terms used to specify sound quality as effected by sound recording and sound reproducing systems. This work is part of the general standardization activities of the Research Council in an effort to improve production and exhibition of pictures.

20th Stockholder Sesh Goes Over to May 15

New York, April 15.—Annual stockholders meeting of 20th-Fox was today postponed until May 15 by a majority of stockholders present or by proxy. Session ready to start when S. R. Kent, acting as chairman of the meeting, entertained a motion to adjourn until the later date on the explanation that Joseph Schenck wanted 'his case settled' before voting for new directors. He and other directors nominated agreed on the delay.

Osborne in Denver

Will Osborne's band opens a series of one nighters in Denver May 19. On his return he makes a brief stand at Balboa Beach and goes into the Paramount for two weeks beginning June 5.

Switches to NBC Blue

Neighbors of Woodcraft, insurance outfit, switches its half hour program from Mutual to the NBC blue western web May 2.

Strange Bedfellows

George Moskovics, sales promotion manager for CBS on the Coast, will talk to Van Nuys businessmen tonight on sales service. Entertainment will be provided by songwriter members of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, making their 25th goodwill junket.

Mexican Festival Party Gleeful Over Pix As U. S. Defense Weapon

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

Mexico City, that visits of picture folk can break down generations of ill will and overcome powerful propaganda of the Axis nations. Diplomatic briefcase carriers realize that worship of picture people will bring quicker smoking of peace pipe than yards of talk and barrels of wampum.

Jock Whitney's Motion Picture Division of the Office of Coordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the Americas, soon will open an office here, abandoning quarters used temporarily at Pathe. This will be followed by plans for filming serious stories with Latin-American backgrounds. Government probably will figure much more importantly in production plans for these films than it has heretofore.

Whitney flew to Houston, Tex., from Mexico City, and returns here in the next few days. Those planing in yesterday were David O. Selznick, Mischa Auer, Frank Capra, Johnny Weissmuller, Patricia Morison, Esther Fernandez, Desi Arnaz, Lucille Ball, Sabu, Brenda Joyce, Joe E. Brown, William Holden, Brenda Marshall, Susan Hayward, Mickey Rooney, Kay Francis, Frank Morgan and Norma Shearer. Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, with their respective wives, are returning by train.

There were some cases of airsickness on the ships, but they were mild.

MELNIKER QUITS CENTRAL TO JOIN ARMY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

cause of his legal and executive training he probably will be assigned to a special branch of the service.

Before coming to Central, Melniker was with Metro for one year, was assistant counsel in the New York relief investigation, and took an active part in the Seabury and 1930 vice investigations in that city. He graduated from Cornell in 1925, and from the Yale Law School in 1928.

Johnson On KFI

Erskine (Skinnay) Johnson's radio program, 'Hollywood Tattletales', gets a change of time and station starting next week. Film chatter airer switches to KFI every Monday from 8 to 8:15 p.m., after starting as a twice-weekly show over KECA on Mondays and Fridays at 5:15 p.m.

Java Guests DeMille

C. B. DeMille does a guest shot on Chase & Sanborn program Sunday. Following week's booking goes to Chester Morris. Kraft show will have Jan Struther, English authoress, as guest (24), and Pat O'Brien on May 1.

Laughton With Vallee

Charles Laughton does a guest turn on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airshow (24).

Robinson Award

Paul Franklin's 'Too Late For Just Sorrow' will be dramatized tonight on 'Big Town', with Edward G. Robinson receiving the National Safety Council's annual award.

NBC Options Horton

NBC has optioned Edward Everett Horton for a half hour comedy-drama series, the first of which has been recorded and is now being offered to agencies.

Geo. C. Brown Choring Up Gene Autry Yarn at Rep

George Carleton Brown signed at Republic to work on the screenplay of an untitled Gene Autry western which Harry Grey will produce.

Grey now has four Autry yarns in preparation, others being 'Down Mexico Way', with Dorrell and Stuart McGowan scripting; 'Old Faithful', which Herbert Dalmus is writing, and 'Under Fiesta Stars', to which writers will be assigned this week.

MacQuarrie's Stopover

Haven MacQuarrie stopped over yesterday en route from Kansas City to Salt Lake, where his next broadcast of 'Marriage Club' originates. His route then takes the Wonder Bread program to Ogden, Spokane, Tacoma, Seattle, Portland, Sacramento, Oakland and Frisco. He returns here in mid-August for four broadcasts.

Connors to Frisco

Vic Connors, international representative of the American Federation of Radio Artists, autos to San Francisco today to wind up his affairs there. He resigned as executive secretary of the San Francsco local of the American Guild of Variety Artists to go with AFRA.

Simms Switcheroo

Ginny Simms, of the Don Lee secretariat, switches over to McKee-Albright agency as script girl on the Rudy Vallee Sealtest airshow.

PAINE, MILLS, MUTUAL TALK NEW CONTRACT

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

conference with NBC delegation on a basis of a licensing agreement at the Society's headquarters today.

Formulas which Mutual committee will consider calls for payment of fees on one of two bases. Network has the choice of paying a larger percentage on programs using Ascap music and a much smaller one if it prefers to pay a fee on all commercial business. Censensus of opinion in both music and broadcasting circles is that NBC, Columbia discussions with Ascap will drag on long after the convention of the National Association of Broadcasters in St. Louis week of May 12, and the only way these two networks will be precipitated into an earlier settlement is the sudden signing of the Mutual contract. Mutual management feels that if Ascap terms are right this can be effected before opening of the NAB conclave.

NEW YORK

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Schenck Defense Ends Pleading In NY Trial

New York, April 15.—The defense in the Joseph M. Schenck-Joseph Moskowitz income tax trial ended today, with Defense Counsel Harold Corbin spending six hours pleading with the jury to acquit the defendants. Corbin ran the gauntlet of emotions, from snarls and sneers at the government case, to almost weepy emotion, as he begged and hammered at the jury.

The attorney reviewed the entire case from start to finish, going over every point in an effort to prove the government had failed to make out a case. He pointed out to the jury the responsibility was theirs, and that the decision rested on their shoulders. The main issue is 'what kind of a man is Joe Schenck?' he shouted.

Corbin reviewed the testimony of character witnesses for both defendants, and told the jury that they could legally disregard all other evidence and take the word of character witnesses alone, for the decency of the men. He went into the Wertheimer and Bioff transactions, explaining details on these deals, and also the stock transactions. He attacked the government furiously for insinuations regarding Grace Poggi, and said he hoped that it would not affect her married life.

He charged there was a deliberate attempt to smear and destroy the character of Schenck by the government without any proof, and declared the government hides behind rules and regulations when questioned itself. He was referring to refusal of the Treasury Department to let its agents testify.

Corbin stated, 'I'm not saying Schenck is as clean as the driven snow. But if you take any man, no matter whether it be the clergy or anyone else, you can always find something in his life not quite up to snuff. You'd never forgive yourselves in a thousand years if you let these men go to jail. These men have lived right. Give them the benefit of every doubt. Make allowances. Take into consideration the good they have done as evidenced by the testimony here.'

The attorney continued, 'Here two men's fate rests in your hands. I ask you to do the right thing by your government and by them. I know that if you send them back to their friends, their families, and their businesses, you won't be doing anything wrong. I am not going to jail, it will be these men who have done no wrong. I don't want sympathy or compassion, but I want justice. No one will blame you for setting these men free on charges so poor and insufficiently proven.'

Prosecutor Mathias Correa sums up tomorrow, Judge Grover Moscowitz charges the jury, and the fate of Schenck and Moskowitz goes to the jury tomorrow night.

Errol Sanders Upped

Errol Sanders, for the past seven years head of the RKO studio personnel service, is being promoted to district salesman in company's Denver exchange, effective May 1. He is also president of the Studio Club. No successor for either post has been named as yet.

PRODUCERS WILL AIR SWG SQUAWKS FRIDAY

The Producers will voice their objections to certain clauses in the proposed Screen Writers Guild contract Friday night (18) at a meeting between the two groups at the Producers Association. The first meeting between the two negotiating committees was devoted entirely to a presentation of demands by the Guilders. Company executives will have their say at this session, and probably will make counter proposals.

The SWG is seeking a minimum wage scale for scriveners, elimination of all speculative writing, guaranteed terms of employment, abolition of flat deals under $5,000, and notification of all writers employed on a story. The SWG also wants control of assignment of screenplay credits.

Felts Busted

Laurence Clyde Felts, projectionist at the Regina theatre on Wilshire boulevard, has filed voluntary petition in bankruptcy. He lists liabilities of $5,413.39, and assets of $7,000, all but $50 of which is claimed exempt. Among creditors is Projectionists local, 150, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, on a personal note for $100. Felts in his petition claims he earned as salary last month approximately $29.

New Trial Denied

Motion for a new trial of the breach of contract action of J. N. Ermolieff vs. George Schaefer, prexy, and RKO Radio Pictures, has been denied by U. S. District Court Judge J. F. T. O'Connor. Ermolieff won a judgment of $7,000 in his suit for $100,000, and new trial application was the customary formality.

ERPI Exec Here

D. C. Collins, vice-president of Electrical Research Products, Inc., is in from New York on routine biz trip.

Planted

20th-Fox

Stymie Beard, 'Belle Starr'.

Dora Clement, William Forrest, Bette Gene Moore, Ann Ray, Ralph Dunn, 'Sun Valley'.

Dennis Green, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

William Halligan, John T. Murray, 'The Man With a Shovel'.

Metro

Connie Gilchrist, Don Terry, 'Barnacle Bill'.

Irving Mitchell, 'Coffins On Wheels'.

George Pauncefort, Lee Kohlman, Edward McWade, 'The Bargain Basement'.

Republic

Cornelius Keefe, Casey Johnson, Bill Hazlett, Iron Eyes Cody, Ed Cassidy, Henry Wills, Jack Kirk, Slim Whitaker, 'Saddlemates'.

RKO

Frank Reicher, Chester Clute, Leon Belasco, Eddie Conrad, Pierre Watkin, Jean O'Donnell, 'Father Takes a Wife'.

Barbara Stanwyck Set For 'Husband' as 1st Under Col Pact

Barbara Stanwyck will star in 'The Doctor's Husband' as the first picture under a new three-year straight contract signed with Columbia. Studio has also signed Henry Fonda for the top male lead in the film, which Wesley Ruggles will produce and direct starting in June. Miss Stanwyck's deal calls for two pictures a year and gives Columbia first rights to her services.

Norman Deming, first assistant director to Ruggles, has left for Mt. Hood, Oregon, to line up location for film's skiing sequences and establish headquarters for a camera crew that will leave the studio the end of the week.

Publicists Meet On Union Drive To Kill Labor Bills

The Screen Publicists Guild meets tonight to pledge its full support to the union drive aimed at defeating anti-labor legislation pending in the State Assembly. The flacks will appoint a delegate to sit with the general union committee which meets Friday night (18) at the Roosevelt hotel to map plans for the campaign.

The Publicists also will adopt a resolution supporting the New York Guild in its demand for recognition as collective bargaining representative for eastern flacks. Adoption of the new constitution probably will be postponed until a lataer session to provide more time for discussion.

Big Col Day

Columbia has called 265 extras for today, to be divided among four productions. 'Betty Co-ed' gets 70, 'Our Wife' draws 65 dress extras, 'I Was a Prisoner On Devil's Island', 90, and 'One Way Street' 40. Latter two pictures are in work at the studio ranch.

THE KEY TO "DOUBLE" ENTERTAINMENT of JOY and ROMANCE

JOSEPH SANTLEY
Director
Screen Play By
JACK TOWNLEY, MILT GROSS
And EDWARD ELISCU
Original Story By
F. McGREW WILLIS

JUDY CANOVA • BOB CROSBY
WITH HIS BAND AND THE BOBCATS

SIS HOPKINS

CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA
SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER
AND AN ALL STAR CAST

A Republic Picture

IT'S A SUPER-COMEDY WITH MUSIC!

"THAT NIGHT IN RIO" AT THE LINCOLN, MIAMI

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—beats "Jesse James"!

—beats "The Grapes of Wrath"!

—beats "Tobacco Road"!

BEATS EVERYTHING FOR THE BIGGEST WEEK'S BUSINESS IN HISTORY OF THE HOUSE!

20th CENTURY FOX

and held over a 4th week at New York's Roxy!

CRITICS AWARD 3 IN A ROW

"DOWN ARGENTINE WAY"

1st —DOWN ARGENTINA WAY
2nd—TWO DREAMS MET

"TIN PAN ALLEY"

1st —YOU SAY THE SWEETEST THINGS BABY

"THAT NIGHT IN RIO"

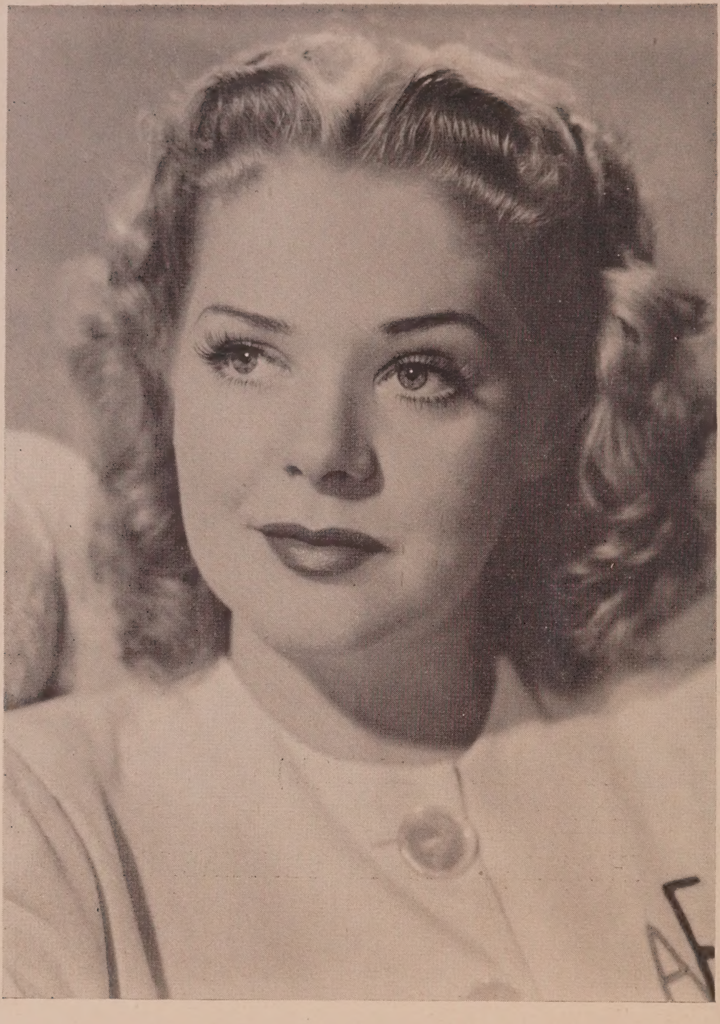
1st —I-YI-YI-YI-YI
(I LIKE YOU VERY MUCH)
2nd—CHICA CHICA BOOM CHIC

also

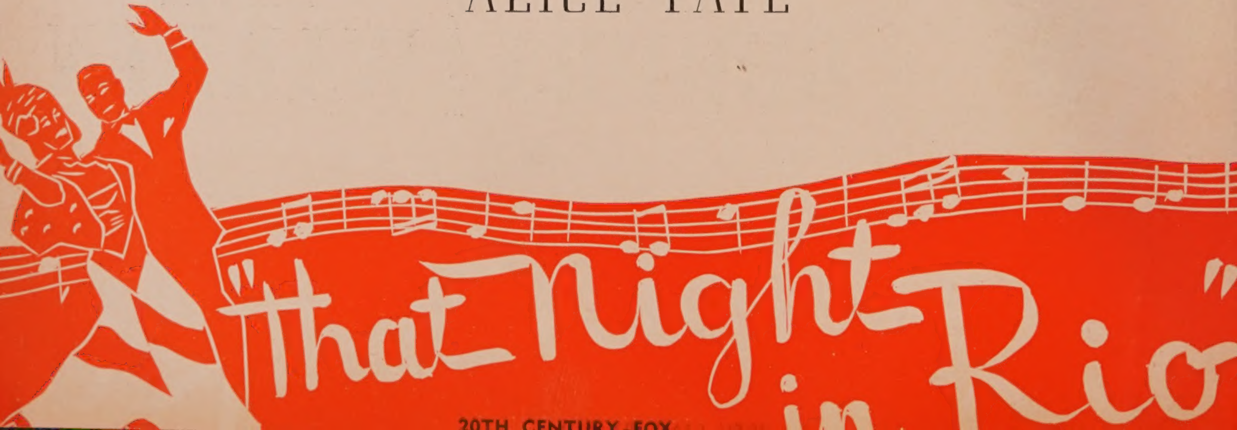
BOA NOITE (Good Night)
THEY MET IN RIO
THE BARON IS IN CONFERENCE

WORDS and MUSIC
by
MACK GORDON AND **HARRY WARREN**

"that Night in Rio"



ALICE FAYE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20TH CENTURY-FOX

DON AMECHE

Management
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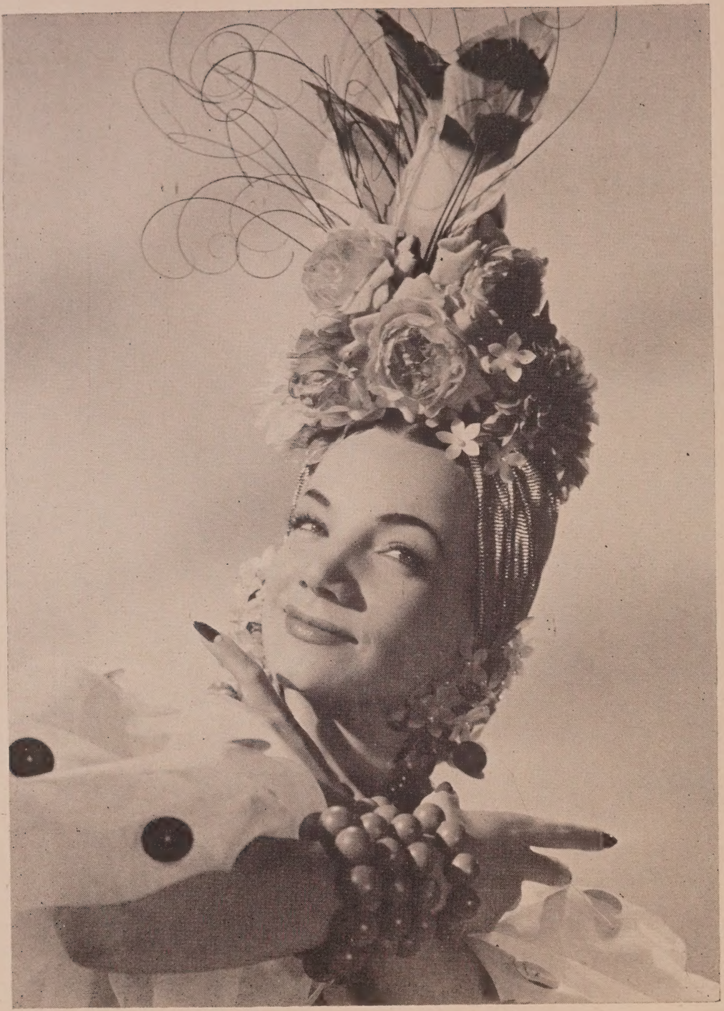
"that Night in Rio"
20TH CENTURY-FOX



CARMEN MIRANDA

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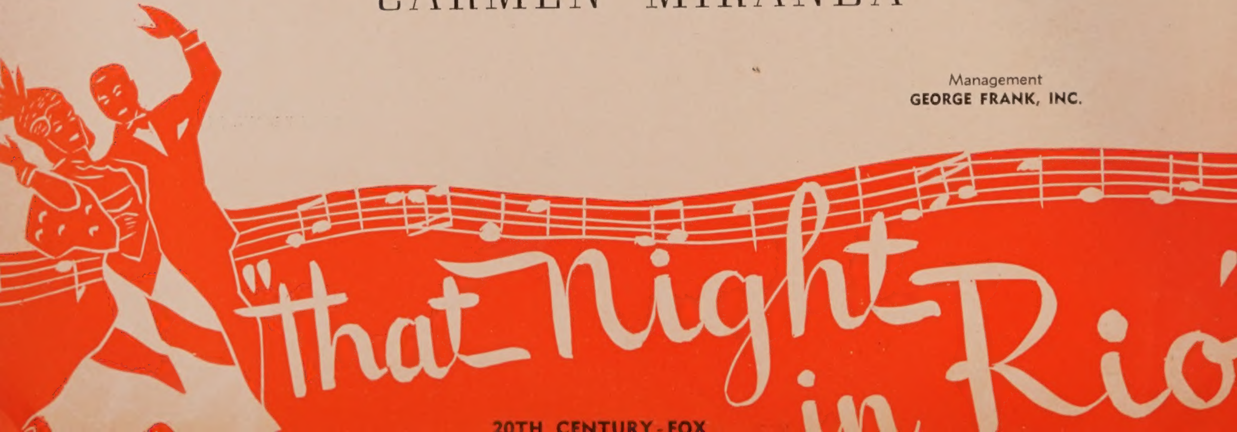
"That Night in Rio"

20TH CENTURY-FOX

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ALFRED NEWMAN

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20TH CENTURY - FOX

Disney Truce Reached In AF of L Drive To Unionize

A temporary truce was reached yesterday in the American Federation of Labor drive to unionize the Walt Disney Studio. Following a conference between Gunther Lessing, company attorney, Herbert Lamb, production manager, and AF of L tops, it was agreed the situation would be permitted to remain in status quo until the first of the week when the two groups would get together again.

It is understood that the company asked more time in which to consider demands of the various unions. The Screen Cartoonists Guild, which claims to represent a majority of approximately 700 employes, was represented by Aubrey Blair, AF of L international representative; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of the Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and George E. Bodle, attorney for the Cartoonists.

Blair heads north today for business conferences in San Francisco and Sacramento. He will return the end of the week, and another meeting with Disney executives will be arranged Monday.

Dwain Esper Trial Set For June 3

Dwain Esper, independent film producer, goes on trial before a jury in U. S. Circuit court June 3 to answer to an indictment charging violation of the U. S. code pertaining to interstate shipments of lewd and lascivious matter. Esper, whose demurrer to the indictment was overruled by U. S. District Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer, is charged with sending a number of phonograph records via Railway Express, consigned to the Auto Music Co. at Terra Houte, Ind., on Sept. 21, 1940.

RKO Options Moore

RKO has taken an option on Dennis Moore for possible term contract. Actor is currently in 'Cyclone on Horseback', Tim Holt western, on a deal agented by Columbia Management.

Darlean Colvin Weds

Darlean Colvin, secretary in Don Lee sales department, was married last Sunday in Yuma to Victor Hayes, advertising exec.

Obituary

O'MELVENY RITES

Funeral services for Henry William O'Melveny, 81, will be held today at the family home, 501 South Plymouth blvd., under the direction of Cunningham & O'Connor mortuary. Interment will be private. O'Melveny, veteran attorney, died Monday after a short illness, and was well known in film legal circles.

Smokes

Columbia personnel has started a fund to assure smokes to all lot workers who are drafted. First to benefit will be Morrie Abrahams, assistant director on 'You'll Never Get Rich', who answers a call to the Second Marines at Camp Elliott shortly.

UNION BOLTS COLUMBIA PARLEY; SAY BAD FAITH

★ Continued from page 1 ★

president in charge of Coast operations for Columbia Broadcasting Co., having advised the union that any differences with CBS would have to be taken up with New York headquarters. As the unionists filed out, Elconin stated:

'The management still refuses to negotiate. They are making no effort to reach an agreement or solve this situation. They are stooping to the tactics of the most anti-labor corporations in an effort to starve their employes into submission and break our union. We believe this to be a deliberately fomented situation conceived in the profit-mad minds of the eastern executives and put into practice by their subservient yes men in the local management.'

Elconin and Robert Kennedy, chairman of the union negotiating committee, said arrangements were being completed for a monster picket demonstration in front of CBS Saturday night (19), and for a benefit show that same night at Carpenters Hall on Santa Monica. They said efforts were being made to secure top recording artists to appear on the benefit program. The affair is sponsored by the Filmtown Club, an affiliate of the Democratic Youth Federation of California. The unionists said a citizens' committee also was calling upon CBS to intercede and bring about an amicable settlement.

The company management declined to discuss the situation other than to state that another negotiations meeting was being called for today in the hopes of reaching an agreement. The strike of 85 employes was called Friday (11), when the management turned down the union's demand that the minimum wage ceiling be tilted from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents, with a raise of approximately 10 cents per hour in the higher pay brackets. The clerical workers were called in by the company but refused to cross the picket lines. Operations have been completely suspended since the walkout. The company handles the bulk of the transcription business west of the Rockies, making air trailers for many of the major studios.

'Mr. Bug' Receives Third Dimensional Film Effect

'Mr. Bug Goes to Town', feature-length cartoon now in production at the Fleischer studio in Miami for Paramount release, will have a third-dimensional effect, according to belief of animation experts preparing picture. Effect will be obtained through use of three processes to create the illusion of depth in cartoon photography.

A patented setback camera, which is actually a stage setting for the character action; new type scale-model sets and perspective background drawings are devices being used to create depth illusion.

Goddard Leads 'Wind'

Paulette Goddard has been set for the femme lead in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount. A second camera unit on the Cecil B. DeMille production is now filming background shots along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts.

Marriott in 'Foxes'

John Marriott will have same role of butler in Sam Goldwyn's production of 'The Little Foxes' as he had on stage. Paul Kohner made the deal.

'Cadets' Yarn Okayed

Stanley Rubin and Roy Chanslor have turned in their screen play on 'Flying Cadets' at Universal. Jack Bernhard will be associate producer.

Tough Censor Relents on Col's 'Love'

Toronto, April 15.—Despite charges by the Christian Social Council of Canada that the film 'cheapens the ideals of marriage', O. J. Silverthorn, censor board chairman, denies there is anything improper in 'This Thing Called Love' and consequently will take no action against the Columbia picture. He said that only a four-word sentence had been deleted from the film in Quebec, the toughest censorship province in the Dominion.

WB 'Blues' Rolling

'Navy Blues' goes before the cameras at Warners today with Jack Carson added to the featured members of the cast. Lloyd Bacon directs Ann Sheridan, Jack Oakie, Martha Raye, Jack Haley, Eddie Albert and the Navy Blues Sextette in top spots. Seymour Felix is staging the dances.

Title For Gershwin

'Rhapsody in Blue' will be the title to be used by Warners to film the life and songs of George Gershwin. Wally Klein and Aeneas MacKenzie are doing the screen play and Ira Gershwin is due next month to collate the music and factual matter for the picture.

Set Evelyn Brent

Evelyn Brent gets the femme heavy spot in 'Forced Landing,' Pine-Thomas producton for Paramount.

MAJORS FOREIGN RECEIPTS 56% OF AMOUNT YEAR AGO

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

ing the percentages of last year. These are:

Norway, six per cent; Rumania, nine per cent; France and its possessions, ten; Hungary, six; Belgium, less than three; Holland about one; Yugoslavia, four; Greece, five, and Germany one per cent.

Cartoonists, Pal Resume Contract Talks Today

Negotiations between the Screen Cartoonists Guild and George Pal Productions will be resumed today when Attorney George E. Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, huddle with company executives. The only difference between the two groups is over the question of minimum wages for the various classifications.

The SCG also is expected to receive counter proposals today from Leo Schlesinger. After these have been broken down by the Guilders arrangements will be made to resume negotiations next week.

Lynne Roberts Assigned Top in 20th 'Duanes'

Lynne Roberts will have the femme lead with George Montgomery in 20th-Fox's 'The Last of the Duanes', to be made from the Zane Grey story by Sol M. Wurtzel. William Conselman, Jr. and Irving Cummings, Jr. scripted. James Tinling will direct.

Caven, Adamson Collab

Taylor Caven and Ewart Adamson are writing screen play for an untitled tale at Republic to be produced by Robert North.

Whitley Release

Release title on the first of the 1941-42 Ray Whitley two-reelers turned out at RKO will be 'California or Bust.'

'Travels' Goes April 28

Paul Jones signals production start on 'Sullivan's Travels' at Paramount (28) with Preston Sturges directing.

River's 'Bonanza'

W. L. River is scripting 'The Big Bonanza', which Armand Schaeffer will produce for Republic.

Lennart Assigned

Isabel Lennart will be script clerk to Director H. C. Potter on 'Hellzapoppin' at Universal.

☆ *Gab* ☆

■ Continued from page 3 ■

Everett McGowan, topline skater with Ice-Capades, is tossing a cocktail party for newspaper people at the Hotel Roosevelt this afternoon from 5 to 7.

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Gerald Griffin Report Arouses AGVA Membership

The general membership of the American Guild of Variety Artists here and elsewhere throughout the country was aroused last night over reports from New York that Gerald Griffin had been named national executive secretary of AGVA or voted a salary as acting head of the group. It was reported that a meeting of the Mid-west AGVA locals had been called for the end of the week in Cincinnati, with a possibility that Coast locals would hold similar sessions.

Performers took the position that even if Griffin had been voted a salary and not actually appointed it was a violation in principle of the promise of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America that the post would remain vacant until the national election this month. The variety performers said their censure was not aimed at Griffin but that they did not feel anybody should be placed in the job before the election.

The AGVA situation has been simmering for months, and many leaders admitted that if the Griffin action was not rescinded it might result in another AAAA internal fight such as when the charter of the Ralph Whitehead Association was jerked. Griffin has been acting as national administrative head of AGVA without pay since Hoyt Haddock resigned as executive secretary.

Kenneth Thomson, vice-prexy of the AAAA's said he had not been advised of any action being taken in the Griffin situation in the east.

Ellington Band Set For May Revue

Duke Ellington's band has been set for the all-Negro revue, 'Jump For Joy', which is penciled for an opening here late in May.

SOEG Session

The Screen Office Employes Guild meets with RKO executives Monday night (21) to discuss a proposed contract covering wages and working conditions for clerical workers.

a.m. Dailies

Glen Grant Dies—

News of the death of Glen Grant, 40, co-composer of the University of Southern California song, 'Fight On For Old S. C.', in New York, April 5, has been received on the Coast. Grant and Dr. Milo Sweet, Los Angeles dentist, composed tune while undergraduates in 1923.

Mex. City Theatre Collapses—

Earthquake yesterday in Mexico City caused the collapse of a motion picture theatre, which was under construction, resulting in injuries to 10 people and the burying of passing automobiles under debris.

Story Buys

Leo Birinski has sold an original, 'Palace of 1,000 Lies', to Paramount. Studio probably will change title to 'The Lady Had Plans'. Story originally had Claudette Colbert in mind. Paul Kohner agented.

FAMOUS NET PROFIT

Montreal, April 15.—Statement just issued by Famous Players-Canadian Corp., Ltd., for 1940, shows net profits of $1,012,270 which, after all deductions, is equal to $2.35 per common share. This compares with profit of $889,723 or $2.09 per share outstanding in 1939.

Shares totaled 430,524 in 1940 and 424,524 the previous year. Net profit for 1939 was the highest for any year since 1930. Revenue from operations increased to $2,624,246 during 1940. Other profits brought the gross revenue to $2,834,040. Taxes amounted to $592,500.

Film Preview

● Continued from page 3 ●

gend supplied by William Anthony McGuire, the scripters, Sonya Levien and Marguerite Roberts, build a fascinating tale of several girls who are recruited for the fabulous Ziegfeld ensemble; how boy friend and husband and fiance react to this 'theft' of their girls for the public service of beauty, and how the complicated problems of career and affection are solved, backstage, at home and in the unaccustomed estate to which the 'ziggy' selectees are recruited.

Lana Turner is a department store elevator operator from a good Irish family in Flatbush, in love with James Stewart, a truck driver, and trying later in a bewildered way to keep that love alive and in eventual-hope-of-marriage order when the spendthrift gallants storm the stage door after her elevation to follies stardom. Miss Turner, well handled and advised to confirm her own intuitions and ambitions, is forging ahead by leaps in her climb to importance as an actress of genuine talent. She does this role with distinguished success, relying very little upon physical charms but knowing how to use her smouldering appeal.

James Stewart handles a role of a kind to which he is thoroughly accustomed, with plenty of latitude for his special talent, especially effective in his scenes of hurt pride when his girl's head is turned by the suave devotions of Ian Hunter, and in the reconciliation just before the girl from Flatbush collapses and dies in the theatre as she watches a new line of beauties on stage.

Judy Garland, a few yesterdays from little girlhood, shows her amazing growth to outstanding ability as an emotional actress to supplement her fine singing voice. She is very appealing in the part of the young vaudeville performer, daughter of a vet with whom she sings and dances, Charles Winninger. In the picture she is a pony dancer, when she finally makes the Ziegfeld stage. Some of the film's finest scenes are hers.

Hedy Lamarr is cast as the wife of a penniless violinist, Philip Dorn, for whom her love never really falters, despite the flattering attentions of Tony Martin, singer, when she also comes to front rank for sheer decorative beauty in the follies. Upon her, even more than Miss Turner, are lavished the gorgeous Adrian-designed costumes.

Charles Winninger tugs at the audience heart as the assured father and outmoded vaude performer who tries to teach his daughter to follow his footsteps. He and Al Shean also score in the original 'Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Shean' number.

Tony Martin is a romantic figure in pursuit of Miss Lamarr and sings in fine voice. Jackie Cooper is the brother of Lana, and has several effective scenes. Ian Hunter plays his role with restraint and sympathetic note in his subtle campaign with Miss Turner. Edward Everett Horton sneaks in not a few laughs as the bustling, wise and almost paternal factotum for Ziegfeld in getting new girls and advising the veterans. Paul Kelly does his job of backstage chaperonage with skill and persuasiveness. Philip Dorn is effective in the few scenes with Miss Lamarr as his wife. Eve Arden shows up strikingly amongst the support, as do Renie Riano, Felix Bressart, Al Shean, Fay Holden, Dan Dailey, Jr., Rose Hobart, and Sergio Orta as a native dancer of Trinidad.

Robert Z. Leonard turns in an imposing and highly skillful work of direction in this follow-up to his previous Academy award show, the musical spectacle, 'The Great Ziegfeld'. Leonard's collation of the dramatic, the musical, the spectacular elements in the present instance is an amazing demonstration of his craftsmanship of his craftsmanship and his unerring showmanship.

Producer Pandro S. Berman and Director Leonard saw eye to eye and worked hand and glove in organizing and presenting this magnificent show, and every foot of it attests that effective entertainment coordination.

Busby Berkeley handles his musical number direction with his practiced eye for masses and movement and the spectacular, carrying on the screen technique on musicals he originated.

Ray June's cameras give the drama large pictorial grace and fascinating photographic detail and design.

Nacio Herb Brown and Gus Kahn, composers of hit songs for years, and Roger Edens score with principal production numbers, 'You Stepped Out of a Dream', 'Minnie From Trinidad' (Edens), while Harry Carroll's and Joseph McCarthy's 'I'm Always Chasing Rainbows' is sung most effectively by Judy Garland. Music score by Herbert Stothart is up to his high standard of melodic excellence, and Georgie Stoll complements with noteworthy music direction. Vocals and orchestrations are by Leo Arnaud, George Bassman and Conrad Salinger. Merrill Pye does the musical presentation.

Producers Publicity Group Plans Move On Previews

An ultimatum giving the Producers Publicity Directors Committee two weeks in which to meet demands of top Hollywood correspondents that they be given an opportunity to preview pictures before they are screened in the east was drafted yesterday at a meeting of the newspaper writers at the Brown Derby. The correspondents stated that if the situation is not cleared up before their next meeting, Tuesday (29), they will 'take steps'.

The correspondents are reported to have been in a militant mood, and to have expressed dissatisfaction with the Committee's promise to try to fix things up as fast as possible. Several pointed out that 'Ziegfeld Girl', previewed here yesterday, is already playing in Chicago, and that 'Penny Serenade', which will be screened here tonight, has already been shown in New York.

The newspaper writers also are asking that dates of previews also be advanced so they can be previewed two to three weeks ahead of their release. Correspondents take position the current situation is 'absurd' and makes it difficult for them to properly represent their publications.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'The Secret Ship', now titled 'Mystery Ship', and 'The Man Who Came To Life' now tagged 'The Man Who Returned To Life'. Both pictures are still in preparation.

Thru Mainliner Sleepers
To NEW YORK

Make your Spring trip East over the scenic Main Line Airway by daylight; or in luxurious Mainliner sleepers overnight. No change of sleeper-planes. Ask about the new Air Travel Credit Plan. Reservations: travel agents, hotels, or

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Mr. Exhibitor!

WAKE UP FOR UNIVERSAL'S ALL TIME HOLDOVER CASH SMASH!

Wake up and multiply... multiply the population of your town by the price of your seats ... and you'll get an idea of the kind of grosses this super-surprise is rolling up!

5 WEEKS at Penn Theatre, Wilkes-Barre . . . to shatter all house records!

5th WEEK of sock B.O. in New Orleans . . . and no let-up in sight yet!

4 WEEKS at Gopher in Minneapolis.. a new record for holdovers!

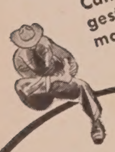
4 WEEKS in Sacramento and Oakland ...they went khaki-wacki!!

4 WEEKS of terrific business at the Lafayette in Buffalo! !

3 WEEKS record-busting business at the Albee Theatre, Providence!

3 WEEKS in Long Beach, Cal. for the biggest grosses in many years

PENN
HELD THE FIFTH WEEK
ITS REALLY SO FUNNY
"BUCK PRIVATES"



DOZENS OF 2 AND 3 WEEKS HOLDOVERS IN EVERY CORNER OF THE COUNTRY!

Bud ABBOTT & Lou COSTELLO
in
BUCK PRIVATES
with LEE BOWMAN ALAN CURTIS
JANE FRAZEE · NAT PENDLETON · SAMUEL S. HINDS
and The ANDREWS SISTERS
With the world's champion jitter-bugs
Original Screen Play by Arthur T. Horman · Special material for Abbott and Costello by John Grant
Directed by Arthur Lubin
Associate Producer: Alex Gottlieb
UNIVERSAL PICTURE

We'll be seeing you in the Navy soon!

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE S

Vol. 31 No. 31 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, April 17, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

COLUMBIA READIES STRIKE OFFER

REFUSES TO NEGOTIATE UNTIL PACT COMPLETE

Striking employes of the Columbia Recording Corp. claimed yesterday that company executives had refused to continue negotiations with them, but had promised that a complete new contract proposal would be offered them Monday (21). Officials of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers expressed the belief that the company was stalling for time, and announced that plans would continue for a monster picket demonstration in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Saturday night.

It also was indicated that perma-

● Continued on page 14 ●

WAGE-HOUR DEADLINE FRIDAY

Friday is the deadline for Producers and the film unions to file briefs with the Wage-Hour Division on disputed classifications of certain studio workers. A decision affirming or changing the classifications is expected to be handed down from Washington within a week after the deadline expires.

Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings branch, who spent several

♣ Continued on page 12 ♣

PCA Group Heads East On Thomas Film

Sig Schlager, Henry Herzbrun and Charles Ford, executives of Producers Corporation of America, left for New York yesterday for conferences there with John Charles Thomas, who will make his film debut in 'Kingdom Come.' Thomas comes here in June for the picture. Lee Garmes has joined the production staff of PCA.

Downs, U Meet Ink

Johnny Downs has been signed again on his option at Universal to top role in 'Moonlight in Hawaii', which Milton Schwartzwald will produce, starting (21). Downs was held under option from his first picture at U, 'Sing Another Chorus.' Charles Lamont will direct.

Kate Smith Breezing

Kate Smith and Ted Collins Chief out Saturday after doing four Grapenuts broadcasts from here. Jane Tompkins, writer of Miss Smith's daytime show, accompanies. Others on the program air back same day.

Comedy Subs Benny

Comedy show based on the characters in Gene Byrnes' comic strip, 'Reg'lar Fellers', takes the Jello show through the summer after Jack Benny signs off June 1. Program will come from New York.

Will Hays Eastward

Will Hays, accompanied by Mrs. Hays, trained out yesterday for Chicago by UP Streamliner. Also going east is Ann Sothern.

20th Terms Jackson

Harry Jackson, cameraman, has been contracted at 20th-Fox for a year.

OMAHA SLASHES LOUELLA;SQUAWK ON PIC COVERAGE

Omaha's only daily paper, the World-Herald, has discontinued using the columns of Louella Parsons and Harrison Carroll, syndicated as an International News Service feature. Decision to drop the columnar comment from Hollywood was prompted by a squawk to the boss by Keith Wilson, amusement editor,

♥ Continued on page 12 ♥

Cocking on Vacash

Eldred M. Cocking, survey analyst for the Wage-Hour Administration, checks out today for a vacation in the Colorado Rockies.

CBS LIMITS COMPENSATION FOR COMPANY EXECS

New York, April 16.—Columbia Broadcasting, at its annual meeting today, adopted a proposal to limit additional compensation to executives. Other key officers will be restricted to 6% of the net profits. Network also approved a plan for independent public accountants as company auditors. Estimated that not more than 225 persons will participate in the 6% compensation plan.

Fourteen directors were nominated at the meeting. Current slate of directors represents more than a majority of the stock. President William S. Paley reiterated the previously announced status of color in

◆ Continued on page 13 ◆

COL GETS MILLION TO PAY FUND

New York, April 16.—Columbia Pictures has borrowed $1,000,000 which will be used to retire the principal amount of its six year sinking fund debentures. The amount was obtained under an agreement with the First National Bank of Boston, Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, and the

■ Continued on page 14 ■

SMPFE BOARD MEETS ON DISNEY SETUP

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors board of directors meets tonight to discuss the situation at the Walt Disney Studio and to complete arrangements for the election of new board members May 1. Two members will be elected from each studio, and their selection will be ratified by the general membership

♠ Continued on page 13 ♠

SELZNICK PLANS SERIES OF CLASSIC STORIES

David O. Selznick is making plans to produce a series of pictures that will run 40 minutes or under, based on short stories that have become classics in literature, and has hopes that his experiment will take double bills to an early grave. Selznick and his production assistant, John Houseman, are looking at stories. Producer feels he has proved that classics transferred to the screen have tremendous audience appeal because they are widely known and that short stories will have similar pull.

SPRECKELS QUITS NLRB POST

Walter Spreckels resigned yesterday as regional director here for the National Labor Relations Board, to open private offices as a labor relations consultant. Spreckels stated he would not be in a position to discuss possible clients until after his resignation had been accepted by the board.

It was reported, however, that

★ Continued on page 13 ★

Alice Faye Reduces Manhattan Vacash

New York, April 16.—Alice Faye is cutting short her vacation here and returns to Hollywood for a rest at her home and to make short trips up and down the Coast. She arrived here by boat last week on a three-month vacation from 20th-Fox.

Vallee Under Knife

Rudy Vallee goes to a hospital tonight for an operation that will keep him off the air for a week. Thornton Freeland takes the 'Too Many Blondes' company at Universal to Santa Monica today for location before Vallee goes under the knife.

WB Terms Diana Dill

New York, April 16.—Diana Dill, from the American Academy of Dramatic Art, has been signed to a term contract at Warners and reports to the studio next month to await her first film assignment.

PREVIEWED

WASHINGTON MELODRAMA
(MG)

PENNY SERENADE
(Col)

REVIEWED

WILD MAN OF BORNEO
(MG)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Elsa Lanchester yesterday returned from New York.

Danny Mandell is film cutter on 'The Little Foxes'.

The Blake McVeighs have moved into their new home.

Everett Crosby trains in today from biz sesh in NY.

The Dick Powells moving to Balboa Bay house for the summer.

Win Nathanson, v.p. of Tom Fizdale publicity outfit, here on biz.

Iris Adrian will be guest star on Rudy Vallee's air program tonight.

Helen Weigel Brown, KHJ commentator, broke her ankle in a fall.

Steve Fisher expects arrival of wife and family from New York next week.

Lola Lane has been set for guest appearance on the Bob Hope program April 22.

Norman Frescott back in town as manager of the Ice Capades, opening Friday night at Pan Pacific Aud.

The Screen Cartoonists Guild is throwing a Cartoon Guild Party at the Beverly Hills A. C. Saturday (26).

Mead Sigler has been appointed a checker for the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists.

Don Gilman is tossing a feed Friday in the Derby's American Room for Hal Bock's press gang for winning another award.

El Mirador at Palm Springs, which closes this week, is likely to change hands within a week, with Warren Pinney retiring from its operation.

Francis Trout planed to Chicago last night after completing his role of Pliny in 'Scattergood Pulls the Strings', to do the same character on the regular broadcast tonight.

Since Tommy Cook starred on Arch Oboler's play last month he has been besieged by New York radio offers, but can't accept because he signed pact with Republic to finish the 'Jungle Girl' serial.

Oscar Oldknow back from an extensive tour of the country in the interests of National Theatre Supply Co., and Floyd Ownbey, recently made resident manager here for NTSC, has moved his family down from San Francisco, where he was formerly located.

Benny the Gouge sez—The only difference between old vaude and new vaude is that the old guys get flat insteps at Hollywood and Vine while the new guys get that way playing golf.

Hollywood Inside

TROUBLE brewing between Judy Canova and Republic for the past three weeks over her next production, 'Puddin' Head', broke into the open yesterday with announcement by the studio that actress had been suspended. Last night suspension was denied by Miss Canova's agent, Arthur Lyons, who stated she was not under weekly contract to the studio, and so could not be suspended until the day the picture is due to start, and only then if she refuses to work. Lyons declared there had been a disagreement between Miss Canova and studio executives yesterday but no suspension resulted. Studio, in announcing actress' claimed suspension stated Miss Canova had insisted on story supervision and directorial choice. Republic also asserted that she had insisted that her brother, Pete Canova, also one of her representatives, be given the authority to pass on scripts, casting, directors, etc., before final production start. Republic stated it was willing to listen to suggestions but would not amend Miss Canova's contract to give her the power she assertedly is seeking. Suspension would mean actress could not carry out her future commitments at Paramount until ban is lifted, according to Republic spokesmen. 'Puddin' Head' is scheduled to go into production Monday (21) as the third picture for Miss Canova under a three-picture a year contract. Ticket, carrying yearly options, runs five years and second term for another trio of features was recently optioned by Republic.

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PICTURE unions and guilds take to the air tonight over KFWB in a drive to combat passage of anti-labor legislation pending in the State Assembly. The first 15-minute program, sponsored by J. K. (Spike) Wallace and Musicians Local 47, rolls at 8:15 o'clock. Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild, will be m.c. A big feature will be the appearance of Leon Leonardi with a 45-piece orchestra. Others on the entertainment program include Davey Forester, with a swing band, and Ollie Ponitz, soprano with the San Francisco opera. Wallace and Senator Robert Kenny will make short talks on the danger to labor if the pending measures are enacted into law. Plans to make the program permanent pending action on the bills will be discussed Friday night (18) at a meeting of representatives from a score of studio guilds and unions at the Roosevelt hotel. A general committee is being set up, composed of one member from each craft.

☆ ☆ ☆

OTHER newsreel companies are understood to be doing a burn at Universal for banning all but its own outfit from the Deanna Durbin-Vaughn Paul wedding tomorrow. Universal is said to take the position that actress is its biggest property and that any shots naturally belong exclusively to the Universal newsreel outfit. It is also understood that other newsreels weren't so anxious to obtain footage of the star during her recent tour around the country, although Universal left the field wide open, so that now studio reportedly feels there is particular reason why it shouldn't lower all barriers at the wedding. Regular news photog syndicates and magazine bulb-pressers who have given studio cooperation in the past will be out in full force to grab pictures of the affair.

☆ ☆ ☆

FILM extras doing soldiering in the many military sequences being shot in the major studios these days claim the directors are just as exacting as the most hardboiled top kick in the regular Army. The latest to give the boys a working over for failure to put out their best efforts is Jack Sullivan, assistant director on 'Sergeant York.' When he decided some of the 125 film soldiers working at Warners Ranch yesterday were not snapping to it as they should, Sullivan herded them into a bunch and threatened to cancel them all out and call for a new army today. Not until 4 p.m. yesterday were the 'soldiers' certain that they would be called back when reveille sounded today.

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NOTICE has gone out to all Republic employes to watch their driving on Ventura boulevard between Universal City and Van Nuys boul. after studio received complaint from the police department. Heavy traffic conditions on the highway and a number of serious accidents is causing motorcycle squad to keep a close watch for infractions of the speed law or reckless driving. Complaint was made to the studio by police department, according to reports, after a number of studio employes had been halted and given warnings.

☆ ☆ ☆

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, prexy of the Producers Association, advised the Screen Directors Guild yesterday that a committee will be named Monday (21) to negotiate the Guild's demands for minimum wages, 90% Guild Shop, guaranteed terms of employment, etc. It is understood that Freeman has experienced difficulty in getting a committee that is familiar with the situation and understands problems involved in the SDG demands.

☆ ☆ ☆

SEATTLE and Portland are divulged as two of the few remaining exchange territories in the United States that are still called upon by exhibitors to supply slides for forthcoming pictures. Distributors have long tried to figure out a reason why the Pacific Northwest has not progressed with the rest of the country in film grosses, and observers point to the 'slide' episode as probably one of the dominant reasons.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A ballet dancer starts to dance about the age of four,
Or maybe it is only three or maybe it is more.
An any rate, they dance and dance for years and years
And learn the highbrow hoofing art through toil and sweat and tears.
But when the script demands a gal who tip-toes into view
They train a ballerina in a week, or maybe two.

★ ★ ★

It was a pushover for Tyrone Power, throwing that first ball in the opening of the Hollywood baseball season. After throwing all those bulls in 'Blood and Sand.'

★ ★ ★

In baseball the fans sleep outside the park waiting for the opening game. In the film game they often go inside to sleep.

They weren't tough enough in 'The Sea Wolf', so Universal is launching 'Sea Raiders' and tossing in the Dead End Kids.

It takes an added touch to put a picture over nowadays. 'Singapore' was an attractive title once, but Columbia has shifted it to 'The Blonde From Singapore.'

★ ★ ★

The pendulum swings from blonde to brunette, and what mere male can tell what the gals will do next. On one marquee is a double feature, 'The Lady With Red Hair' and 'Strawberry Blonde.' It looks like a red plot.

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On the 'Tom, Dick and Harry' set at RKO the boys and gals presented Ginger Rogers with a screwball car, an early vintage painted red, white and blue. It was a gag for the Red, White and Blue party at the Ambassador, but sometimes a gag is actuated by human kindness.

Game guy is Henry Fonda, who is taking the male role in 'The Doctor's Husband', which is tougher than being a star's other half.

If you listen next Sunday you will hear the only Hollywood actor with oaken stamina enough to talk back to Cecil B. DeMille. His name is Charlie McCarthy.

★ ★ ★

George Raft kicks Marlene Dietrich down a flight of stairs in 'Manpower', so the boys are thinking of changing the title to 'Footpower.'

★ ★ ★

Drive-in eateries, drive-in movies, and now a drive-in shoe repair shop where you can have your footwear renovated without leaving your car. One of these days there will be drive-in grand opera.

★ ★ ★

A novelist in days of old
Worked in an attic bleak and cold
And then it took him years to sell
The book on which he toiled so well.

Today the motion picture scout
Will hunt the wealthy writer out
And pay him scads of golden kale
Before he starts to write his tale.

Film Previews and Review

Penny Serenade

(Drama)

Columbia release of a George Stevens production. Stars Irene Dunne and Cary Grant. Features Beulah Bondi and Edgar Buchanan. Supporting cast: Ann Doran, Eva Lee Kuney, Leonard Willey, Wallis Clark, Walter Soderling and Baby Biffle. Produced and directed by George Stevens. Screenplay, Morris Ryskind. Story, Martha Cheavens. Associate producer, Fred Guiol. Photography, Joseph Walker. Film editor, Otto Meyer. Art director, Lionel Banks. Music, W. Franke Harling. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, April 16. Running time: 120 mins.

This will come as a strange variation in role for Cary Grant to those who are accustomed to him in the sophisticated, sardonic assignments over the past few years. It is straight, and tragically dramatic, although leavened by much comedy growing out of the happy if not exactly peaceful period in the domestic life of a newspaperman and a former salesgirl in a music shop.

The change is good for Grant, and the picture contains his best enactment in a great emotional scene where, as a young publisher without income, he pleads to retain the child he and his wife, Irene Dunne, have provisionally adopted when the court threatens to restore the babe to an orphanage.

Picture is a heart-tugger, and because of the name draw as well as its merits as sentimental drama, played and directed in spots with unabashed hokum, is capable of getting important coin.

With top talent at his command, and the simple, fundamental domestic concerns of rearing a child and the stunning effect upon the foster parents when the girl dies at the age of nine, as his story material, George Stevens as producer-director creates an arresting film. There is exceptional singleness of mood and unity in the story, and it reaches rare depth of feeling in its careful unfoldment. The awkwardness of young parents in dealing with the needs of an infant they adopt at the age of five weeks, abetted by the practical experience of the husband's print shop foreman, is good for much genuine laughter. These scenes are developed at length and in ludicrous detail as the heart of the picture's entertainment. Preview audience ate them up and laughed for more, only to be saddened at the untimely and unpredicted death of the attractive young girl.

Story by Martha Cheavens is related in the now monotonously employed device of starting the narrative at the end and telling it backward, completing the circle with a return to the conclusion. Aside from this cliche it is commendably scripted by Morris Ryskind, rich in detail and episode and emotional power.

Wife and husband are about to separate, shocked into apathy by the death of the child. Irene Dunne is

Continued on page 14

Washington Melodrama

(Melodrama)

Metro production. Features Frank Morgan. Supporting cast: Ann Rutherford, Kent Taylor, Dan Dailey, Jr., Lee Bowman, Fay Holden, Virginia Grey, Anne Gwynne, Sara Haden, Olaf Hytten, Douglass Dumbrille, Clif Clark, Hal K. Dawson, Thurston Hall, Joseph Crehan, Frederick Burton, Howard Hickman, Virginia Brissac. Director, S. Sylvan Simon. Producer, Edgar Selwyn. Screenplay, Marion Parsonnet, Roy Chanslor, from play by L. du Rocher MacPherson. Photography, Harold Rosson. Art director, Cedric Gibbons. Water ballet, Lottie Horner. Dances, Sammy Lee. Music, David Snell. Previewed April 16. Running time: 78 mins.

Although 'Washington Melodrama' falls into a certain formula classification, it is neatly gyved, misses being stereotyped and has some high and lively moments of drama that should make it adequate supporting material in the better situations. Excellent direction by S. Sylvan Simon and good playing lifts the picture above the quality of those produced with similar limited means and time.

Frank Morgan, a kindly old Washington millionaire who is trying to get a bill through Congress to feed the starving peoples of war-torn Europe, is accidentally involved in the murder of a pretty chorine, Anne Gwynne. Morgan, lonely because his wife, Fay Holden, and daughter, Ann Rutherford, are always away on world tours, has given innocent attention to the chorus girl. He writes a note to her and gives her some money. Dan Dailey, Jr., nitery emcee, demands some of the cash. When she tells him she is going to send it back to Morgan he socks her, hard, and she dies. (That punch is one of the roughest ever filmed of a man striking a woman.)

Kent Taylor, publisher of a tabloid, who loves Morgan's daughter, bitterly opposes passage of the millionaire's bill. Later, when Dailey blackmails Morgan, Taylor helps him out by hiding a clew left at the scene of the crime. Miss Rutherford, realizing her father is in danger, pretends to be a rich French refugee, charms Dailey and wangles the key to his apartment. Virginia Grey, Dailey's girl friend, jealously threatens to turn him in to the cops and he shoots her. Taylor and his star reporter, Lee Bowman, arrive just in time to capture Dailey, and Miss Grey fingers him on her deathbed.

Morgan does a good job as the affable millionaire. Miss Rutherford is charming in the masquerade that fools Dailey. Latter makes a splendid killer, merciless, slimy and smooth. Miss Gwynne has the right mixture of hard sweetness as the chorine, and Taylor gives his usual brisk, competent job. Bowman is a standout.

Edgar Selwyn keeps production values well rounded. Water ballet scenes, beautifully staged by Lottie Horner, gives an extensive air to the picture. Harold Rosson's photography was up to his usual standard.

Wild Man of Borneo

(Comedy)

Metro production and release. Cast: Frank Morgan, Mary Howard, Billie Burke, Donald Meek, Marjorie Main, Connie Gilchrist, Bonita Granville, Dan Dailey, Jr., Andrew Tombes, Walter Catlett, Joseph J. Green, Phil Silvers. Directed by Robert Sinclair. Screenplay, Waldo Salt and John McClain, based on play by Marc Connelly and Herman J. Mankiewicz. Photographed by Oliver T. Marsh. Musical score, David Snell. Film editor, Frank Sullivan. Reviewed at the Orpheum theatre, April 16. Running time: 79 mins.

Metro has concocted a breezy little comedy from this stage play produced 'way back in 1927, and with Frank Morgan in the principal role supplies the market with a moderate-cost picture that is well suited for its secondary place on a twin bill. It's a story of that part of show business with which the public is little familiar, the medicine show and the actors' boarding house, with the time and locale laid back in the days when Theodore Roosevelt was president and Admiral Dewey ruled the roost at Manila Bay.

Critical observers may be prone to find numerous faults with the film, and the fact that it was completed nearly six months ago, without being given a release, is indication that Metro was somewhat chary about foisting it upon an unsuspecting public. Comedy, however, will find favor with the not-too-discriminating film fan, and as such probably will return its cost with something to spare.

Morgan is cast as the medicine show spieler, 'as gifted a grifter as ever milked a sucker', and gives an outstanding portrayal of the somewhat difficult role. As a confirmed liar and a braggart his better nature reveals itself when he is brought face to face with his daughter whom he has not seen since her babyhood, and patrons will be quite willing to overlook his shortcomings as a father in his evident desire to do right 'by Mary', the daughter, played sympathetically by Mary Howard.

Quitting the medicine show where he is associated with Andrew Tombes, Morgan, always putting up a front despite the absence of coin from his pockets, takes his daughter to a theatrical boarding house presided over by Billie Burke, a former stock leading lady and a devotee and idolistic admirer of Richard Mansfield.

Donald Meek, playing a bird-man, is adept at whistling, but possesses a suspicious nature, and he suspects Morgan right from the start. He ferrets out Morgan's soap-making at home, and just when the grifter is about to be exposed for playing a wild man in a former crony's museum, operated by Walter Catlett, he wins new confidence by saying the whole thing was a wager, cooked up by his 'pal', Mansfield.

Connie Gilchrist, a boarder at the

Continued on page 14

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

PETE SMITH and Charlie Winninger were some cutups playing pranks on the newlywed Jimmy Roosevelts at the Lone Palm in Palm Springs yesterday. The honeymooners get back to town today. . . . Newspaper reps on the Mexico City expedition last week are going to form a 'Mexico City Annual Junket Club', and are sincere about making the pilgrimage each year—sponsored or unsponsored. . . . Billy Halop and Georgiana Young gave farewell party for Florence Halop at Leone's last night. Latter leaves for New York Friday to fill legit engagements. . . . Rudy Friml, Jr. and his orchestra will provide the music for the Film Row dance at the Elks Club Friday night. Band will play at a charity affair in the Ambassador Hotel Fiesta Room Saturday (26) and at the British War Relief dance at the Glendale Civic auditorium May 2. He is scheduled to appear May 3 at the Cotton Festival in Corcoran, Cal.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Penny Singleton dining at Bob Murphy's in an original Marie Miller gown of the gay nineties type. A brief black taffeta bolero, with short leg-o'-mutton sleeves, topped a black and white striped jersey skirt distinguished by appliqued insets about the skirt hem, of pink, yellow and white checked bows. The loops, extending below the hem-line, gave an interestingly novel effect. Penny, a perfect Gibson Girl, wore her hair in pompadour, and an old-fashioned gold locket and matching bracelet to complete the quaint ensemble.

METRO and 20th-Fox are rearranging their shooting schedules on 'Barnacle Bill' and 'Wild Geese', respectively, so that Barton MacLane can be used in both pictures simultaneously. He checks in for the double duty after finishing in 'Manpower' at Warners. . . . Barbara Stanwyck and Robert Taylor take off today by plane for their first vacation together in 18 months. They are going to prowl Broadway and all its legit shows for a month. Since they were married, neither Barbara nor Bob has ever had a lengthy layoff at the same time. . . . Dorothy Smith and William Blaskower were married April 15 in Yuma, Ariz. Bride is a daughter of the late Bob Smith, manager of Grauman's Chinese theatre, and herself employed in the Fox-West Coast film booking department. Groom is a non-pro, at present with the U. S. forces. . . . Annual Americanism meeting, sponsored by Charles P. Skouras of Fox-West Coast Theatres, will be staged

Continued on page 14

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .

HARRY BUCQUET DIRECTOR

Under contract Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

Schenck, Moskowitz Found Guilty In New York

New York, April 16.—Joseph M. Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz were found guilty of income tax evasion by a Federal court jury here which had deliberated for 10 hours and five minutes. Schenck, found guilty on two counts of the indictment, faces a possible sentence of five years and a $10,000 fine on each count, while Moskowitz, convicted on only one count, faces a maximum of five years and $10,000 fine.

Judge Grover Moscowitz set April 24 as the date to hear a motion to set aside the verdict and for sentence if the motion is denied. The case was given to the jury at 4:25 in the afternoon and the verdict was returned at 2:31 a.m. The jury had returned to the courtroom at 10:40 and asked that Judge Moscowitz's charge be re-read. This occupied one hour and the jury then resumed its deliberations.

Schenck was found guilty on the first count in the indictment which charged fraud and evasion of $189,495 in Schenck's 1935 tax. Both Schenck and Moskowitz were found guilty on the second count of the indictment, which charged evasion of $64,197 in Schenck's 1936 tax. Both were acquitted on the third count which charged evasion of $158,353 in Schenck's 1937 tax, and on the fourth count, which charged conspiracy to defraud.

Moskowitz was found not guilty on the first count, as well as the third and fourth counts.

The case went to the jury's hands at 4:25 p.m., after a two-hour charge by Judge Moscowitz. In the morning session Prosecutor Mathias Correa reviewed the entire case for three and a half hours. He declared the government had proved the defendants' guilt beyond the shadow of a doubt.

The prosecutor declared the character witnesses were not important, and intimated they would not have testified if they knew all the facts. Correa declared the prominent position of the defendants should not influence the jury, as they were no better nor worse than anyone else. He declared the dividend return due Schenck on 1937 tax has no bearing on the case, claiming the attempt to defraud came before examination of returns by agents and their approval, and that it was not binding as agents allegedly fail to see everything.

Books and records were hidden, Correa complained. The prosecutor declared the defendants depended upon a transcontinental system of bookkeeping, and intimated they got away with returns in other years. Correa insisted estimates are not allowable under the law when actual figures are available. He stated certain items deducted were 'outrageous'. He characterized the defense as an 'attempt to glamorize the trial by use of household film names'.

Correa declared he entertains lawyers and does not deduct anything from his income tax returns. He said most of the government witnesses were unfriendly and under Schenck's domination. He demanded to know why Lou Anger and butlers and servants at Schenck's home were not called by the defense. He charged the jury with the sole responsibility to see that justice is done, and said he did not fear their decision.

JUDGE REPEATS INDICTMENT

Judge Moscowitz then repeated the entire indictment, and stated that the defendants are to be considered innocent until they are proven guilty. He said the burden of proof was entirely on the government, but that the government does not have to prove absolute guilt, just beyond a reasonable doubt, and told the jurors they must not flinch from performing an unpleasant duty. He said the main decision of the jury must be whether the evasions were deliberate or the result of carelessness. If the first, he said the defendants were guilty; if the second, they were not guilty.

The judge said no inference must be drawn from the failure of Schenck to take the stand, and that Moskowitz's testimony must be considered as interested testimony. He said that good reputation prior to a crime was no excuse for leniency on the part of the jury. He said that guilt can be established on any of the four counts, that all don't have to be proven, and that circumstantial evidence can convict.

He told the jury that if it was undecided between innocence and guilt, the defendants must be given the benefit of the doubt. He said they could convict on the $100,000 Bioff deal alone, if the jury decides the money was received as income. He stated that where estimates are made, they are allowable under the law only if definite work sheets are not available. He said the jury must determine whether the estimates were carelessness or deliberate.

On stock sales to Roland West and William Goetz, Judge Moscowitz said the jury must decide whether they were real or a faked sale. He said the fact that Schenck gave the money back meant nothing unless it was a deliberate attempt to cheat.

CORBIN'S EXCEPTIONS

Defense Counsel Harold Corbin then took 75 exceptions to the court's charge, some of which were that Moskowitz was an interested witness and the fact that no reference was made to interested government witnesses, failure to mention Schenck's business expenses were normally more than ordinary, the remarks on character testimony, to statements on estimates, etc.

The courtroom was crowded with friends and well-wishers of Schenck and Moskowitz. Besides Sid Grauman, Nick Schenck, who have been daily attendants, executives and wives of Metro and 20th-Fox were present, with others including David Bernstein, Charles Moskowitz, Gene Fowler, Ruth Nolander, Kathryn Sullivan, Walter Reade, William Phillips, Ed Churchill, president of Donahue & Co.; Jack Pegler, of Lord & Thomas; Aubrey Schenck, Joe Pincus, etc.

RADIO CALLED BY U. S. TO BALLY BONDS, ARMY LIFE

Radio and those sponsoring programs on the network will be pressed into service by the government to make the nation Baby Bond-conscious, and to impress the next contingent of draftees with the attractiveness of army life. Reports from the east indicate that the Treasury Department is preparing a notification to all stations and commercial users of the air to pitch in and help along both projects.

Each sponsor, it is understood, will be asked to devote one complete program to the Baby Bonds, to be placed on sale next month, and to weave as much material as possible into scripts on the happy lot of draftees. Idea is being sold to advertisers on the basis of a patriotic gesture, with the government's recently organized radio department to collaborate on the campaign copy.

Screen Writers, AMG Resume Franchise Negotiations (24)

Negotiations between the Screen Writers Guild and the Artists Managers Guild on a proposad franchise code for agents will be resumed Thursday (24).

Lester Cole is chairman of the SWG negotiating committee, with Bert Allenberg heading the AMG delegation.

With exception of a clause calling for appointment of a negotiator to secure bids on story material, the proposed licensing agreement is similar to the current pact between the AMG and the Screen Actors Guild.

Gluskin Going North

Lud Gluskin goes to Berkeley (26) to direct the music for the annual Assembly Dance.

'Lord Epping' Date Set Ahead To May 1 Start at RKO

Starting date on 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost' has been set ahead at RKO to May 1. Lupe Velez will report some time before that date to share top bracket with Leon Errol in the role of 'Epping'. This is first of three new Velez vehicles under new deal.

ZaSu Pitts will appear for first time in the series and is contracted to continue in them.

Charles Roberts will direct as his second feature job.

Dodd Sells Tune

Jimmy Dodd has sold to Universal on two-way deal the song, 'It's Never Frio Down in Rio.' It will be used with Henry King's orchestra in an untitled short, Dodd doing his own guitar specialty and singing arrangements with the number.

Orph Goes 'Horror'

Orpheum theatre here goes 'horror show' next Wednesday. Screen bill will comprise 'Face Behind the Mask' and 'The Devil Commands', both Columbia. Frank Gabby, vaude veteran, will head the stage show for week.

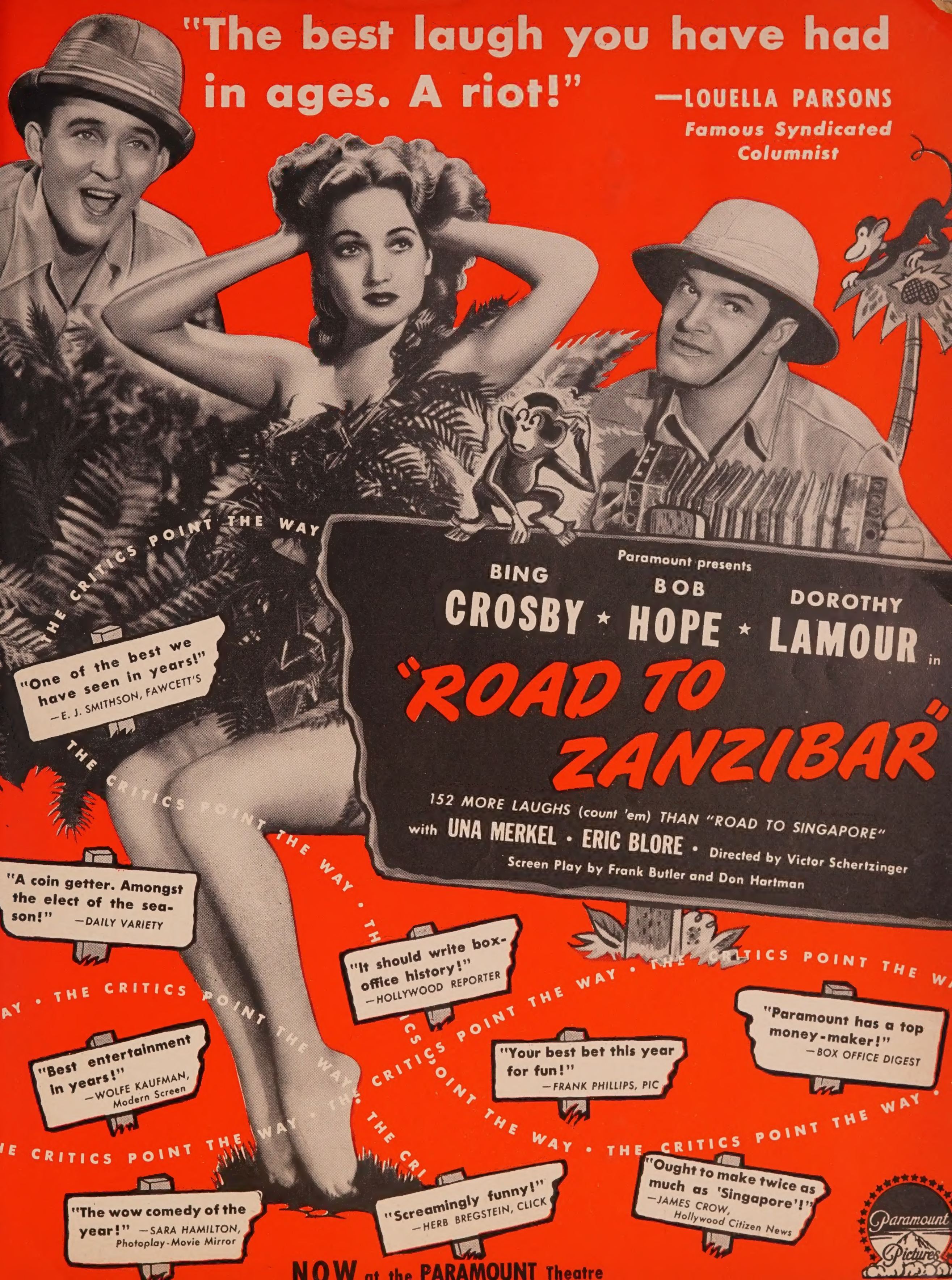
Poppen Aids 'Bomber'

Commander J. R. Poppen, U. S. Navy flight surgeon, takes over as technical aide on Warners 'Dive Bomber', replacing Lieut-Commander Charles Brown who has been assigned to duty on the U.S.S. Saratoga.

Pair For 'Landing'

Thornton Edwards and John Galllaudet have been signed by Picture Corporation of America for feature spots in 'Forced Landing', being made for Paramount release. Columbia Management agented.

TONIGHT!
LISTEN TO TOMMY RIGGS
AND BETTY LOU
EVERY THURSDAY 9:30 P.M.
STATION KFI
PRESENTED BY THE NEW
Old Gold
CIGARETTES
Something NEW has been added!



"The best laugh you have had in ages. A riot!" —LOUELLA PARSONS
Famous Syndicated Columnist

Paramount presents

BING CROSBY ★ BOB HOPE ★ DOROTHY LAMOUR in

"ROAD TO ZANZIBAR"

152 MORE LAUGHS (count 'em) THAN "ROAD TO SINGAPORE"

with **UNA MERKEL · ERIC BLORE** · Directed by Victor Schertzinger

Screen Play by Frank Butler and Don Hartman

"One of the best we have seen in years!" —E. J. SMITHSON, FAWCETT'S

"A coin getter. Amongst the elect of the season!" —DAILY VARIETY

"It should write box-office history!" —HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Paramount has a top money-maker!" —BOX OFFICE DIGEST

"Best entertainment in years!" —WOLFE KAUFMAN, Modern Screen

"Your best bet this year for fun!" —FRANK PHILLIPS, PIC

"Ought to make twice as much as 'Singapore'!" —JAMES CROW, Hollywood Citizen News

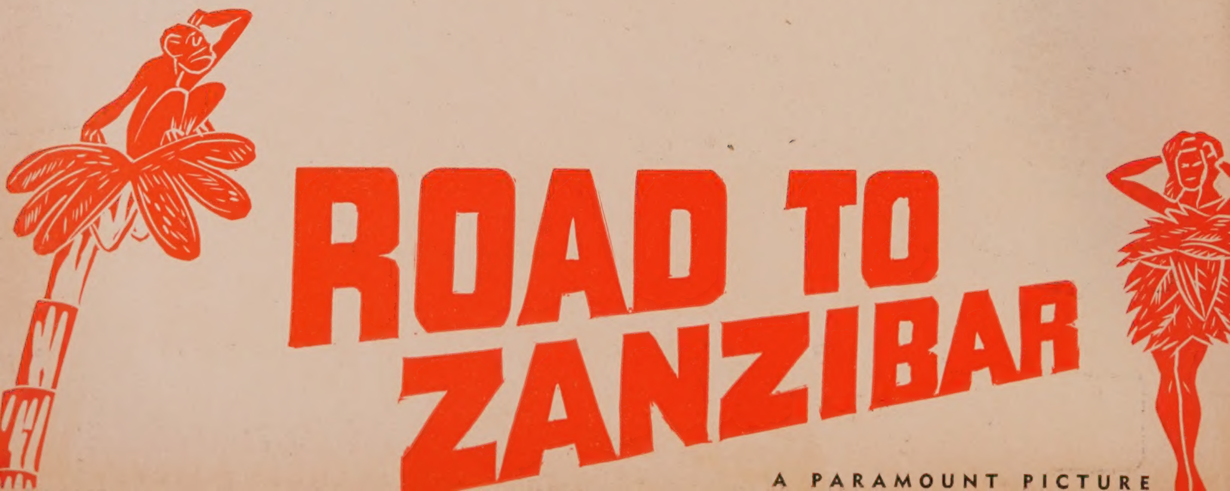
"The wow comedy of the year!" —SARA HAMILTON, Photoplay-Movie Mirror

"Screamingly funny!" —HERB BREGSTEIN, CLICK

NOW at the PARAMOUNT Theatre

PRODUCED BY

PAUL JONES


ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

VICTOR SCHERTZINGER

DIRECTED

"ROAD TO SINGAPORE"
"RHYTHM ON THE RIVER"
"ROAD TO ZANZIBAR"

Coming Release
"KISS THE BOYS GOOD-BYE"

Shooting
"BIRTH OF THE BLUES"

ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

DOROTHY LAMOUR

Management
NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO.

ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

LYRICS BY
JOHNNY BURKE

MUSIC BY
JIMMY VAN HEUSEN

"You're Dangerous"

"You Lucky People You"

"It's Always You"

"Birds of a Feather"

"African Etude"

Special Arrangement of
"IT'S ALWAYS YOU"
by
JOHN SCOTT TROTTER

Management: **CROSBY OFFICE**

NOW PLAYING PARAMOUNT THEATRE

ROAD TO ZANZIBAR

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

Tay Garnett Resuming Own Production Setup August 1

Tay Garnett will resume his own production company activities after Aug. 1, and his first picture will be 'Three Sheets In the Wind', using his 'World Cruise' backgrounds. Plan is to produce and direct four, for whose release negotiations now are on the fire. Ken Englund has completed screenplay for the initialer.

Garnett has signed Brian Donlevy for the male star role. Donlevy has commitments at Paramount for 'The Birth of the Blues', starting Friday, and an option on a second before he can mark his slate for the Garnett film. Actor will receive both salary and a profit-sharing deal. Negotiations were handled by Noll Gurney.

20th Hires Lambert

Edward P. Lambert was signed by 20th-Fox yesterday as head of the studio's men's wardrobe department. Lambert was formerly vice president for Western Costume Co., was a partner with Associated Costumers and has been head of Warners and Selznick wardrobe departments. He is currently designing costumes for 'How Green Was My Valley.'

Ditties For Durbin

Three songs by Walter Jurmann and Bernie Grossman have been taken by Universal for the untitled Deanna Durbin starrer which will follow 'Almost An Angel.' Tunes are 'Believe My Heart', 'Doing Things For You' and 'The World Is Waiting For Romance.'

'Gesture' Given Date

'Shanghai Gesture', which Arnold Pressburger will produce for United Artists, will start rolling during the first week in July. Shooting will be done at the Hal Roach studios. Pressburger and Albert de Courville, his assistant producer, are on their way here from the east.

Jesse Grayson's Bow

Jesse Grayson, Negro actress, gets important part and makes her film bow in Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Little Foxes'. She comes from the Hall Johnson Choir.

Rep Dates 'Ice-Capades'

Republic has set June 2 as starting date on its production of 'The Ice-Capades of 1941.' Robert North will produce.

Planted

Warners

Spencer Charters, John Beck, 'Bad Men of Missouri'.

Richard Lane, 'Navy Blues'.

Doris Lloyd, 'The Flight Patrol'.

Al Herman, 'Manpower'.

Universal

Dale Van Sickle, William Gould, Charles Lane, 'Beyond the Law'.

Joe Pope, Jack Cheatham, James Blaine, 'The Sea Raiders'.

20th-Fox

James Flavin, Dolores Hurlick, 'Belle Starr'.

Dick Rich, 'The Man With the Shovel'.

Metro

Steve Clemento, 'Bargain Basement'.

Teru Shimada, 'The Uniform'.

52 WRITERS WORKING ON 41 20th-FOX SCRIPTS

Total of 52 writers are working on 41 scripts at 20th-Fox this week, equalling the studio's record for scripting activity. Twelve screenplays for 1941-42 are completed and the present writing rush will give the studio the strongest backlog of scripts in its history. Writers and their assignments are:

Jack Andrews, 'Wild Geese Calling'; John Balderston, 'Fifth Avenue'; Edwin Blum and Don Eftlinger, 'Song of the Islands'; Max Brand, 'Law and Order, Inc.'; William Buckner and Robert Metzler, 'Riders of the Purple Sage'; Walter Bullock, 'Detour To Love'; Robert Carson, '21 Men and a Girl'; Anne M. Chapin, 'Private Confusion'; William Conselman, Jr., and Irving Cummings, Jr., 'Lone Star Ranger'; Warren Duff, 'Flight Surgeon'; Philip Dunne, 'How Green Was My Valley'; Robert Ellis and Helen Logan, 'A Straight Left'; Samuel G. Engel, 'Nurse Story'; Ken Englund, 'Falling Star'.

Steve Fisher, 'Delayed Action'; Ladislas Fodor and Andor De Soos, 'Man From Brazil'; John Taintor Foote, 'The Black Swan'; Joan Harrison, 'The Bucharest Ballerina Murders'; Lillie Hayward, 'Green Entry'; Brown Holmes, 'Song and Dance Man'; John Larkin, 'Finders Keepers'; Lee Loeb and Harold Buchman, 'Accent On Love'; Herman Mankiewicz, 'Last Year's Genius'; John Meehan, 'The Bowery Nightingale'; Dudley Nichols, 'Swamp Water'; Frank S. Nugent and Jerry Sackheim, 'The Golden Touch'.

John O'Hara, 'Moon Tide'; Robert Pirosh and Joseph Schranck, 'Bermuda'; Maurice Rapf and Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., 'Juke Box War'; Stanley Rauh, 'The Bouncer and the Lady'; George Seaton, 'Charley's Aunt'; Tess Slesinger and Frank Davis, 'Remember the Day'; Jo Swerling, 'Confirm or Deny'; Dwight Taylor, 'I Wake Up Screaming'; George Templeton, 'Fraternity'; Lamar Trotti, 'Rise and Shine'; Dale Van Every, 'Ten Gentlemen From West Point'; Darrell Ware and Carl Tunberg, 'Caribbean Cruise'; Ann Wormser, 'Perfect Wife'; Lester Ziffren, 'Charlie Chan In Rio'.

In addition to these, Associate Producer Nunnally Johnson is scripting 'The Night the World Shook'. Ethel Hill, who has been on loanout to Columbia, has returned to her home lot and will be put to work probably before the week is out.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(K. B. Films)

'Paper Bullets'
Dir.: Phil Rosen
Asst.: Peter Jones

WAGE-HOUR BRIEF DEADLINE FRIDAY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

days here listening to both sides present their views, is now preparing his recommendations for submission to Washington. It is not believed that any material changes will be made in the original classifications of Eldred M. Cocking, who made the industrial survey for the Wage-Hour Division. It is possible that certain clarifications will be added to the disputed classifications, which included gaffers, electricians, photographers, best boys, soundmen, etc.

Negotiations between the Producers and the unionists have been held up pending a decision on these disputed classifications. If a decision is handed down Friday (25) conferences between the Producers and unions in the Studio Basic Agreement are expected to get under way in the east within a week.

'Bill' at Post

'Barnacle Bill', starring Wallace Beery, gets under way today at Metro, with Richard Thorpe directing and Milton Bren producing.

Piazza Gloms East

Ben Piazza, RKO talent executive, leaves for New York tomorrow for two weeks look at shows and spotting of talent.

OMAHA SLASHES LOUELLA;SQUAWK ON PIC COVERAGE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

that inasmuch as the Parsons and Carroll daily roundups do not carry any mention of RKO pictures or personalities, due to the Hearst-'Citizen Kane' tiff, their comments do not reflect a true coverage of the film front.

Wilson was backed up by the sheet's publisher on the toss-out when he declared that he couldn't edit the facts from a pre-selected fraction of picture news. Hearst attack on the CBS Sunday sustaining feature, 'The Free Company', is not being transmitted on his INS wire but filed 'overhead'. Welles, against whom the attack is inferentially directed, appeared in only one 'Free Company' broadcast. Program, it is understood, has government support.

Attempt to draw Hollywood Legion Post of the American Legion into the 'Free Company' controversy failed yesterday when the resolutions committee refused to take any action on a proposal to force the show off the air. Committee stated that it would take no action until ample proof of Welles' alleged radical tendencies is submitted.

VICTOR'S
IN BEVERLY HILLS
Dancing Nightly
Lunch, Dinner, Supper
314 N. Camden Drive
Ph. CRestview 11177

Johnston Closes Brit. Deal for Mono Distribution

New deal for distribution of Monogram pictures in Great Britain by Pathe Films, Ltd. has been closed by W. Ray Johnston, Mono prexy, and William J. Gell, Pathe's managing director. Contract covers a five-year period.

Among films that will be distributed abroad by Pathe are 'Navy Bound', 'Land of the Sky Blue Water', 'The Spy', 'Trail of the Wolf', 'Sweetheart of the Campus', 'False Colors', 'God's Country and the Law', and four pictures featuring the Dead End Kids. Latter group, produced by Sam Katzman, was formerly called the 'East Side Kids' but new handle is being adopted because majority of players who appeared in the play 'Dead End' are now contracted for series.

Dannay and Lee In For Darmour Chore

Dannay and Lee, who do the Ellery Queen mysteries, arrived yesterday from the east to start work on the story of the fourth feature in the series Larry Darmour will produce for Columbia with Ralph Bellamy in the title role. James Hogan, on loan from Paramount, reported to Darmour yesterday to prepare for directorial chore on the third of the group, which goes into work shortly.

Marton at Metro

Metro has signed Andrew Marton, European ski expert, to handle special ski scenes for the new Greta Garbo picture. Ski unit, with Jack Smith as cameraman, leaves today by plane for Sun Valley location and scenes will begin shooting there next week.

AGVA Sesh 22nd

A meeting of the board of directors of the American Guild of Variety Artists has been called for Tuesday (22). It is probable that a date for the next general membership meeting will be set at that time.

Clark at Warners

Donald H. Clark, writer on the 'When Presses Roar' radio show, has been signed by Warners and joins the shorts department under Gordon Hollingshead. He also will continue his radio stint.

Anne Gwynne Set

Anne Gwynne has been assigned to play the femme lead in 'Rhapsody in Stripes', which goes before the cameras at Universal Monday. Al Rogell directs.

OPENING TODAY
AN ENTIRE NEW SHOW AT
Hollywood Plaza Hotel's
"IT" CAFE
STARRING
Harlem's Sensational Sepian Dancer
LOVEY LANE
and her Afri-Conga Rhythms
Also the "Angel-Voiced Songstress"
MAXINE CONRAD
1637 N. Vine—No Minimum—No Cover

'Paper Bullets' Rolls At Talisman; Phil Rosen Directs

'Paper Bullets' rolls at Talisman studio today with Phil Rosen directing Joan Woodbury, Linda Ware, Jack LaRue, Philip Trent and John Archer doing the leads in the Martin Mooney script. Miss Ware will sing two songs in the picture.

Frank and Morry Kazinsky, formerly associated with the Hollywood Talkitones, coin-projector company in which Cecil B. DeMille was interested, are producing 'Bullets' under the company title of K. B. Films, for Producers Releasing Corp.

SMPFE BOARD MEETS ON DISNEY SETUP

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

at a meeting May 15 at the Woman's Club of Hollywood.

Following their ratification, the new board members will meet a week later to select officers. Edmund D. Hannan, who has served two terms as president, is expected to decline to stand for re-election, although there is strong sentiment for him to retain the post.

Billy Edwards Named On Flack Group

Members of the Screen Publicists Guild last night appointed Billy Edwards to sit on a general committee being formed by studio unions and guilds to oppose passage of anti-labor legislation pending in Sacramento. The flacks went on record as being opposed to bills to legalize company unions, to outlaw the closed shop, to outlaw secondary boycotts, to amend section 923 of the Labor Code, and the anti-sabotage bill.

Stern Guests Comiskey

Charles Comiskey III, owner of the Chicago White Sox, will be Bill Stern's guest on his Sportsreel broadcast Sunday. Quiz Kids guest shot with Stern has been moved back to (27) and originates in Chicago.

'Arsenic' On Mutual

'Arsenic and Old Lace', play recently purchased by Warners, will be broadcast tonight on Bill Bacher's 'In Chicago Tonight', over the Mutual network.

Opportunity for
LOVELY GIRLS
in
N. T. G.'s
Big New Show
at the World Famous
Florentine Gardens
5955 Hollywood Blvd.
No experience necessary
Bring Bathing Suits
Thursday, 4 to 5 P.M.
Friday, 1 to 5 P.M.

CBS LIMITS COMPENSATION FOR COMPANY EXECS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

television and the Ascap situation. In answer to stockholders' questions, Paley stated recording business, subsidiary of CBS, is coming along good.

Columbia's net profit was $1,487,685, or 87c a share on the first three months ending March 29 last, as compared to $1,284,331, or 75c a share for a similar period last year. Profit before deduction of federal taxes totaled $2,358,947, or about $400,000 ahead of last year. Gross income was $14,685,766, or nearly $2,000,000 over 1940.

Authors League Sesh Plans To Be Set At Monday Meet

Plans for an Authors League of America Conference here next month will be discussed Monday night (21) at an open board meeting of the Screen Writers Guild at the Roosevelt hotel. Senator Robert Kenny will discuss anti-labor legislation pending in Sacramento, and committees will report on the status of negotiations with the Producers and with the Artists Managers Guild.

Members also will be advised as to plans for publication of a monthly bulletin to keep scriveners in touch with developments in their organization. Prexy Sheridan Gibney will preside.

In a notice going to the membership today, Secretary Dore Schary states with reference to the proposed conference: 'This is the first time that writers from the various fields of motion pictures, radio, publishing and the theatre will get together to discuss problems of mutual interest. You are cordially invited to participate in this discussion and help shape plans for the Conference.'

Test Windy Cooke

Windy Cooke, impersonator and who gives various sound effects in the Major Bowes unit, current at the Orpheum theatre here, will be tested at 20th-Fox next Monday for a part in the William Perlberg picture, 'Remember the Day.' Cooke is being handled for films by Mitchell Hamilburg.

Another Quiz Kids

Another variation of radio's Quiz Kids will be sponsored by Lime Cola over NBC's Coast blue network. New twist has the moppets in the audience firing questions at a board of adult experts. Half hour program takes off (27).

East Starts Tonight

'Colgate Talent Tournament', with Ed East as emcee and Charles Hathaway's orchestra, replaces 'Ask-It-Basket' over the Columbia network starting tonight.

Lamour With Hope

Dorothy Lamour has been penciled for the guest spot on the Bob Hope dentifrice show May 6.

Graham Gets Sponsor

Frank Graham's 'Nightcap Yarns' has been taken under sponsorship by Yeast Foam over KNX.

178th Station

Mutual network added its 178th station, taking in KDTH in Dubuque, Iowa.

Steve Broidy To Chi For Monogram Regional

Steve Broidy, general sales manager for Monogram, trains out for Chicago today to conduct the company's midwest regional meeting there at the Congress hotel Saturday and Sunday.

From there Broidy goes to Boston, New York and then New Orleans for similar discussions of 1941-42 plans for sales, promotion and exploitation.

Montgomery at Col

Robert Montgomery checked in yesterday at Columbia, reporting to Everett Riskin for preliminary tests on 'Heaven Can Wait', which Alexander Hall will direct. Joseph Walker is set as cameraman, and William Mull is assistant director. Production starts next week.

SCG, Pal Parley Date

The proposed basic agreement between the Screen Cartoonists Guild and George Pal Productions was discussed yesterday at a conference between company executives and George E. Bodle. It was agreed that parley would be recessed until the first of next week.

Dismisses Voteur's Suit

New York, April 16.—Supreme Court Justice Levy today dismissed Ferdinand Voteur's $250,000 plagiarism suit against Columbia. Plaintiff-author charged his play, 'Resurrection Morning' was pirated for the studio's 'The Man Who Lives Twice.'

Gibbons On Orig

Elliott Gibbons is developing original screen treatment for 'Honolulu Lou', next Lupe Velez vehicle to be supervised for Columbia by Wallace MacDonald.

WB 'Wagons' Preem Set

Warners will hold press preview of 'The Wagons Roll at Night' Tuesday (22) at the Warners Beverly at 2 p.m.

Crump On 'Miracle'

Owen Crump has been assigned to write the narration on 'Miracle Makers', Warners short.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Sacto Sierra Theatre Rented for 10 Year Period

Sierra theatre in Sacramento has been leased for 10 years at a rental in excess of $150,000, from the Sequoia Realty Co. by Standard Enterprises, Inc., operators of a chain of independent houses in Northern California.

In addition to securing the lease the new owners purchased for $25,000 all furniture, fixtures and equipment from the Blumenfeld Theatre Circuit, which has long operated. An additional $25,000 will be spent by Standard on remodeling the structure, erecting a new marquee and making other improvements. Murray Randolph & Co. represented the lessees in the deal.

SPRECKELS QUITS NLRB POST

★ Continued from page 1 ★

several picture companies have been discussing his availability, and that at least one of them was ready to make a bid for his services. It is probable that an announcement will be made as soon as the board has acted upon his resignation, which is effective at the convenience of the NLRB.

Since his appointment here, Spreckels has proven popular with both employers and employes. He has handled several delicate situations to the satisfaction of both groups, including a number of cases involving crafts in the picture industry.

Hollytown Relights

Hollytown theatre, which has been dark for a long period, will make another attempt at rejuvenation tonight, when a limited engagement of Miriam Jay in 'Here Today', will be inaugurated. Comedy was originally produced in New York by Sam Harris and George S. Kaufman.

Rep Scribes Set

Writer assignments at Republic include Lawrence Kimble to polish chore on script of 'How to Die Young', first production for George Arthur; and Albert DeMond on the screen play of 'Gangs of Sonora', a Three Mesquiteers western.

Castings For 'Navy'

Butch and Buddy and Edward Fielding join the cast of the Abbott and Costello comedy at Universal, 'In the Navy.'

Obituary

WILLIAM DANFORTH

William Danforth, 73, who appeared in the Gilbert and Sullivan light operas during the early 1900's, died yesterday in Syracuse, N. Y.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

Warners Reports Big Increase in All Industry Crafts

Warners reports an increase of 155% in all crafts employed on the lot due to the seven pictures currently in production and the four new ones slated to start within the next three weeks. Production splurge is using a total of 1,400 in various crafts, against the normal employment of 550. Seventy-five per cent of those working are employed on the seven films shooting, while the remaining 25% are preparing the four that start soon.

Breakdown of figures in comparing normal and boom employment is as follows: carpenter and cabinet, normal day, 75 men, current, 270; general labor, normal, 200, current, 510; grips, normal 80, current, 125; powder and special effects, normal, 10, current, 60; machine and tin shop, normal, 30, current, 80; staff shop, normal, 10, current, 30; property, normal, 30, current, 70; paint, normal, 70, current, 125; greens and nursery, normal, 25, current, 80; plumbing, normal, 15, current, 35; scenic, normal, 5, current, 15.

Pat Wing Assumes Army Post Spot

Fort Monmouth, April 16.—Patricia Wing, sister of Toby Wing, former actress and wife of Aviator Dick Merrill, today took over the position of receptionist at Fort Monmouth post headquarters. Receptionist, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Paul Wing, formerly resided in Beverly Hills, Calif. Patricia is married to W. Haggin Perry of New York.

Bischoff Mulls Locale

Producer Sam Bischoff at Columbia is considering report brought back from Camp Hahn, Riverside, by Director Sidney Lanfield and script writers, Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano, on the camp as a probable location for the draftee story, 'You'll Never Get Rich'. Unit was hosted by commanding officer of Camp Hahn during five-day scouting trip.

Hot Tune Spotted

Rendition of 'The St. Louis Blues', one of Bing Crosby's first and most popular croonings, done with Paul Whiteman and his Rhythm Boys 12 years ago at the Cocoanut Grove, will be included in Paramount's 'Birth of the Blues', among other songs which linger from beyond 1910.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 9; Portland, 7.
Sacramento, 3; Los Angeles, 1.
Seattle, 6; Oakland, 3.
San Diego, 4; San Francisco, 1.

BRIGHT YOUNG SECRETARY
desires studio connection, writer or producer. Experience in radio and advertising. Available immediately.
Phone NO. 11979 or Box 17
Daily Variety

NEW COLUMBIA RECORDING DEAL TO BE READY MONDAY

● Continued from page 1 ●

nent picket lines might be extended to CBS next week unless the company makes a 'sincere effort to get together with the union'. A benefit entertainment show for the strikers is scheduled for Carpenters Hall Saturday night after the demonstration in front of CBS.

After the unionists claimed the company had refused to meet with them, James Dougherty, of the Los Angeles Industrial Council, with which the United is affiliated, stated:

'We feel that this offer of the management is a stalling move. However, if they are willing to sit down and negotiate in good faith then the union will be only too glad to comply. It is our hope that the management has reconsidered its foolish policy of trying to starve the men out and thereby break the union.'

William Elconin, international representative of the union, said the workers had made every effort to get together with the company, but that the company had not been acting in good faith. He said the workers were determined to remain out until their demands are recognized, and claimed the record business is completely tied up so far as Columbia is concerned.

Representatives of the union said the sponsors of several transcribed air programs were threatening to bring suit unless the producers deliver the programs. In the meantime, pickets continued to march in front of the plant, and no effort was made to resume operations, the office workers having refused to cross the picket lines.

The union is demanding the wage minimum be tilted from 55 to 75 cents per hour, with a 10 cents per hour raise in the higher pay brackets. The company offered a flat increase of 1.7 cents per hour, which was promptly vetoed by the union.

Film Preview and Review

Wild Man of Borneo

Continued from page 3

Burke menage, and her brat of a daughter, Bonita Granville, maintain their suspicions of Morgan to the end, but when the former finally has her ex-hubby, Catlett, arrested for making away with her funds, and induces him to re-marry her, they are finally softened.

Miss Howard, meanwhile, has a romance with Dan Dailey, Jr., a former acrobat and motion picture inventor, and the fadeout has Dailey's invention accepted, an offer made him to produce pictures, and Morgan and Miss Howard as his leading characters.

Aside from Morgan and Meek, who give outstanding performances, and Billie Burke, who, as always, romps through her comedy part, Bonita Granville turns in an excellent portrayal of a part for which she was long noted before her advancement to bigger and better roles.

Catlett is his own inimitable self as the museum operator, and Dan Dailey gives a somewhat stilted performance of the youthful inventor, who is hep to Morgan all the time. Marjorie Main sort of overacts her part as a domestic, while Connie Gilchrist is well suited for the deserted wife role. Others are adequate.

Robert B. Sinclair's direction is excellent, and the screenplay by Waldo Salt and John McClain is as good an adaptation of the former Broadway play as could be looked for. Oliver Marsh has turned in a capable job of photography and background music by David Snell is flawless.

Penny Serenade

Continued from page 3

packing her belongings. She comes across their book of musical records, starts to play them, is reminded by each of an episode in their life. These episodes are chapters in the continuity. In the end there is reconciliation and a plan to adopt another child, since she is incapable of motherhood because of injuries received in an earthquake.

Love story and parenthood tribulations and joys are very movingly done by Miss Dunne and Grant, and in support Edgar Buchanan as the sympathetic friend and shop foreman, and Beulah Bondi as the orphanage matron, give memorable performances. Ann Doran is the nine-year-old in a most appealing enactment of genuine skill. Wallis Clark impresses in the role of judge.

Camera work by Joseph Walker, music by Franke Harling and music direction by M. W. Stoloff are of a quality commensurate with the fine tone of the production. Fred Guiol is credited as associate producer. Some of the sentimental scenes, particularly a Christmas entertainment by children, are held too long. Aside from this over-footage, the sincerity of treatment, the homely content, the excellent playing and the penetrating direction combine to give 'Penny Serenade' an assurance of widest appeal.

BASEBALL ★ This Week
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. PORTLAND
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games—
Thurs., Friday, 8:15 P.M.
For Reservations
Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Tom Keene Series Set for Mono; Tansey Produces

Tom Keene, who did a series of westerns for Monogram during 1937-38, has again signed with the company to star in a new group to be produced by Robert Tansey. Latter is also writing the series under the name of Robert Emmet.

First of the new group, which will replace the Tex Ritter musicals on Monogram's western lineup for 1941-42, is titled 'Wandereds of the West' and is slated to start late this month. Tansey also has three others in preparation.

COL GETS MILLION TO PAY FUND

■ Continued from page 1 ■

Manhattan Company. Under the agreement a maximum amount of $3,000,000 in loans is made available to Columbia.

It is understood that the remainder of this rotating bank credit be used for production in building backlog product for 1941-42.

Par Signs Writers

Paramount has signed Jerome Chodorov and Joseph Field to a deal calling for two scripts to be written next year. Pair, who authored the play, 'My Sister Eileen', have just completed screen play on 'Louisiana Purchase' for Paramount.

☆ Gab ☆

Continued from page 3

next Tuesday night (22) at the Ambassador hotel. Spyros Skouras may plane here from New York to attend the gathering.

Tim Whelan's script describing a telephone operator for Edward Small's production 'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard' requires a girl who can 'say hello like Garbo, has a sparkle in her eye like Mary Martin and legs like Betty Grable.'

LORRAINE DAY and Leo, Jr., a five month old lion, acted as models for amateur camera fans last night at the Academy's First Annual Still Photography Show at the Academy Review theatre. The more daring lensers ventured close enough to blow into Leo's face in order to get him to snarl.

WHEN MINUTES MEAN MONEY—TELEGRAPH VIA
Postal Telegraph
CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE

Vol. 31 No. 32 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, April 18, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offic

SAG SEEKS $500,000 BOOST

DISNEY DATA BEING SENT TO WASH.

Facts and other data in the unfair labor practice charges filed against the Walt Disney Studio are being submitted to the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, it was announced yesterday at the NLRB regional offices here. If the board feels the evidence warrants it, a complaint will be issued and a date set for a hearing. The charges were filed by the Society of Motion Picture Film

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Chas. Skouras Leaves New York for Coast

Charles P. Skouras, Fox-West Coast prexy, trained out of New York yesterday en route back to the Coast after being away two weeks inaugurating the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, of which he is again field marshal. Skouras will be accompanied west by Charles A. Buckley, head of circuit's legal department, and possibly by Spyros and George Skouras, who are coming to participate in annual Americanism meeting sponsored by C. P. Skouras and F-WC, at the Ambassador hotel next Tuesday night.

Susan Hayward Given 'Wild Wind' Spot

Susan Hayward will play the role of Ivy Devereaux in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount. Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland co-star and others placed so far include John Wayne, Robert Preston, Raymond Massey, Lynne Overman, Walter Hampden and Hattie McDaniel.

Producer, SWG Session

Committees representing the Producers and the Screen Writers Guild confer tonight on the Guilder's demands for a new writer contract.

Sign Jackie Gleason

Jackie C. Gleason, former emcee for Club 18, in New York, yesterday was signed by Warners for a role in 'Navy Blues.'

Larkin Ends 'Keepers'

John Larkin has turned in treatment on 'Finders, Keepers' at 20th-Fox and has been assigned to screen play.

PAR PLANS PACT LIST OF YOUNG SCRIBBLERS

Paramount plans establishment of a contract list of new, younger writers to aid in the development of scribbling talent in the future, and William Dozier, head of the story and writer departments, will head for New York as soon as the present program of story preparation on the

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

D'Arcy Subs Fleck

Harry D'Arcy, shorts director at RKO, has stepped in to substitute for Freddie Fleck as assistant director on 'Tom, Dick and Harry' until latter recovers from severe cold.

PRODUCERS MEET MONDAY ON GUILD DEMANDS

Demands of the Screen Actors Guild for contract revisions which the SAG estimates will increase the earnings of extras and lower paid actors approximately $500,000 annually will be acted upon by the Producers at their meeting Monday (21). The negotiations were concluded some time ago, but both groups took time out to prepare estimates of the cost to the companies of putting the Guild demands into effect.

The Producers were still working on their estimates yesterday, but SAG tops said they figured the increase to players would hit around

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

Columbia Recording Workers Claim Victory in Strike Break

Columbia Recording Corp. workers claimed last night to have blocked a move by company executives to break their strike by shipping records from the Bridgeport home office to Kansas City and then reshipping them to retail outlets in this zone. The United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers has an agreement with the Bridgeport local not to ship direct to this territory during duration of local strike, but Unionists claim the company was trying to

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Serlin Coming to H'd To Ogle Pic Offers

New York, April 17.—Oscar Serlin, producer of 'Life With Father', goes to the Coast next week to give the onceover to several offers made to him recently by film producers. He is still holding on to all rights for 'Father'.

Reagan Tops 'Row'

Warners has assigned Ronald Reagan to top role in 'Kings Row', which starts rolling Wednesday.

John Barrymore Ill; Welles Subs On Airer

John Barrymore was bedded with the grippe yesterday and forced to miss his first broadcast since becoming a regular on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest program. Orson Welles substituted. James MacFadden, radio head of the McKee-Albright agency, gets in Tuesday from New York to confer with Producer Dick Mack on the summer status of the show and its imminent move east.

McCall, Jr. to Metro

Mary C. McCall, Jr. goes under a term writing contract at Metro as soon as she completes work on a forthcoming 'Maisie' feature.

Variety Clubs Set Program For Atlantic City Meet

Program for the seventh annual convention of the Variety Clubs of America, to be held at the Traymore hotel in Atlantic City May 15-17, has been completed. First business session is skedded for the afternoon of May 15, with similar meetings held throughout most of (16). Over 1,200 Variety Barkers, guests and civic leaders are expected to participate. Frank C. Walker, postmaster general, has accepted an invitation to attend. He is a Variety club

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

CAPT. ROOSEVELT ON FOREIGN MISSION

Capt. James Roosevelt bid Hollywood and picture making goodbye yesterday for an indefinite period. He planed to San Francisco with his bride and leaves from there today by Clipper plane for the Far East and foreign service. Likely that he may reach the European fighting front within the next few weeks as an observer for the Marine Corps. Mrs. Roosevelt returns here tonight, and during the absence of Capt. Roosevelt will reside with her mother.

Norma Shearer Given 'Dancing' Lead

Norma Shearer's next picture will be 'We Were Dancing', a story written about the characters and incidents in Noel Coward's short play, 'Tonight at 8:30.' This will be her first Metro vehicle since 'Escape', with Robert Taylor. Role is that of a Polish princess who makes her living as a professional guest. Sidney Franklin will produce.

20th Acquires Rights To Watkins 'Chicago'

20th-Fox has rounded up rights to Maurine Watkins' play, 'Chicago', thriller of the silents in which Marie Prevost was starred. Talker rights were acquired from Miss Watkins and Sam Harris, and silent rights from Pathe. Nunnally Johnson has been assigned production.

RKO Seeks Carroll

RKO has opened negotiations with Metro to obtain the services of John Carroll in two pictures a year.

PREVIEWED

UNDER AGE
(Col)

THE COWBOY AND THE BLONDE
(20th-Fox)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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1940, at the Post Office at Los Angeles,
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Wade Rubottom is art director on Metro's 'Get-Away'.

Jack Benny entertained the Quiz Kids at a Paramount luncheon yesterday.

Frankie Thomas back in town after closing of 'Your Loving Son' in New York.

Gary Gray, three-year-old, has been signed at 20th-Fox for a part in 'Sun Valley'.

Bob Hawks, emcee for Columbia's 'Take It or Leave It' airshow, visiting Warners yesterday.

Warners had 550 extras working on the lot yesterday in 'Sergeant York' and 'Navy Blues'.

Al Gilks is at San Jose lensing special shots of army camps in that area to be used in a new short subject at Metro.

Paul Gerard Smith has reported in at Hal Roach to script 'Niagara Falls', first of the new Streamlined Features scheduled for production.

Katharine Brown, New York representative and assistant secretary to David O. Selznick, yesterday planed in for a week's conferences.

Stanley Rubin and Roy Chanslor have been signed to prepare screenplay on 'Bombay Clipper', which Marshall Grant will produce at Universal.

Jack Malloy, Hearst newspaper executive in Chicago, is resting at Palm Springs after a visit to San Simeon before returning to his headquarters.

Lee Shippey, Los Angeles Times columnist, was reported resting comfortably last night at Good Samaritan hospital after undergoing a major operation.

Alice Faye arrives on the Chief from New York today, and, unless she changes her mind, will have an eight-week holiday here as remainder of her regular three months' layoff period.

Haworth Bromley, former production executive with Gaumont-British and Sonovox in England, has joined Dolan and Doane agency to head newly formed story and writers department.

Harold J. Salemson will be Friday magazine's new Coast editorial representative, working with Phil Stern, Coast photographic rep for the mag. Salemson formerly was correspondent here for a group of French papers.

Benny the Gouge sez—When a gal rides on the rear seat of a motorbike, it's love or spring or something.

Hollywood Inside

HEARST newspaper campaign against the CBS airshow, 'The Free Company', coinciding with the attack on Orson Welles, yesterday suffered its second setback in two days when the Beverly Hills Post of the American Legion refused to consider a resolution condemning the program. Previously the Hollywood Legion Post took identical action. Understood that matter will come before the State Legion at its Santa Barbara session Sunday with the likelihood that the state body will go on record as opposing any participation in the Hearst campaign against the CBS program. Columbia took 'The Free Company' show at the suggestion of James Boyd, dollar-a-year man and officer overseas in the last World War, now in charge of the exploitation of hostile propaganda under Solicitor General Francis Biddle. Department of Justice is definitely tied up with the airshow and has been giving it every cooperation. Louis B. Mayer has had an official communique from Washington asking his cooperation in furthering the success of the program. Copy was submitted and turned down by the two Hearst Los Angeles newspapers on 'Citizen Kane', which will have its local road show preem at El Capitan theatre in Hollywood night of May 8, and begins a day-date road show run the following day with the RKO Hillstreet theatre. Charles Koerner, RKO theatre chief for this area, submitted eighth inch ad to both the Examiner and the Herald-Express, to run April 24, along with similar copy furnished the other Los Angeles dailies. Both Hearst newspapers declined the copy, giving no explanation for their stand. It was predicted that such action would result, but an opportunity to run the advertising was given each publication.

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DR. LEO C. ROSTEN, of the Motion Picture Research Project, in giving a breakdown of his recent survey of the motion picture industry explained yesterday that only two of the many actors queried had expressed a desire for elimination of propaganda pictures. He said that because figures were not cited the impression had been given that a substantial number of players favored abolition of propaganda pictures. In his breakdown of the survey, Dr. Rosten stated: 'The questionnaires upon which we reported to the Screen Actors Guild contained 189 comments on the content of pictures today. Out of these 189, only two actors mentioned ''propaganda films.'' Twenty-five actors asserted that too many pictures were being made ''from formula.'' Ten actors specifically asked for pictures which dealt with contemporary, economic and social problems, e.g. ''more pictures with educational and social value''; ''make more pictures like 'Dr. Ehrlich','' ''Grapes of Wrath'', etc.; ''deal with social problems honestly''; ''indulge in more much-needed American propaganda.'' ''Dr. Ehrlich'', ''The Grapes of Wrath'', ''Abe Lincoln in Illinois'', ''The Informer'', and ''Ninotchka'' were mentioned by name and praised. Thirty-five actors praised the films for having improved, ''daring to be honest and free'', possessing ''a growing maturity of approach'', etc. There was far more criticism of ''run of the mill pictures'', ''mass production'', ''gangster films'', ''B Pictures'', ''Escapist themes'', etc., than of propaganda film.'

☆ ☆ ☆

SAM GOLDWYN couple weeks ago told John Chapman of New York Daily News that he thought Orson Welles was a 'genius.' This happened during a discussion at a dinner party which both attended in the home of Edgar Selwyn. Chapman printed it in his column. Then Goldwyn was questioned about the statement by Hearst newspaper representatives who did not approve of Welles being dubbed a 'genius' by Goldwyn. Chapman was called in by Goldwyn who wanted to clarify or qualify the yarn that had been printed through some sort of retraction. However, the columnist nixed the idea and as far as the record goes with the NY Daily News Welles is still a 'genius' so far as Goldwyn is concerned.

☆ ☆ ☆

RKO branch managers have been asked by Ned Depinet, vice-prez in charge of distribution, to slice to the minimum letters of introduction for visitors coming to studio, reminding them of time lost, expense incurred and general disruption caused by flood of gawpers on active stages. Branch managers, targets for townspeople heading for Hollywood with primary desire to get into studios, are asked to confine their recommendations to exhibitors, newspaper people and 'other important people who can do the company and the industry some good.'

☆ ☆ ☆

INADVERTENT transposition of names in 'Penny Serenade' preview gave Ann Doran credit for a juvenile performance when she should have had mention for the vivid if brief role as the music store attendant and friend of Irene Dunne in subsequent party scene. Little girl who did so well as adopted child is Eva Lee Kuney.

☆ ☆ ☆

RECIPIENTS of imposing looking Christmas gifts from a major studio last Yuletide are being canvassed now by the provisioner who supplied the gifts, soliciting orders for brands included in the package. Solicitor says it was part of the studio deal to supply him with list of giftees, so he could work a followup routine.

☆ ☆ ☆

ORSATTI AGENCY has prepared a package deal of two stars, completed script and director which is being offered to the studios at a price of $235,000. Package has Shirley Temple and Warner Baxter as co-stars and Al Santell as director.

COAST LEAGUE BASEBALL RESULTS

Hollywood, 8; Portland, 4.
Oakland, 6; Seattle, 1.
San Francisco, 6; San Diego, 5.
Los Angeles, 7; Sacramento, 5.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Tomatoes and potatoes
And sauerkraut and peas
Are neatly packed for markets
By canning industries.

And into movie houses
The same idea steals.
The motion picture dramas
Are sold in package deals.

★ ★ ★

One of these nights, when the film drama has been completely packaged, old Joe Public and his wife may step out for a bit of entertainment with the solacing thought that they have the choice of 57 varieties.

While all the studios in Hollywood are going colossal, Republic de-colossalizes a range of mountains from the plural to the singular. From now on, 'The Singing Hills' will be titled 'The Singing Hill.'

Don Terry is picking up a lot of education in Hollywood aside from his lessons in the cinematic art. He says: 'Many a man sees the wolf at the door because his girl friend saw a mink in the window.'

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John Hubbard is writing a magazine story entitled 'The Perils of Paternity', for the instruction of all and sundry fathers. His first kid is six weeks old, which makes him a veteran.

Cliffhangers grow bigger and better and more humane. In Republic's new thriller the chapters will be 27 minutes long instead of 18, leaving nine minutes less for the blonde to hang on yonder cliff over the weekend.

'Robin Hood' is a departure from the ordinary serial. The boys in Sherwood Forest were flatheels and drew a longbow instead of a six-gun. Imagine Roy Rogers prowling amid the trees with a harp slung over his shoulder, and not a horse in sight.

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Robin Hood was a pretty good band leader, but Kay Kyser pulls down more in a week than the Sheriff of Nottingham did in a lifetime.

★ ★ ★

She sits alone in the evening glow
and smiles as the daylight pales,
For the ruby tint of the western
sky just matches her fingernails.

★ ★ ★

'Three Sheets In the Wind' is not that kind of a story. It's about trade winds—not schooners crossing the bar.

★ ★ ★

The streamlined featuret, envisioned by Hal Roach as the tail-end of a double bill, was developed long ago in baseball, where the second game is whittled down to seven innings.

★ ★ ★

If the gals who lived in your grandpop's day
Came back to strut in their Spring array
And sprouted out in their ancient lids
They would wear the same as the modern kids.

Film Previews

Under Age

(*Melodrama*)

Columbia production. Features Nan Grey, Tom Neal, Mary Anderson, Alan Baxter, Leona Maricle and Don Beddoe. Supporting cast: Yolande Mollot, Richard Terry, Wilma Francis, Patti McCarty, Billie Roy, Gwen Kenyon, Barbara Kent and Nancy Worth. Director, Edward Dmytryk. Producer, Ralph Cohn. Screenplay, Robert D. Andrews. Story, Stanley Roberts. Photography, John Stumar. Film editor, Richard Fantl. Art director, Lionel Banks. Previewed April 17. Running time: 59 mins.

This is another of Columbia's problem pictures—the one of disreputable auto camps and the vice traps concealed behind the respectable front of hospitality. 'Under Age' draws a strong example and ably makes its point to prove acceptable exploitation material for the smaller houses. There is also another exploitation angle—picture is probably the last of the 'sweater' productions to slip by before the Hays office decreed there is to be no further emphasis placed on maidenly charm and grace by the dubious concealment of knitted garments.

Story tells of two sisters, forced to become camp hostesses after failing to find legitimate employment when freed from a reformatory after serving vagrancy sentences. The younger sister, lured by the easy money and flattering male eye becomes deeply involved in the ring; is killed, brutally, when she threatens to expose operations to the police after her sister is badly beaten for keeping an out-of-bounds rendezvous with one of the ring's victims. Gang is finally rounded up and jailed through a novel story twist when the other girls rebel at the murder.

Nan Grey and Mary Anderson, the sisters, older and younger respectively, handle their chores capably. Tom Neal serves well the part of the young victim who falls for Miss Grey. Alan Baxter brings his usual menace to the killer spot. Leona Maricle is particularly able as the operator of the nefarious enterprise. Don Beddoe takes care of the few comedy bits. Yolande Mollot, Patti McCarty, Wilma Francis, Barbara Kent, Gwen Kenyon, Billie Roy and Nancy Worth are the discerningly cast sweater wearers. Edward Dmytryk marches the direction along without a lag in interpreting Robert D. Andrews' script of the Stanley Roberts original story. Ralph Cohn's production values do well by the budget allocation and John Stumar's camera displays considerable agility in photographing the players.

Castings For 'Landing'

John Miljan, Thornton Edwards, Harold Goodwin and Robert O. Davis have joined the cast of 'Forced Landing', Pine-Thomas production for Paramount release. Picture rolls today under the direction of Gordon Wiles at Fine Arts studio. Richard Arlen, Eva Gabor, Nils Asther, J. Carrol Naish, Evelyn Brent and Victor Varconi head the cast.

Rep 'Lady' Release (27)

Republic will release 'Lady From Louisiana', with John Wayne and Ona Munson, on April 27. 'The Singing Hill', Gene Autry starrer, goes into release April 26.

The Cowboy and the Blonde

(*Romantic Comedy*)

20th-Fox production. Features Mary Beth Hughes and George Montgomery. Supporting cast: Alan Mowbray, Robert Conway, John Miljan, Richard Lane, Robert Emmett Keane, Minerva Urecal, Fuzzy Knight, George O'Hara, Monica Bannister, William Halligan. Directed by Ray McCarey. Associate producers, Ralph Dietrich and Walter Morosco. Screenplay by Walter Bullock, from original by Walter Bullock and William Brent. Photography, Charles Clarke. Art direction, Richard Day, Lewis Creber. Film editor, Harry Reynolds. Set decorations, Thomas Little. Musical direction, Cyril J. Mockridge. Previewed April 17. Running time: 68 mins.

A light, breezy brand of entertainment is rounded up for program service in this dalliance of a rodeo cowboy and a bit of blonde dynamite which combines the background of Hollywood film studios and the great open spaces. The picture smacks of the western, in that it has riding and the duds of the dude vaquero, but it is essentially a romantic comedy centered on the charms and the temperamental tantrums of a spoiled film star, who is finally tamed by the big lummox of the ranch who takes her away from the top studio executive.

George Montgomery parades his wares for the first time in a top role, opposite Mary Beth Hughes. Cowboy actor works well, handles himself with ease, has an excellent voice and rides to-the-saddle-born. He came to the studios from Great Falls, Ida., and did some professional box-fighting before landing a film contract. Lean, rangy, personable and with a manner, looks like he's got something that'll go well in semi-westerns and perhaps something more exacting later on.

Miss Hughes is very sirenic in her role as the screen star who kicks everyone around until the boy from the ranges booms into her life.

In Walter Bullock's screenplay, from an original shared by William Brent, the action shifts from studio backstage stuff, with plenty of chuckles, to the ranch where the blonde finally runs down and lands the stubborn waddy—a neatly fashioned tale, whipping up a tasty romantic hash from old ingredients. Alan Mowbray, as the picture mogul; Fuzzy Knight, Robert Conway, John Miljan, Richard Lane, Robert Emmett Keane, Minerva Urecal, George O'Hara, Monica Bannister and William Halligan add up effective support.

Ray McCarey directed capably for laughs and the kind of romantic didoes implied in the attractive title, capturing every bit of amusement suggested in the script.

Ralph Dietrich and Walter Morosco give good account of their coproducership in organizing a sound piece of film merchandise for the program support spot.

Charlie Clark gets grade-A lensing to give his people the best advantage and his locations attractive quality. Rest of the technical support exceeds the standard usually found in modest budgeters.

Final Org Tonight On Group To Battle Bills

Plans for organization of a general committee of studio guild and union tops to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento will be completed tonight at a meeting of union representatives at the Roosevelt hotel. J. K. (Spike) Wallace, head of Musicians Local 47, will preside. Each union and guild has been invited to appoint a delegate to sit on the committee, which plans to contact Assemblymen and other State leaders to urge defeat of measures which Wallace and State Senator Robert Kenny claim would virtually destroy the labor movement.

The first move against the bills was taken last night when the workers took to the air over KFWB, with a program headed by Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild. This program probably will be continued until all the measures have been acted upon.

Morgan, LeRoy Head To Par Studio

Oscar A. Morgan, Paramount shorts sales manager, and Fred LeRoy, in charge of exchange operations, are heading to the Coast as part of a nationwide tour they are making. Sales policies and quotas for new season's crop of shorts will be discussed, with Morgan probably holding a general confab here of all Par Coast exchange heads and sales personnel.

Durland Heads West

New York, April 17.—Will Hays is training in from the Coast over the weekend. Addison Durland, new aide to Joseph I. Breen, left here tonight for Hollywood on the job handling the Latin-American self-censorship for the Hays office.

Spot Jack Andrews

Jack Andrews has been assigned to script 'Improper Relations' at 20th-Fox, adapted from the original by Victor Heerman and Sarah Y. Mason, for production by William LeBaron.

Tune Marxes' Opus

Marx Brothers opus, 'The Bargain Basement' at Metro has wound up its regular production schedule. Now goes into three weeks period of musical numbers.

'Minstrel' Goes May 12

'Minstrel Days', Warners two-reeler, will start shooting May 12, with Jean Negulesco handling direction. Gordon Hollingshead supervises.

'Devil' Goes Outdoors

RKO's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' troupe, which has been shooting at RKO-Pathe in Culver City, moves to the studio ranch today for a week.

Boteler Tandems

Wade Boteler is two-timing at Metro in the short, 'Coffins On Wheels', and the feature, 'The Get-Away.'

Metro Ties Fortune

Jan Fortune has been signed to term writing contract at Metro.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ARTICLE in the June issue of 'Answers-Frauds-Exposed', a local mag, under caption of 'Hollywood Blackmail' or 'Million for Tribute, Not a Cent for Defense!' is creating quite a stir among studio executives. . . . Ronald Sinclair, 17-year-old New Zealand film actor, has started a movement to organize young film players into a group to furnish aid to British youngsters of similar age. Those asked to assist in the organizatoin work include Freddie Bartholomew, Judy Garland, Mickey Rooney, Susanna Foster, Gloria Jean, Buddy Pepper, Virginia Weidler, Edith Fellows, Douglas McPhail, Bill Lechner, Terry Kilburn. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Leo Robin hosted Ruth Robin, Phil Harris' singer, at Victor's in Beverly Hills last night.

Miriam Jay, niece of Mike Newman, Columbia district exploiteer, is in the cast of 'Here Today', comedy, which opened a brief engagement last night at the Hollytown theatre. This is the actress' first local stage part.

INITIAL step toward the establishment of a Hollywood Museum of Modern Art will be made tomorrow when Peter Harnden, architectural designer, opens his 'Design Project' with an exhibition of the works of Sherril Schell, camera artist. Affair will be attended by a number of names in the cinema world. . . Lady Mendl will toss her 'Chins Up' party, for the benefit of the British War Relief fund, at the Mocambo next Sunday evening. Masters of ceremonies will include Robert Montgomery, Alan Mowbray, Reginald Gardiner and Nigel Bruce. Floor show will feature many names well known in the picture colony, among them Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Maureen O'Hara, Virginia Field, Basil Rathbone, Binnie Barnes and others.

False fire alarm yesterday morning at RKO had its repercussions at the neighboring Paramount lot, where 'Hold Back the Dawn' was shooting on a large outdoor set. Noise of fire trucks sirening back and forth stopped all shooting on the Mitchell Leisen picture. Alarm was the result of alterations being made to RKO's cafe and when workers started to remove a call box they thought was dead, signal was sounded at the fire station, which rushed over eight pieces of equipment.

DEANNA DURBIN and Vaughn Paul will be married tonight at 8:30 o'clock at the Wilshire Methodist Episcopal church. Reception to immediately follow the ceremony will be held at the Beverly-Wilshire hotel. . . . 'Once Upon a Summertime', new tune by Jack Brooks and Norman Berens, will be introduced on the Jack Benny Jello program Sunday. . . . Remainder of picture people who went to Mexico City for the Mexican Motion Picture Festival will train in this afternoon. In party are Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy, Desi Arnaz's

■ Continued on page 7 ■

New York Pic Haunts Gloomy Over Schenck Decish

New York, April 17.—Midtown haunts of film and other business executives were a composite picture of gloom today as a result of the convictions of Joseph M. Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz on income tax evasion charges. Everything being relative, and while London's blitz and the Balkan setbacks are vaster world ills, the popularity of both Joes with the show bunch brought it just a shade closer to them.

Both were flooded with wires and phone calls. The major note of negative decision is the sorrowful manner in which Nick Schenck took it. Both Joe Schenck and Attorney Harold Corbin were bolstering Nick after the decision, rather than feeling sorry for themselves.

McGuire, Cashman Plane to Texas

Arnold McGuire, NBC production contact on Kay Kyser's 'College of Musical Knowledge', and Ed Cashman, producer of the program for Lord & Thomas, planed out yesterday for San Antonio to prepare for Kyser's next broadcast from Randolph Field. Kyser, Ginny Simms and the band took wing on a chartered plane for El Paso, first stop of a 10,000 mile tour through the southwest. David Butler, who will produce and direct Kyser's next film at RKO, is making the jaunt with band leader to talk over story plans. Butler and Kyser have been having difficulty lining up the proper yarn but hope to settle on an idea during the seven-day air swing of the west.

Raison Suit Settled

A personal injury suit of Milton M. Raison, a screen writer, against the Los Angeles Railway and Hollywood Turf Club was settled out of court yesterday by Attorneys Louis C. Blau and Bernard M. Silbert a few minutes before the trial was scheduled to start. Raison, who was struck by a bus, is reported to have received $5,000 in settlement.

Michaud in New York

New York, April 17.—Henri Michaud, Warners representative in France, clippered in today from Europe for home office huddles. He left France before the Germans took over American film exchange setups.

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, four ounces, to Mrs. Harold V. Smith, Wednesday night at Hollywood hospital. Father is business representative of International Sound Technicians Local 695 and chairman of the business representatives committee of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

FOR SALE—UNUSUAL DOG

Black giant-Schnauzer of champion stock, male, 2 years old, wt. 95 pounds. Fully trained in obedience and protection.

BRadshaw 23794

CASE CATCHES DEFENSE

Fox Case dispatches a crew of technicians and announcers to Pasadena Saturday for a special CBS network broadcast from Cal Tech. All departments touching on national defense will contribute latest technical advances, with mikes spotted in the laboratories of aeronautics, atom smasher, telescopes, wind tunnel, cosmic rays and weather forecasting. Chet Huntley produces and roving mikemen will be Art Gilmore, Maury Webster, Larry Chatterton, Bob Garred and Dick Joy. Half hour program airs from KNX at 11 a.m.

FOREIGN MANAGERS STUDY NAZI SEIZURES IN PARIS

New York, April 17.—Foreign managers of major companies huddled here today regarding Nazi seizure of the Paris headquarters of American distributors. Meeting expressed concern over properties and coin still due them in France. Film distribs probably will work through the United States foreign funds control commission to obtain certain French-owned properties and money due this country in payment for funds due them for nearly a year.

It is estimated that there is much more French property here than the funds due the U. S. distributors in France.

PAR RESHUFFLES RELEASES

Paramount has reshuffled its release schedule for the fourth quarter of the current season considerably to take advantage of two holidays and stagger distribution of its more important product. Shuffle affects 11 features, two of which will hit the holiday trade of the Fourth of July and Memorial Day.

'I Wanted Wings', formerly set for July 18, now goes out May 30, and 'Caught In the Draft' draws release on July 4 because of its service theme instead of May 30. Others include 'Border Vigilantes', (18); 'Power Dive', (25) instead of May 23; 'Reaching For the Sun', May 2; 'There's Magic In Music', May 16—was May 9; 'Pirates On Horseback', May 23; 'One Night In Lisbon', June 13 instead of May 16; 'West Point Widow', June 30, was July 25; 'The Parson of Panamint', June 27; 'The Shepherd of the Hills', July 18 instead of June 13; 'Forced Landing', July 25 instead of June 20; 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', Aug. 1 instead of July 4; 'Wide Open Town', Aug. 8 instead of Aug. 1; 'Aloma of the South Seas', Aug. 15, and 'Flying Blind', Aug. 22. Latter picture is the only one not yet in production.

Johnsons Head West

Nunnally Johnson and his wife leave today on the Lurline for Honolulu vacation, returning May 7. En route 20th-Fox associate producer will make revisions on his script of 'The Night the World Shook', which will be his first production on the 1941-42 schedule.

Hayes Drops 'Henry'

Fractured ankle received by Margaret Hayes several days ago has forced her withdrawal from the cast of 'Henry For President' at Paramount, but actress will be tested next week for spot in 'Sullivan's Travels', forthcoming Paul Jones production.

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(RKO)

'My Life With Caroline'
Dir.: Lewis Milestone
Asst.: Henry Berman

PAR PLANS PACT LIST OF YOUNG SCRIBBLERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

first quarter of the 1941-42 program is well under way.

Both B. G. DeSylva, production chief, and himself a writer, and Dozier, who helped spot new writing talent in the studios while heading the story and writer branch of the Berg-Allenberg agency, favor a drive to build Paramount's list of contract writers to a maximum to assure proper vehicles for the players on the studio roster.

Deal now pending for story talent will bring at least four more top writing names to the studio under exclusive term pacts as result of the decision to augment Paramount's already heavy scrivener list. Currently studio has 41 writers at work on 28 screenplays. Recent term tickets handed out include Harry Tugend, Dalton Trumbo, Kenneth Earl, Curtis Kenyon, Joseph Fields, Jerome Chodorov and Walter De Leon, swelling number of term writers such as Preston Sturges, Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder, Frank Butler, Don Hartman and Virginia Van Upp.

During his trip east Dozier will look over the field of magazine writers, newspaper writers and younger playwrights to select fresh writing talent for the new list studio plans to build.

Hal Walker Leaves Miami Beach With 'Truth' Scenes

Hal Walker, assistant director, leaves Miami Beach tomorrow for Hollywood after completing atmospheric shots for Paramount's 'Nothing But the Truth.'

Camera crew, headed by Dewey Wrigley, who had been filming shots, leaves for Charleston, S. C. to join the Arthur H. Rosson unit to gather background footage for 'Reap the Wild Wind.'

DISNEY DATA SENT TO WASHINGTON

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

Editors and the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Negotiations between Disney executives and American Federation of Labor leaders will be resumed Monday (21), when Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer, returns from San Francisco. Negotiations for the Cartoonists are being handled by Blair, Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

Major Fite, Benedict Huddle On Pic

Major John H. Fite, of the U. S. Army Air Corps, arrived yesterday from Wright Field at Dayton, O., to huddle with Howard Benedict at RKO on production of 'Parachute Battalion', which he co-authored with John Twist.

Forrester Suit Settled

New York, April 17.—Suit of Izola Forrester and Mann Page against 20th-Fox was settled today out of New York Supreme court. Action sought an injunction, accounting of profits and damages on company's film, 'Poor Little Rich Girl', claiming it a plagiarism of their play, 'Joyous.'

Warwick Due May 15

Ruth Warwick, who was signed to a term contract at RKO after her appearance in 'Citizen Kane', is due to arrive at the studio from New York May 15 to receive first assignment under the pact.

Medford at Warners

Harold Medford, scripter of KNJ 'Calling All Cars' program, joins Warners shorts department as a writer.

Guest Brewer Kids

The Brewer Kids go guesting on the Chase & Sanborn program Sunday.

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Hope Turns Airplane Pilot for Goldwyn Production

Bob Hope's one-picture commitment to Samuel Goldwyn will be a musical with a South American background with comedian playing a Pan-American airplane pilot. Because of Paramount's production rush to get a backlog of Hope pictures for future release, the untitled Goldwyn production will have to wait until fall unless it can be sandwiched in somewhere between Hope's home lot schedule.

Goldwyn also is understood to want Paramount to loan Dorothy Lamour for the top femme role in his picture, and deal may go through if both she and Hope can be cleared at the same time.

When Hope and Goldwyn originally made their one-picture deal, comedian was supposed to do the film during June or July. He will receive $100,000 for the outside feature, which Paramount agreed he could do at time his new contract was negotiated some months ago in lieu of the higher salary Hope had asked.

Reason for the heavy Hope schedule at Paramount is to prevent situation that arose after he had completed 'The Ghost Breakers' and went out on a personal appearance tour. Comic's success on the jaunt caught studio without a picture to shove into release after 'Ghost Breakers' for a nine-month period. Since his return, Hope has made 'Road to Singapore', 'Road to Zanzibar', 'Caught In the Draft', and now is playing in 'Nothing But the Truth'. His next will either be one with Madeleine Carroll or the forthcoming 'Road to Moscow', and may possibly be able to squeeze in the Goldwyn musical after 'Truth'.

Goldwyn's present plans call for the Hope opus to be fourth on his schedule, but with the four pictures overlapping. He starts shortly on 'The Little Foxes', has an untitled Gary Cooper starrer down as second and then will start work on his part of the Hans Christian Andersen feature he will co-produce with Walt Disney.

President Makes Free Press Pledge

Washington, April 17.—Asserting that free speech is 'in undisputed possession' of the press, the radio and motion pictures, President Roosevelt told the American Society of Newspaper Editors today that there will be 'no government control of news unless it be of vital military information.' In a letter read to the opening meeting of the society's annual convention, Mr. Roosevelt said that 'those who disagree with what is being done, and with the manner in which it is being done, are free to use their freedom of speech.' The letter was read by Tom Wallace, retiring president of the society and editor of the Louisville Times. Wallace said it 'may become a very historic document.'

Variety Clubs Set Program For Atlantic City Meet

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

booster and active in the organization's charitable activities.

Variety Club Night of Nights will be staged at the Hotel Chelsea on second night of the convention, with a special floor show to be staged by Harry Mayer of New York.

During that evening the Calcutta Pool will be conducted by Bob O'Donnell of Dallas, auctioning off the players for the Saturday morning golf tournament to be played by the National Variety Clubs.

Saturday afternoon there will be a Boardwalk Parade, followed by a circus at the Auditorium building where more than 1,000 Barkers and guests will be hosts to several thousand children. United Artists tosses a cocktail party, the only major company activity of the convention, sponsored by Murray Silverstone, Arthur Kelly and Harry Gold. Final banquet is set for Saturday evening. A highlight of this gathering will be the annual presentation of the Humanitarian Award, which will not be announced prior to the actual presentation.

Four Tom Keene Pix Replace Tune Oaters Planned for Ritter

Four of the new Tom Keene westerns to be produced by Monogram will replace the quartet of musical oaters on the company's program for 1940-41 which were to have starred Tex Ritter before he moved over to Columbia. Pictures, to be produced by Robert Tansey, will be filmed at the studio in Prescott, Ariz., which is equipped with two stages and a western street.

Advance crew leaves next week for Prescott to begin preparations for the first, 'Wanderers of the West', slated to roll the following week. Robert Emmet, Tansey's scribbling handle, has completed scenarios on the four initialers.

Col Musical Dept. Sked Heavy

Columbia's musical department under Morris Stoloff is running under heavy pressure currently with six musicals on its schedule and musical sequences in four other pictures, in addition to regular background scoring work to be done. Extra burden of the unexpected sequences in straight dramatic films include Penny Singleton and the St. Brendan's Choir singing 'Trees' in 'Blondie In Society', three tunes for 'Girls From Panama', a saxophone sequence in 'Heaven Can Wait' with Robert Montgomery, and a trumpet playing episode with Melvyn Douglas in 'Our Wife'. Straight musicals on the program which are making the heaviest demands on the department are 'You'll Never Get Rich', the Fred Astaire-Rita Hayworth costarrer for which pre-recording is under way, and 'Betty Co-ed', with music by Ozzie Nelson and his band and vocals by Harriett Hilliard.

Title Changes

Select Attractions, Inc. announces the second Merrick-Alexander production will be released under the title of 'I'll Sell My Life', instead of 'I'll Buy Your Life', as previously announced. Cast includes Rose Hobart, Michael Whalen, Stanley Fields, Joan Woodbury and Roscoe Ates. Elmer Clifton will direct.

Republic's 'The Singing Hills' to 'The Singing Hill.'

Bob Reeve Upped

Bob Reeve, son of Arch Reeve, has been promoted in the cutting department at Paramount to an assistant cutter.

Republic Has Pair Ready for Fields Production

Republic has two stories ready to go into work with Leonard Fields producing, 'Back Door to Happiness', with Charles Royal and Ed Seward on the screenplay, and 'Mr. D. A. Almost Gets Married', with Ben Roberts and Sidney Sheldon scripting.

Two others in preparation for Fields are 'The Best American' with Olive Cooper on the screenplay and 'White House Correspondent', which Charles Blake and George Carleton Brown are writing.

Lester Fountain Back At Long Beach

Lester Fountain, who managed the Studio theatre in San Bernardino for Cabara Theatres before recent acquisition of house by Fox-West Coast, has returned to Long Beach for the Milt Arthur operation. He will handle advertising and publicity for all of the Cabart houses in the Beach area.

Collab On 'Town'

Frank Partos and Richard Carroll will collaborate on the script of 'Three Girls About Town', Sam Bischoff production at Columbia which Leigh Jason will direct with Joan Blondell as one of the three principals.

Palace For Nelson

Ozzie Nelson and his orchestra go to San Francisco for an engagement at the Palace hotel, opening May 1, as soon as they complete work in 'Betty Co-ed' at Columbia.

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Appreciation to
SOL M. WURTZEL

Producers To Mull $500,000 Guild Boost Monday

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

the half million mark. There is a possibility it will go even higher if the current peak of production is maintained.

Actor groups that would be directly affected are the extras, small freelancers and bit players. The increase for extras would result from the reclassification of extra pay brackets. These probably would call for elimination of the $8.25 and $11 calls, and adoption of a $10 bracket to replace them. The use of $5.50 extras also would be limited, with no wardrobe or age specifications permitted. There has been some discussion of limiting $5.50 calls to the use of 50 or more extras at a time.

The position is taken that a limitation on $5.50 calls and abolition of the $8.25 and $11 calls would eliminate hundreds of adjustments, which up the studio bookkeeping costs in addition to the necessity for larger pay. It also is claimed that it has been difficult to set a line of demarcation between $8.25 and $11 calls.

Happy Days Again

Extras are singing 'Happy Days Are Here Again'. With the Screen Actors Guild reporting approximately 1,800 job calls yesterday, several waivers had to be issued because of the demands for youngsters 18 to 25 years of age. Because all of the studios were demanding 18-year-olds at the same time, both the SAG and Central Casting Corp. experienced difficulty in getting the players. As fast as one group of youngsters was turned loose, another studio was demanding their services. While calls this week have been the heaviest in months, practically all of them have been for extras 25 and under.

The Producers also are expected to discuss the recommendation for abolition of the Producer-SAG Standing Committee. Maintenance of this committee last year was approximately $36,000, exclusive of the thousands in fees paid attorneys for appearing before the committee in adjustment cases. A similar recommendation has been made to the SAG, but no official action has been taken on it.

'Barnacle Bill' Rolls At Fish Harbor

Metro has launched production on 'Barnacle Bill', Wallace Beery starrer, on location at Fish Harbor. Twenty-five sailing ships, tuna schooners and other craft are being used in opening sequences under direction of Richard Thorpe. Clyde DeVinna is on camera. Location will last about three weeks.

WANTED—WRITER—MALE OR FEMALE

To collaborate for Screen and Radio, with single man, 35, Jewish. Knows exploitation and entertainment values based on proven results from many years of theatre experience.

B. DAVIS, care Daily Variety

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Our Wife'	Columbia	John Stahl	John Stahl	April 15
'The Son of Davy Crockett'	Columbia	Leon Barsha	Lambert Hillyer	April 17
'Get Away'	Metro	J. Walter Ruben	Richard Rosson	April 14
'Barnacle Bill'	Metro	Milton Bren	Richard Thorpe	April 16
'Birth of the Blues'	Paramount	B. G. DeSylva	Victor Schertzinger	April 17
'Forced Landing'	Paramount	Pict. Corp. of Amer.	Gordon Wiles	April 18
'Paper Bullets'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Phil Rosen	April 18
'Saddlemates'	Republic	Lou Gray	Les Orlebeck	April 15
'Lady Scarface'	RKO	Cliff Reid	Frank Woodruff	April 14
'Illusions'	UA	Alexander Korda	Julien Duvivier	April 16
'Sea Raiders'	Universal	Henry MacRae	Ford Beebe and John Rawlins	April 14
'Marshal Law'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ray Taylor	April 18
'Navy Blues'	Warners	Jerry Wald and Jack Saper	Lloyd Bacon	April 16

9 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Heaven Can Wait'	Columbia	Everett Riskin	Alexander Hall	April 21
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	April 21
'Puddin' Head'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Joseph Santley	April 21
'Michael Shayne' No. 3	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	April 21
'The Bouncer and the Lady'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Irving Pichel	April 21
'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard'	UA	Edward Small	Tim Whelan	April 21
'Rhapsody In Stripes'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Albert Rogell	April 21
'Moonlight In Hawaii'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	April 26
'King's Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	April 23

17 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	April 28
'Secret of the Wasteland'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Unassigned	April 28
'Dildo Cay'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 1
'The Texans Ride'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	George Marshall	April 28
'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	Preparing
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Unassigned	Preparing
'The Yearling'	Metro	Sidney Franklin	Victor Fleming	Preparing
'Gambling Daughters'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	T. H. Richmond	Unassigned	April 28
'Murder In Uniform'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	E. B. Derr	Unassigned	April 28
Untitled Tim McCoy	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sigmund Neufeld	Peter Stewart	April 28
'The Gay Falcon'	RKO	Unassigned	Irving Reis	May 2
'A Yank In the R.A.F.'	20th-Fox	Lou Edelman	Henry King	April 28
'The Last of the Duanes'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	James Tinling	May 1
'The Little Foxes'	UA	Samuel Goldwyn	William Wyler	April 28
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corporation	Unassigned	June 10
'Bullets For O'Hara'	Warners	Unassigned	William K. Howard	April 28

Ill in Pix

GENE TIERNEY in Good Samaritan hospital suffering from serious eye condition caused by glare of spotlights. Work was held up briefly on 'Belle Starr' at 20th-Fox when the actress was ordered to the hospital by her physician, Dr. George Piness.

DR. EDDIE TRAUB, Hollywood dentist who has numerous picture people as his clients, is recovering at Cedars of Lebanon hospital following recent illness.

LUIS ALBERNI out of the cast of 'World Premiere' at Paramount for a few days while he recovers from severe cold.

SOL C. SIEGEL returns to his Paramount desk today after two-day siege of cold at home.

DANNY O'SHEA ill at home with the flu.

Ruttenberg Vacashes

Joseph Ruttenberg, Metro cameraman, having finished 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde', heads for New York tomorrow for four weeks' holiday.

Universal Signs 12 Writers To Ready Big Productions

Swinging into heavy writing production, Universal yesterday signed 12 new writers. Scripters include:

Stanley Roberts, to do untitled original for Abbott and Costello; J. Ainsworth Morgan, original treatment on 'Captive Woman'; Harold Shumate, 'Bad Lands of Dakota'; Eric Taylor, original treatment on 'The Ghost of Frankenstein'; Edward Eliscu, for added scenes on 'Oh, Charlie'; Arthur Jones and Dorcas Cochrane for 'Juke Box Jenny'; Roy Chanslor and Stanley Rubin for 'Bombay Clipper', and Oliver Drake, Walter Doniger and Robert Dillon for separate stories for the new U series triple-starring Dick Foran, Leo Carrillo and Andy Devine.

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Story Buys

Republic yesterday bought an original story by Roger Williams, 'Strange Bedfellows' and it was assigned to Robert North for production.

Spots Lucille Ball

Lucille Ball has the guest call on the Tommy Riggs airer for Old Gold (24). Ben Gage announces the series.

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RKO Will Hold Its Sales Convention In NY June 16-19

New York, April 17.—RKO will hold its sales convention at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel from June 16 to 19, inclusive, according to announcement made today by Ned Depinet, vice president in charge of distribution, in speaking before the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers. Depinet, addressing group on a survey of the effect of the consent decree, stated that RKO would screen its first group of five pictures at the sales convention and shortly after hold its first trade showing of the films as called for under the decree. Pictures will be selected from those now in production on the Coast.

Depinet, in remarking on the showings, said, 'In other words all our people will see the first group in June—two and one-half to four months before release date—to have ample time for proper selling, advertising, exploitation and pre-selling to the public.'

Shortly after the trade showings RKO will start licensing the films for distribution in September, the start of the 1941-42 season. Depinet said he feels the screening of these features so far in advance is a step forward in the industry. Sales convention will be attended by all U. S. and Canadian district and branch managers and salesmen, Depinet said, in addition to home office and studio officials and delegates from a number of the foreign offices.

Depinet emphasized the fact that the consent decree will improve the quality of pictures because it will put the spotlight on the pictures which should not have been made. Producers, naturally, will be more careful as to what stories and casts they put into production, he concluded.

'The new system will shake us out of a groove and we face a grand chance to take off our coats and go to work to raise the standard of entertainment and to find ways and means of attracting a larger percentage of the public to motion pictures,' he stated, in speaking of the forthcoming selling season.

'Since early December, facts and figures concerning every theatre in the United States have been compiled. We have more complete records than we ever had before. We are in better shape, therefore, to deal with exhibitors everywhere under the consent decree.

'Naturally, we will do much more selling out in the field and we feel that under this plan there will be much closer and more intimate relations between exhibitors and ourselves.'

Columbia Recording Workers Claim Victory in Strike Break

★ Continued from page 1 ★

beat this by shipping bulk to Kansas City with the idea of filling western orders there.

The Bridgeport union was notified, and word is said to have been received that no western orders would be filled. The United also has made arrangements with RCA-Victor and Allied not to accept any Columbia work until the walkout is settled.

William Elconin, international representative of the United, said plans would be completed today for a monster picket demonstration Saturday night (19) in front of the Columbia Broadcasting Co. studio. A benefit entertainment show will be held after the demonstration at the Belmont Studio, 121½ S. Vermont. The new hall was selected when the Studio Carpenters canceled rental of their hall because the United is affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Union officials stated Ray Thomas, Columbia distributor for California, Arizona, New Mexico, would be notified today that his establishment would be picketed if he makes any move to distribute stock on hand, regardless of whether it was received before the walkout. They also said pledges of support had been received from several American Federation of Labor studio crafts and independent guilds, including the Moving Picture Painters Local 644, the Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office Employes Guild.

Company officials have promised to submit a new contract offer to the strikers Monday (21), but Unionists have branded this as a 'stalling move'. A previous offer of a flat 1.7 cents per hour increase was turned down. The union is asking the minimum be increased from 55 cents per hour to 75, with 10 cents per hour increase in the higher pay brackets.

a.m. Dailies

Jack Haley Answers Suit—

Jack Haley filed a cross complaint in court here yesterday to a $1,314.99 suit brought against him by Marion McKeen, flying instructor. Haley demanded $775 which he said he paid as a down payment on flying lessons. McKeen's suit charged that Haley had damaged a plane used in flight instruction.

Honor Pendleton's Kin—

Nat Pendleton's grandmother, Mrs. Frances A. Johnson, was 100 years old yesterday and a communion service was held in her honor at St. Thomas' Episcopal church. Mrs. Johnson is a poet. She was the mother of Arthur Johnson, now dead, early film actor.

Klemperer Sues Hospital—

Dr. Otto Klemperer in New York yesterday asked $200,000 damages from a private sanitarium here, charging that he was falsely arrested March 2 after he had left the sanitarium. The orchestra conductor said he was detained 36 hours.

Big Day For Extras

Paramount used over 500 atmosphere players and 90 automobiles yesterday for a fiesta scene in 'Hold Back the Dawn.'

Bromberg, Henry Given Featured Roles In 'Dance Hall'

J. Edward Bromberg and William Henry will have featured roles in 20th-Fox's 'Dance Hall', for which Cesar Romero and Carole Landis head the cast. Director Irving Pichel starts the picture (21).

'Dance Hall' is one of several Sol M. Wurtzel productions on which budgets are being upped as a general policy to meet increased competition due to operation of the consent decree when it comes into operation. In the same category is 'Private Nurse', with a cast headed by Brenda Joyce, Jane Darwell and Sheldon Leonard.

Orig On 'Beauty'

Richard Landau and Harold Green are set at Columbia to develop an original story, 'Beauty on Parade', for production by Jack Fier. Betty Laidlaw and Robert Lively have been assigned to do the treatment and screen play on another Fier production, 'Professional Model.'

Spot David Hall

David Hall has been signed as production designer for 'Ladies in Retirement', which Lester Cowan and Gilbert Miller will produce for Columbia. Lee Garmes will be first cameraman on the picture.

☆ Gab ☆

■ Continued from page 3 ■

mother, Carl Schaefer, Warners foreign publicity director; Mary Gordon and Miguel de Zigarraga, foreign relations counsel for Columbia. . . Rufe Davis, Republic's comic waddy, will introduce the celebrated 101 Ranch Terrapin Derby to Hollywood Sunday at his invitational housewarming. Annual event in Oklahoma brings heavy betting, and Davis has gathered 50 of the fleetest turtles for the affair. He's asked Bud Abbott and Lou Costello to act as judges.

Robt. Cummings Gets Romantic Lead In Durbin's 'Angel'

Robert Cummings will have the romantic male lead in Universal's next Deanna Durbin picture, 'Almost An Angel'. Picture starts shooting May 24, getting fully under way early in June after actress returns from her honeymoon.

Cummings flies to Lindsay, Calif., today to be king of orange show there for fourth straight year. Tomorrow the Lindsay airfield will be dedicated and named Cummings Field, in honor of the actor.

Set Gene Anderson

Gene Anderson will be first assistant director to Sidney Lanfield on 'You'll Never Get Rich', at Columbia. Picture starts May 5, co-starring Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth.

Obituary

ARTHUR R. HILL

Funeral services will be held at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow in Pierce Bros. Hollywood chapel for Arthur Raymond Hill, 50-year-old picture and radio actor, who died Wednesday night at his home here. He is survived by a widow, the former Louise Meeking, to whom he was married but a week ago. Services will be conducted by Dr. Sheldon Shepard, of the First Universalist church, who also performed the recent wedding ceremony. Hill played in 'Dispatch From Reuters', 'Strawberry Blonde' and 'Dark Victory'. He was on KHJ for several years and was associated in air programs with Wilbur Hatch and 'Uncle John'.

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For Reservations, YOrk 1123

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A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE
RCA BUILDING · RADIO CITY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

KEN R. DYKE
DIRECTOR OF PROMOTION

March
Thirty-first
1941

Mr Robert Landry
VARIETY
154 West 46th Street
New York N Y

Dear Bob:

I was delighted to hear that VARIETY is planning to run a special section on April 30th to celebrate Jack Benny's Tenth Anniversary on the air.

This is a well deserved tribute to a great performer and, naturally, the National Broadcasting Company is delighted to participate in the issue. In addition to our regular space we will take a special full page in the Jack Benny section.

Best personal regards,

Cordially yours,

Ken

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 33 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, April 21, 1941 5 Cents

1st LA EXHIB ARBITRATION KICKS

COL. R'CDING SESH ON TODAY

With negotiations between the Columbia Recording Co. and 85 members of the striking workers' unions scheduled for today, the employes' committee yesterday stepped up the picketing tempo to daily instead of once-a-week demonstration in front of the Columbia Broadcasting System studio until settlement has been effected at its subsidiary on Romaine avenue.

Picket lines yesterday afternoon

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

Bakaleinikoff Appointed RKO Music Head

Constantin Bakaleinikoff has been made head of RKO's music department, succeeding Dave Dreyer. Studio and Dreyer couldn't come to terms on new contract. Bakaleinikoff was musical director at Paramount from 1929 to 1936 and recently was a musical director at Metro.

Greisdorf Engineering Deal For UA

Dave Greisdorf, NY contract approval rep for Globe Productions with United Artists, is in town. Trying to engineer around deal whereby Boris Morros would produce 'Hunting Tower' to be released by UA under the James Roosevelt sponsorship.

Shoot Around Vallee

With Rudy Vallee hospitalized, Director Thornton Freeland today will start on shots on 'Too Many Blondes' at Universal that do not include the singer, then will pick up some additional Vallee footage next week.

Hammerstein East

Oscar Hammerstein II is returning to New York this week after passing three weeks here collaborating with Sigmund Romberg on a new operetta, still untitled. Likely that the piece will get a Broadway staging in the fall.

Gabriel Curtiz At 20th

Gabriel Curtiz, brother of Mike Curtiz, has become an apprentice director at 20th-Fox. He directed and acted in legit for 20 years in Budapest, leaving Hungary two years ago.

THAT GRITTY SILENCE

It was rehearsal time for Screen Guild Theatre in studio C at KNX last Friday. Melvyn Douglas and Joan Blondell were going over their script with Producer Harry Ackerman. They looked up in stony silence as a familiar figure came through the door. It was LifeBO's first lady, Louella O. Parsons.

'Hello, everybody', she greeted one and all cheerily, with a wave of her paw. 'Is Kate Smith here'? (She must've known her old studio C was taken over by Screen Guild). She was told quite properly by Ackerman that Miss Smith could be found in another studio down the hall, that what she was now observing was Screen Guild Theatre in rehearsal.

'Oh, that free show', she sputtered and got out of there, but fast.

The gritty silence that followed was so thunderous one could hear an option, four weeks off, drop.

Quiz Kids Take Hollywood With Bunch of Lockets

The Quiz Kids, knowing all the answers, but themselves unspoiled, took Hollywood by the storm of their personality, enthusiasm and good behavior, and today they're on the way back home to Chicago with treasures in pocket and a lot of cheerful information about radio and film studios to disseminate.

Last night after completing their third broadcast as guests on Jack Benny's Jello program over NBC in return for Benny's appearance on their show, the Kids received each a gold wrist watch engraved with their names. Benny got unabashed hugs and kisses in return for the gifts, and

◆ Continued on page 2 ◆

Flood of Technicolor Pix Expected Before H'd Lenses Soon

Summer and fall months will see a heavy flood of Technicolor productions hitting the nation's screens to bolster the already large number of features filmed in color that are currently in release. First off will be the four pictures, from as many studios, that are already completed and awaiting distribution dates. In addition there are now screening 11 Technicolor short subjects from seven different plants, to be aug-

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Minneapolis's Anti Decree Measure Nears Passage

Minneapolis, April 20.—Minnesota state senate's action in placing Northwest Allied's anti-consent decree bill on special orders virtually assures its passage. It already has carried in the lower house. Motion to put the measure on special orders so that it would be voted on immediately obtained the necessary two-thirds vote by the margin of a lone

★ Continued on page 6 ★

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, April 20.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Amapola	Marks
Walkin' By the River	BMI
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Intermezzo	Schubert
Maria Elena	Southern
Wise Old Owl	BMI
Look At Me Now	Embassy
My Sister and I	BMI
Dolores	Paramount
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway

TWO FILED WITHIN MINUTES

First two exhibitor complaints under the new government consent decree providing for arbitration were filed within 10 minutes of each other with Walter H. Elliott, secretary of the Los Angeles American Arbitration Association board. Complainants are George Bromley and Alex Bounce of the Campus theatre, Hollywood, and O. W. Lewis, of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel. Each complaint is against clearance as presently set

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

J. P. McEvoy Kept East By Ptomaine Attack

New York, April 20.—J. P. McEvoy's return to the Coast has been postponed for about 10 days due to attack of ptomaine poisoning from which he is recuperating at his farm near Tuxedo, N.Y. Scrivener and his wife have been east about two months, spending most of the time at Washington gathering material for film and magazine yarns. He'll remain for the summer at Malibu in California.

Eddie Albert, Ill, May Get 'Navy' Substitute

Because of player's illness, Warners is shooting around Eddie Albert in 'Navy Blues' today. In case Albert's recovery is delayed he may be replaced, since studio has picture too far along for loss of momentum. Added to featured bracket are William T. Orr, William Justice and John Ridgely.

Jones In 'Living'

Gordon Jones, of the legiter, 'My Sister Eileen', has been signed by Paramount for a featured spot in 'Among the Living.'

H. M. Warner's 'Devil'

H. M. Warner will play a featured role in William Dieterle's production, 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' at RKO.

REVIEWED

IN OLD CHEYENNE
(Rep)

(Review on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
FOUNDED BY SIME SILVERMAN
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1940, at the Post Office at Los Angeles,
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Art Moss to New York on business.

Louise Campbell has trained in from Chicago.

Richard Landau has joined Columbia's writing staff.

Arthur Stebbins Stratolined to New York over the weekend.

Lew Ayres back over the weekend from two-week vacation at La Jolla.

Mary Healy is being tested at Paramount for a role in 'Birth of the Blues'.

Brian Donlevy and wife return tomorrow from weekend jaunt to the desert.

Jack Proctor has become associated with the Henry Rogers publicity offices.

Sam Kahl, Chicago vaude operator, was Bobby North's guest at Hillcrest yesterday.

Rise Stevens in from New York April 22 for role at Metro in 'The Chocolate Soldier'.

Wilson B. Heller will address the Student and Alumni Advisory Council at UCLA tonight.

Frances Faye, returning soon from a season in Florida, opens at Slapsy Maxie's around May 1.

Bill Srere goes on week's vacation Saturday. Hies for the desert with brother Leonard looking after his three downtown theatres.

Ivan Goff has been signed to write the script for 'Old Faithful', a forthcoming Gene Autry vehicle which Harry Grey will produce at Republic.

Gene Tierney, in Good Samaritan hospital since Friday, is expected back at work today on 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr'. Actress was suffering from eye strain.

Owen Atkinson, author of the orig for 'Twenty Mule Team', has been called for active duty in the Navy. He is in the public relations office of the 12th Naval District with headquarters in San Francisco.

David Kirkland, former director, is playing a bit part in William Dieterle's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster'. Kirkland has been down in Mexico for past two years, where he sunk heavy bankroll into a Spanish talker.

Benny the Gouge sez—The busiest profession in the world today is technical advising—and not in pictures either. Whether you are standing at Hollywood and Vine, or in a hamburger joint or a cocktail bar, you can always find a flock of technical advisors who know how to win the war.

Hollywood Inside

PROFESSIONAL actors here, seeking an opportunity to entertain at the various Army and Navy training camps, are doing a burnup for alleged buckpassing, and the apparent designation of the National Theatre Conference, of Western Reserve University, as clearing house for this type of performance. Charlotte Lillard of Los Angeles made application for bookings for her act in the recently setup soldier camps, only to have her application referred to Paul Green, president of the executive committee of NTC, who advises that plans for a recreational and entertainment program for the soldiers are going ahead as rapidly as possible. 'But since the war department', Green states, 'has ruled that entertainment in the different camps is a matter entirely under the control of the different commandments, I'm afraid there is little we can do to help you.' Green suggests that Miss Lillard get in touch with the commandant in her region as 'it might be you have something to offer which would fit in with his plans.' What is particularly objectionable to the local professionals is that the camp entertainment setup, they insist, is heading for a duplication of the defunct Federal Theatre Project, with its amateurs having the high hand and their inexperience leading the professionals by the nose. Included as a member of the executive committee of the NTC is Gilmor Brown of the Pasadena Playhouse, and numerous university execs and small-theatre heads.

☆ ☆ ☆

YOUNG stock players at Paramount will be given minor roles in the Lux airshow by C. B. DeMille as part of their training for bigger parts to come. DeMille is of the opinion that radio work offers a technique valuable in film acting. Inculcated with the thought that once before the mike there can be only one 'take', young players will be more thoughtful in handling their lines while the cameras turn and imbue others with that knowledge, thereby reducing shooting time on pictures. First of the group to be given radio training are Eleanor Stewart and Suzanne Kaaren, appearing in support of Bette Davis and Herbert Marshall on tonight's Lux airing of 'The Letter.'

☆ ☆ ☆

SAN FRANCISCO business leaders, 500 strong, representing Downtown Assn. gave the Bay City radio industry a reverberating salute at a luncheon, marking the first time the group took official cognizance of the kilocycle crowd. Sparking the get-together was NBC's Al Nelson, who got a rousing civic sendoff for the network's new million-dollar studio soon to rise. Cavalcade of radio from its crystal set infancy was staged for the assemblage and broadcast over KGO. Radio execs in attendance included John Brunton, Phil Lasky, S. H. Patterson, William Pabst, Haan Tyler, Harold Meyer, Ralph Brunton and A. T. Harris.

☆ ☆ ☆

WILLIAM A. HALPERN, a second lieutenant with the U. S. Marine Corps, stationed at Quantico, Va., advises that the Marine Corps photographic section has started filming his first picture, a two-reeler, dealing with the Officer Expansion program. Script is by Stanley Kops, former Hollywood picture and radio scribe, who was in Major W. S. Van Dyke's Marine reserve battalion at the time it was called to active duty. Halpern's cameraman is Sergt. John Rogers, who was trained by March of Time. Halpern, who was also in the 22nd Battalion was transferred east for the express purpose of making Marine motion pictures.

Quiz Kids Take Hollywood With Bunch of Lockets

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

such squeals of uncoached delight as staid radio crowds haven't heard in some time. The Kids were still twisting the watches admiringly as they boarded the train for home.

Blase Hollywood shared another mutual thrill when Mary Livingstone gave her party Saturday afternoon for the wise youngsters and as many children of film and radio families as could come to romp with the Quizzers. There was a huge cake, made like a map, with candy antennae and other delectables arranged like radio gadgets. Little Joanie Benny, Jack and Mary's daughter, was hostess.

And don't think the Kids didn't have to do their stuff, even between mouthfuls of ice cream and cake. The young Hollywoodian's didn't believe the Kids from Chicago were so much better than the local paragons. Carolyn Lee, Paramount's prodigy, looking very profound, submitted a terrific mathematical question. It took the Quizzers all of 20 minutes to get the answer. 'Is that right?' they asked the starlet. 'How should I know?' she parried, 'I'm no Quiz Kid.' Well, the Kids from Chicago knew the answer for that kidding, too. They simply laughed.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY'S DOUBLE-HEADER

Hollywood, 5-11; Portland 7-6.
Seattle, 9-3; Oakland, 4-1.
Sacramento, 4-3; Los Angeles, 5-1.
San Francisco, 9-1; San Diego, 10-0.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

Portland, 3; Hollywood, 0.
Sacramento, 6; Los Angeles, 3.
Oakland, 1; Seattle, 0.
San Diego, 10; San Francisco, 1.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Hollywood, 3; Portland, 2.
Sacramento, 12; Los Angeles, 3.
Seattle, 6; Oakland, 4.
San Diego, 12; San Francisco, 2.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A breath of Spring pervades the picture lot.
The flowers bloom, the noonday sun is hot,
And sturdy actors labor in the glade
On football films for early Autumn trade.

★ ★ ★

Columbia is rounding up a gang of athletes for 'Tom Harmon of Michigan.' Of course you remember Tom. Or do you? Along about next October the fair-haired boy of the gridiron will be Joe Zilch of Stanford, or George Spelvin of Notre Dame, or John Doe of Millsaps.

★ ★ ★

Maybe last year's football hero can remember last year's Oscar winner. Or vice versa.

Type casting in Hollywood—Don Terry, who stands six-feet-three and wears No. 12 brogans, gets a job in 'Tight Shoes.'

Stirling Hayden is stepping right along in his dramatic career. To date, his flacks have matched him in feuds with Errol Flynn and George Brent. Nobody ever has a feud with Brian Donlevy.

★ ★ ★

Dictum against sweaters in the films is based on the old Vassar theory: 'Animals sweat, gentlemen perspire and ladies glow.'

★ ★ ★

So the gals are photographed, glowingly, in bathing garmenture.

There is bound to be a scramble for the premiere of 'George Washington Slept Here.' To hear the antique dealers tell it, George slept in approximately 100,000 beds between New York and Yorktown.

Ice shows grow more and more popular. So Eugene O'Neill writes 'The Ice Man Cometh.'

★ ★ ★

'Penny Serenade' proves that Hollywood can dramatize anything, including a phonograph.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood productions with Argentine backgrounds are as popular down there as Argentine productions with Hollywood backgrounds would be up here.

★ ★ ★

Burbank is a name associated with miracles of vegetable transformation, and the boys out there are doing pretty well with pictures, too. The latest feat is 'Manpower', an 'A' production about a 'B' girl.

★ ★ ★

At times a motion picture show reveals the startling fact
That cute and streamlined glamour gals can really learn to act.

★ ★ ★

When an actor has no use for Hollywood, the odds are 100 to 1 that the feeling is mutual.

★ ★ ★

There was a time when beateous stars would strut across the scene
In calm and dressed-up pulchritude, all snootily serene,
But now the glamour gals will act in acrobatic style
And do a flipflop now and then to make the public smile.

Film Review

In Old Cheyenne

(Western with Songs)

Republic production. Stars Roy Rogers, George Hayes. Features Joan Woodbury, J. Farrell MacDonald, William Haade, George Rosener, Sally Payne. Supporting players: Hal Taliaferro, Jack Kirk, Chuck Baldra, Slim Harkey, Spade Cooley. Producer-director, Joseph Kane. Original screen play, Olive Cooper. Photography, William Nobles. Film editor, Les Orlebeck. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, April 18. Running time: 59 mins.

Roy Rogers and his bearded sidekick, George Hayes, again prove their mettle as ride 'em and shoot 'em up western heroes in 'In Old Cheyenne', a tale of the early days when cattlemen warred on the farmer-settlers. Rogers croons three tunes pleasingly and slings his fists and guns handily to thoroughly satisfy the Saturday juvenile trade. Hayes as the slick old leader of the settlers capably takes care of his assignment.

Rogers, a New York reporter (born in Wyoming), is sent west to do feature stories on that country's growth. He runs afoul of a bunch of terrorists, apparently led by William Haade, who acts for a higher-up. And he meets a charming dancer, Joan Woodbury, returning to the frontier town to join her father, J. Farrell MacDonald, the town's editor and dupe of the real criminal who is the leading citizen, George Rosener.

Latter's gang is committing raids and blaming the settlers. Rogers stumbles on the truth, frames a cleanup and wins Miss Woodbury's hand, all to the tune of roaring guns and strumming guitars.

Miss Woodbury, with an assumed accent, makes the femme spot count in filling a part that usually has hard going in westerns. Sally Payne gets in a few comedy licks as the rough-and-ready daughter of Hayes. William Haade manages a breezy performance as the chief henchman of George Rosener. MacDonald is good as the editor and the balance of the cast lend the proper support.

Joseph Kane, producer-director, accounts for the brisk pace and nicely spotted tunes. Olive Cooper's original screenplay is parred above the legel of a few recent Rogers entries and William Nobles' camera captures the necessary scenic backgrounds.

Claude Binyon Scribing Paramount 'Darling'

Claude Binyon has been signed by Paramount to screenplay 'Take a Letter, Darling', original by George Beck. Picture will be for Claudette Colbert, Madeleine Carroll or another top femme name. Binyon's deal with Paramount carries options for other pictures.

'Hopkins' Dated Here

'Sis Hopkins', Republic special starring Judy Canova, has been booked into the Warners Hollywood and Downtown theatres, opening May 7, for its local run.

Only Two Receive Their Fairbanks Estate Bequests

New York, April 20.—Only two of the beneficiaries named in the will of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., including neither his widow, the former Lady Sylvia Ashley, nor his son, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., have received their bequests in the more than $1,500,000 estate. This was revealed in an accounting of the estate filed here, together with a petition for transfer of eastern assets to California. Trust funds totaling $1,407,000 were held in New York and Pittsburgh banks from 1926 until the time of Fairbanks' death. These sums, according to the legal papers, were the only ones which are liquid and covered only his eastern assets.

Disclosed as having received their share of the Fairbanks estate are the Motion Picture Relief Fund and Charles L. Lewis, the actor's physical trainer and personal friend, each bequeathed $10,000.

Other legatees, including the widow and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., the actor's brother, Robert Fairbanks, and a half-brother, Norris Wilcox, now office manager of United Artists in New York, are expected to get their devisements this fall. Next steps in disposition of the estate are contingent upon New York court's approval of transfer of the cash assets to the Coast and the request of the trustee, the Guaranty Trust Company, that it be allowed to renounce its trust in favor of the Bank of America in California.

Principal among number of English creditors listed in the accounting is Hugh Richard Arthur, Duke of Westminster, from whom Fairbanks leased a Park Lane house, London, until 1999. Mortgage was given him on this property by Hugh Selwyn Walford and Geoffrey Hugh Walford for 2,700 pounds. Other creditors are servants.

Robert Fairbanks and Norris Wilcox both are reported as having assigned portions of their legacies to the Guaranty Trust for advances, the former having obtained $16,000 in this manner, Wilcox $2,000.

Inheritance taxes paid on the estate in California amounted to $131,069.32.

'Ice-Capades' Tops For Pine-Board Extravagas

In many respects, 'Ice-Capades of 1941' tops any of the frapped extravaganzas that have been around since the frost was on the pine boards at Pan-Pacific. It has speed, novelty, comedy, flash and precision, plus a troupe of performers who must be rated with the ultras of the refrigerated set. Booked in for three weeks, the auditorium's 4,800 seats shouldn't go begging for tenants. After the run is over, Republic takes over to make a full length feature with the gay blades.

Partitioned off into 24 acts, the three-hour chilled thriller touches ever facet of the rink art. Revue even has its own music, topped by the lilting 'Somewhere'. Belita, a slender slip of femininity, is top billed, but hard pressed for the payee plaudits by such stellar performers as Serge Flash, Lois Dworshak (The Rhythm Girl), 'Red' McCarthy, Eric Waite, Phil and Megan Taylor, McGowan and Mack, Joe Jackson, Jr., Vera Hruba, Jackson and Lynam and Al Surette. They're all masters of the runners, but more important, showmanly in their performance.

Comedy is abundant, and apparently to the crowd's liking. In this section there's Joe Jackson, Jr., doing the same tramp-with-a-bicycle act that endeared his father to vaude patrons of another generation. His bit, in pantomime, was a show-stopper and a cameo of mimicry. There are few better trick comedy skaters around than Waite nor speedier than McCarthy, a flash in bronze.

As in previous engagements, Lois Dworshak is a favorite with the mob. Her routine with the jitterbugs and a jive shake left the general admish gang begging. The other gals are first rate skimmers and highly proficient at whirling and leg-in-the-air pirouettes. Distaffers confine their gliding to graceful and rhythmic swaying while the males perform the more spectacular feats.

Flash production numbers by Russell Markert's precision chorus of 20 Ice-Capets and 15 'gentlemen of the ensemble' are colorful and eye-filling. Striking are the two chorus drills done in phosphorescence. Line is well trained, works in flawless unison and is richly costumed. Markert directed and Jerry Mayhall batons the music. George Byron is vocalist and announces the turns.

Discontinued

VARIETY is discontinuing its Radio Directory, thereby eliminating the edition for this year. There have been four annual issues. No secret as to the reason—just too much red. The mass of information compiled in Directory files will, of course, be retained and departments deemed of value will appear in the weekly edition of VARIETY from time to time. Possible, though highly improbable, is that the Radio Directory may be revived at some future date.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

GEORGE TOPPER, Fox-West Coast treasurer, believes in efficiency, even if it involves a traffic ticket for him. Topper was coming in from his Encino home late last week when he was stopped by a prowl car and charged with running past a red light and doing 50 miles in a 25 mile zone. After the traffic cop had painstakingly written out the citation he inadvertently put the book and summons back in his pocket and started away. Topper waited for three or four minutes, finally blew his horn to attract the cop's attention. When the latter asked in a gruff voice, 'Well, what do you want now'? the F-WC coin guardian meekly asked if it was not customary to give a ticket to an alleged traffic law violator, whereupon the officer, all apologies, handed him the summons. . . . Bette Davis has been named 'the most distinguished motion picture actress of the year' by the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs . . . Actress makes guest appearance on the Lux broadcast tonight to describe her birthday party and premiere of Warners 'The Great Lie' at the Littleton, N. H. (5), and repeat her film part in the radio dramatization of 'The Letter' . . . Miss Davis is dieting to add weight (she needs five pounds) because she is too slim for woman of early 1900's in 'The Little Foxes.'

Frances Gifford, Paramount contract player, will be named Pan-American Girl by the Pan-American League Thursday night. She will be presented with an illuminated scroll by Dr. Octavio Mendez Pereira. Presentation takes place at the Cocoanut Grove.

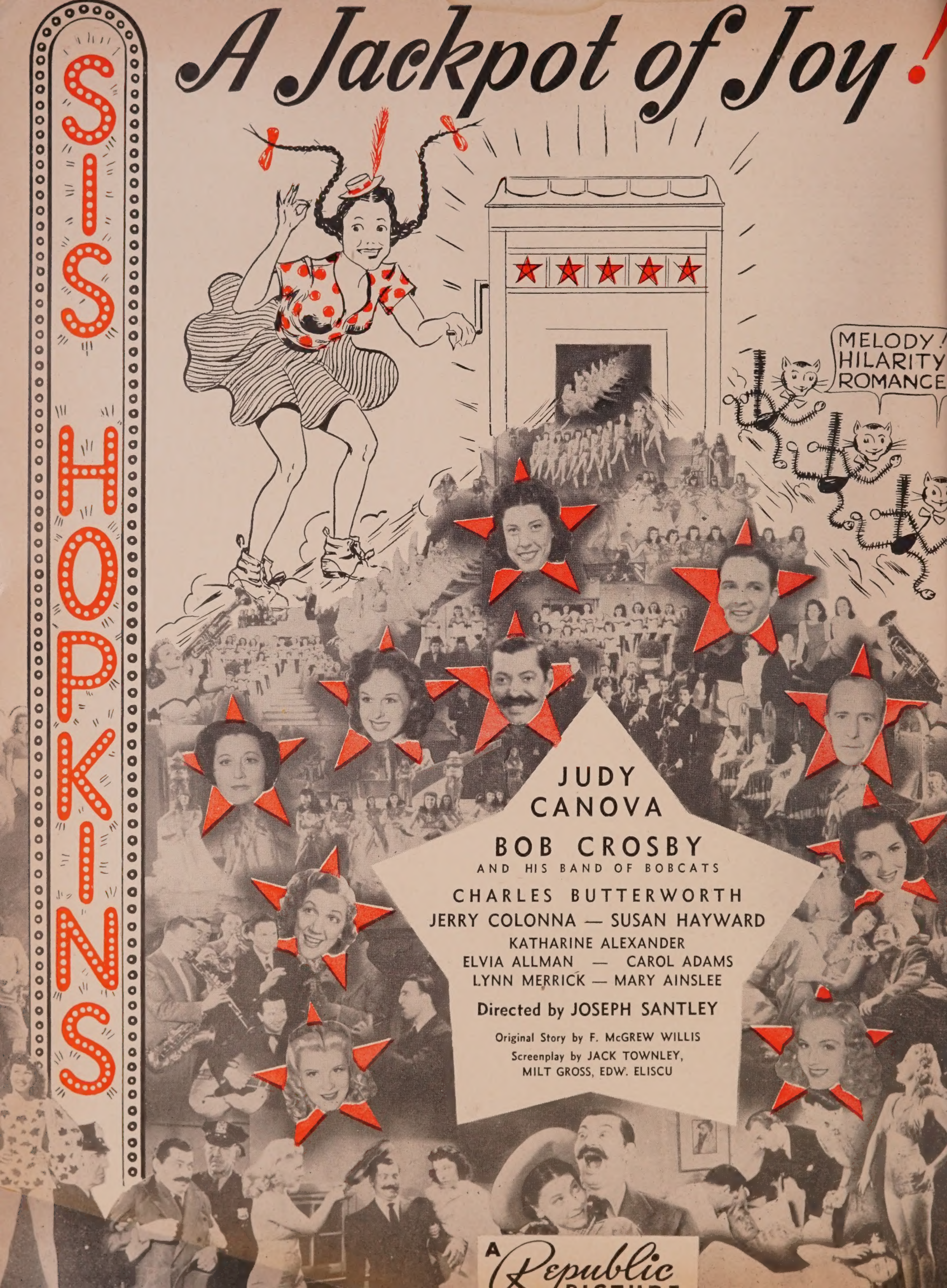
DON CASTLE and Mickey Phillips have signed a managerial contract with Jackie Taylor, young lightweight fighter who has won 30 of his last 33 amateur battles. . . . Denny Wilson, vocalist with Sweethearts Sextet on the Al Pearce show, was married Saturday in Glendale to William Markas, musician. . . . Dora Einzig, secretary to Jack Chertok at Metro, and Michael Porter, costume jewelry dealer, have announced their engagement. No wedding date yet set.

Town of Fairbanks, Ind., with 113 population, has petitioned Postmaster General Frank Walker to change its name to Fairbanks, Jr., in honor of Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

KING VIDOR and Mrs. Vidor hosted a musical party at their Sunset Ridge home Saturday night, to introduce Vincente Gomez, South American guitar virtuoso brought here by 20th-Fox for 'Blood and Sand.'

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
WMA

Represents . . .
HAROLD CLURMAN ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
Under contract Twentieth Century-Fox


A Jackpot of Joy!
SIS HOPKINS
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A Republic

JUDY CANOVA

BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND OF BOBCATS

CHARLES BUTTERWORTH
JERRY COLONNA — SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER
ELVIA ALLMAN — CAROL ADAMS
LYNN MERRICK — MARY AINSLEE

Directed by JOSEPH SANTLEY

Original Story by F. McGREW WILLIS
Screenplay by JACK TOWNLEY,
MILT GROSS, EDW. ELISCU

Deanna Durbin, Paul On Honeymoon After Friday Wedding

Deanna Durbin and Vaughn Paul today were on a month's honeymoon after a wedding ceremony Friday night at the Wilshire Methodist Episcopal church and a reception at the Beverly Wilshire hotel.

Although this was a great 'state wedding', on a par with that of Rod LaRocque and Vilma Banky several years ago and, more recently, with that of Jeanette MacDonald and Gene Raymond, it was carried out with simplicity and good taste. There were no lights, no loudspeakers.

There were no celebrities among the guests save those with whom either the bride or bridegroom had worked. Instead the pews were packed (850 guests) with friends of the families, with grips, electricians, wardrobe girls, artists, flacks, bit players and other Universal studio attaches.

Actress planned the entire ceremony. Some 5,000 fans lined Wilshire boulevard. No photographs were taken inside the church as the ceremony was performed by Dr. Willsie Martin. Shots were made when the bridal couple emerged from the church and, later, at the reception.

Best man was Elwood Bredell, Paul's half-brother, who is employed at Universal. Mrs. Clarence Heckman, sister of the actress, was matron of honor. Bridesmaids included Gene Read, Helen Parrish, Anne Gwynne, Anne Shirley, Mrs. Marvin Bradley and Mrs. Thomas King. Ushers were John Rogers, Thomas King, Reed Gattman, Robert Ross, Claude Fisher, Howard Christie and Joseph McDonough.

James Durbin, her father, took the actress down the aisle for the double-ring ceremony. There was a full male choir and solos were sung before the wedding by Mary Tock and Glenn Bard.

Lawrence 'Dark' Expect To Resume Tonight

New York, April 20.—'Lady In the Dark' is expected to resume tomorrow night, after having been halted after Thursday night's performance at the Alvin on account of Gertrude Lawrence's loss of voice. Star had been indisposed since early in the week and premiere had been delayed because Miss Lawrence had the grippe.

Dolan Supes 'Blues'

Robert Emmett Dolan will be musical supervisor on 'Birth of the Blues' at Paramount.

Births

SON, five pounds, one ounce, to Mrs. Ada Benson, at Cedars of Lebanon hospital, Saturday, April 19. Boy was named Stephen Evans Benson. Father is Leon Benson. Mother wrote lyrics for 'Your Feet's Too Big', Fat Waller recording.

ATTRACTIVE BEVERLY HILLS HOME
French Monterey on large lot, beautifully landscaped. 4 master bedrooms, 2 servants' quarters. See 703 No. Hillcrest by appointment only.
GUY PRICE COMPANY **CR. 67151**

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday, (April 12-18). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
Walkin' By the River	BMI	33
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	31
Amapola	Marks	30
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane	26
Maria Elena	Southern	25
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	23
Georgia On My Mind	Southern	23
High On a Windy Hill	BMI	21
Things I Love	Campbell	21
There'll Be Some Changes Made	Marks	21
Twist of the Wrist	BMI	20
Wise Old Owl	BMI	19
G'bye Now	BMI	19
You Walked By	BMI	18
I Hear a Rhapsody	BMI	18
Look At Me Now	Embassy	18
Because of You	BMI	16
Keep An Eye On Your Heart	BMI	16
South of North Carolina	Porgie	16
Song of the Islands	Marks	15

First Exhibitor Arbitration Complaints Filed with AAA By Geo. Bromley, O. W. Lewis

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

up by leading distributors, and the defendants in each instance are major distributing organizations.

Bromley-Bounce complaint, on behalf of their Campus theatre, was filed by Attorney Ezra E. Stern, and names as defendants Paramount Pictures, Inc.; Paramount Film Distributing Corp., Loew's, Inc.; RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc.; Vitagraph, Inc., and 20th-Fox Film Corp.

Complaint is against what Bromley and Bounce charge is unreasonable clearance and availability of pictures, whereby they are prevented from increasing the Campus admission from 15c to 20c, due to their being forced to play films following the Sunset, Clinton and Hunley's theatres. Contention is that Campus, by virtue of clearance set up by distributors, is forced to accept 'unreasonable' clearance, in violation of consent decree, and that house is compelled to follow other theatres on availability of films.

Principal complaint is leveled against the Sunset, a 540-seat 15c house, at 1508 N. Western avenue (cor. of Sunset), operated by E. D. Patterson. Other theatres complained against are the Clinton, at 526 N. Western avenue, a 20c house, and Hunley's, a 750-seater at 5115 Hollywood blvd., operated by Bob Whitson at 25c.

It is contended by the complainants that while the Sunset is theoretically in the same zone as the Campus, the Sunset in a strict sense, is not a competitive house.

Contention is made that the unfairness of clearance and availability of product on the part of the defendants is in direct violation of Sec. 8 of the consent decree entered into by the government with the bulk of the major companies.

Bromley and Bounce ask for an award compelling the distributors to eliminate the 'unfairness of clearance' in order that the Campus can raise its admission to 20c and obtain film from the various defendants in accordance with the seating capacity and investment of their Campus theatre. Further, that 'the said theatres are not competitive even though in the same zone', because of natural barriers.

Lewis' complaint, filed shortly after that of Bromley and Bounce, through Attorney Rufus Bailey, is directed at Paramount, Warners, Vitagraph, 20th-Fox, Loew's and Metro. It asks a general reclassification of clearance in San Gabriel, Alhambra and surrounding territory. Specifically it requests that pictures be licensed for Alhambra seven days after Pasadena first run closing, and that all pictures be available to theatres in San Gabriel and Monterey Park 28 days after Pasadena first run closing at 25c admission.

Further, that pictures be made available to the Rosemead, Garvey and Temple theatres seven days after San Gabriel first run closing at 25c, and 21 days after first run closing at 20c in San Gabriel.

Theatres involved the the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel; El Rey, Alhambra, Granada and Garfield, Alhambra; Monterey, Monterey Park; Rosemead, at Rosemead; Garvey, Wilmar; Temple, Temple City, and the Edwards Theatrical circuit of Alhambra.

Both complaints will be set for arbitration within the next 30 days. Los Angeles offices of the AAA were opened by Elliott on Feb. 1, last, and more than two and a half months elapsed before first exhibitor complaints were filed.

Spot Ray MacDonald

Ray MacDonald has been set for one of the top dancing roles in Metro's 'Babes On Broadway.'

Gracie Fields, Banks In from Show At Camp Roberts

Gracie Fields and her husband, Monte Banks, today return from Paso Robles where they gave a show Saturday night at Camp Roberts. Her next tour for British War Relief starts (25) at Princeton, N. J., with succeeding itinerary at Jersey City (26), Cleveland (30), Hartford May 2, Providence May 3, Chicago May 9 and San Francisco May 14.

Miss Fields has asked government to give her preferential plane reservations between Lisbon and London so that she can Clipper to England late in May and return here for further scheduled appearances in July.

Flood of Technicolor Pix Expected Before H'd Lenses Soon

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

mented by as many more during the coming few months.

RKO has Walt Disney's 'The Reluctant Dragon', a combination of life action and animation in color, ready for distribution next month. 20th-Fox has 'Blood and Sand' practically ready for release. Paramount's 'Shepherd of the Hills' will be going out shortly, and Metro has 'Billy the Kid' completed for national circulation. These color features will augment the five top productions now playing the various situations around the country, such as 'Fantasia' (Disney), 'That Night In Rio' (20th-Fox), 'The Thief of Bagdad' (Korda-UA), 'Virginia' (Par), and 'Western Union' (20th-Fox).

Now before the cameras for 1941-42 release are two productions in color from 20th-Fox, 'Belle Starr' and 'Miami'; a similar number from Metro, 'Blossoms In the Dust' and 'The Yearling'; two from Paramount, 'Aloma of the South Seas' and the Fleischer animated feature, 'Mr. Bug Goes To Town'. Warners has one, 'Dive Bomber'.

Three future Technicolor productions are in preparation at Paramount, 'Dildo Cay', 'Louisiana Purchase' and 'Reap the Wild Wind'. Alexander Korda has one, 'Jungle Book'. 20th-Fox is shaping 'Caribbean Cruise'. Edward Small has 'Corsican Brothers' slated for production in Technicolor, and Disney is fast nearing completion on his cartoon special, 'Bambi', for release through RKO.

a.m. Dailies

Bennett, Roland Married—

Constance Bennett and Gilbert Roland yesterday were married at Yuma. Miss Bennett's former husband, now in France, is the Marquis Henri de la Falaise, divorced considerably over a year ago.

WANTED—WRITER—MALE OR FEMALE
To collaborate for Screen and Radio, with single man, 35, Jewish. Knows exploitation and entertainment values based on proven results from many years of theatre experience.
B. DAVIS, care Daily Variety

Paramount's Night At Academy Still Show

This is Paramount's night at the Academy's Still Photographers Show at 1455 N. Gordon street, with demonstrations by Eugene Richee, studio still portrait artist; Lindsey Durand, fashion editor; Jack Kelly, art editor; Susan Hayward, Martha O'Driscoll and Eve Gabor on the posing end, as to how glamour art should be lensed.

Players will pose for amateur camera fans, and Richee will talk on the 'Do's and Don'ts of Portraiture'. Miss Hayward will parade fashion creations of Edith Head, and Miss O'Driscoll and Miss Gabor will demonstrate for gam art and fashion stills. Paramount's Studio Camera Club members will be on hand to practice their art. Tomorrow night will be Columbia's at the show, and Rita Hayworth will be the model for the amateur lensers, while Whitey Schaefer gives demonstrations in color photography.

RKO will have its turn Thursday night, with Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz as the photographic models. Executives as well as other players will attend. Classes from various art schools and high schools are attending the shows.

Dorothy Peterson Planes West

New York, April 20.—With deals set at both Paramount and Metro, Dorothy Peterson has returned to the Coast by plane after she had come east for role in Tennessee Williams' 'Battle of the Angels.' Show failed to reach here after preem by Theatre Guild in Boston. Miss Peterson has a four-week engagement with Metro, after which she goes to Paramount for the Henry Aldrich series.

Sandrich, Berlin Hide Out On Crosby Pic

Mark Sandrich and Irving Berlin, collaborating on a musical which will be made at Paramount with Bing Crosby as star, have gone to a desert resort for a week's story conferences. Also in confabs is Zion Myers who will work with Berlin on the script. Sandrich will produce and direct.

Music Buys

Mills Music Co. has bought 'Having a Time In Havana', latest tune by Phil Ohman and Foster Carling.

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REP ADDS OLDIE MELOS

Following Republic's announcement that it would follow 'The Great Train Robbery' with 'From Rags To Riches', to be produced and directed by Joe Kane, studio has decided to add more old-time melodramas to its schedule. Yarns, while bearing the old titles, will all have up-to-date plots, although sticking to the meller theme that helped put over the originals.

New 'streamlined action specials', bearing the old-time tags will include 'Ten Nights In a Barroom', 'Nellie the Beautiful Cloak Model', 'Lost In the Big City', 'Sink or Swim' and 'The Black Crook'. No producer or director assignments have been made yet on any but 'From Rags To Riches'.

University Gets Its Medico-Dram Film On Syphilis Off (1)

In cooperation with medical societies and universities, 'No Greater Sin', the first theatrical feature film dealing with syphilis in a dramatic way, will be put into production here May 1 by University Productions, Inc., as its initial effort. It carries a budget of $150,000. Jeffrey Bernerd and Edward Golden will handle the production, and Arthur Lee, arriving from New York during the week, will aid in supervision.

July 15 is the tentative release date, and picture is intended for roadshowing in the United States, with distribution in Canada to be handled by B. N. Nathanson. H. William Fitelson of Fitelson & Mayers, New York attorneys, closed production arrangements here last week before returning east.

Story is based on original by M. G. Ransome.

Bernerd and Lee formerly were executives with Gaumont-British Pictures of America, and Golden was sales manager for Monogram.

Hartmans Co-Featured With Nelson Ork

Paul and Grace Hartman will be co-featured with Ozzie Nelson and his orchestra at the Palace hotel, opening May 1. Sam Armstrong, of Columbia Management, set the deal for the Hartmans. Nelson ork plays next Friday and Saturday at the Pasadena Community Center before going north.

Yarborough Assigned

Monogram has lifted its option on Jean Yarborough and he has been assigned to direct 'The Gang's All Here', which goes late this week.

Shortage of Actors

Because of shortage of actors, the University of Southern California, under waiver from Screen Actors Guild, supplied 170 young men of military age as extras for Warners 'Dive Bomber' Saturday as an emergency. Casting directors say this is the first time such shortage has occurred in the generally overcrowded regular ranks of extras.

Robt. Morley Ogles Male Spot For RKO's 'Paris'

One of the three top male roles in RKO's 'Joan of Paris' is down for Robert Morley if Producer David Hempstead can clear him from his British duties to return here in late summer.

Hempstead has Michele Morgan in the star spot and will fill the other two male leads from Hollywood talent. He and Ben Hecht are preparing Miss Morgan's initial local bow, 'Journey Into Fear', expected to roll within a month. Fred Astaire may get the call opposite the French star in her initialer.

Arnold Pressburger In On UA 'Gesture'

Arnold Pressburger arrives on the Chief today to prepare production on 'Shanghai Gesture' for United Artists release. With him is Albert de Courville, British director, who will act as assistant producer. Headquarters will be at Hal Roach studio.

COLUMBIA RECORDING ARBITERS MEET TODAY

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

were thrown around CBS studio by members of United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. Demonstration was held while crowds were attending Sunday afternoon broadcast. Previous to yesterday, strikers had planned to demonstrate only every Saturday night. Hereafter, according to B. Elconin, international field organizer of the union, they will be held every day at CBS studio.

Station on Saturday night turned its lights out and pulled shades in front of building in an evident move to hide picket line from patrons of show and their own employes, according to members of the strike committee. In the crowd watching demonstration, strikers' spokesmen said, were 100 members of voluntary Citizens Committee, vets of Abraham Lincoln Brigade which fought in Spain, American Peace Mobilization, Democratic Youth Federation and representatives both of the AFofL and CIO.

Columbia Recording strikers are insisting on wage increase from the old basic figure of 55 to 75 cents minimum per hour.

Upp Merry Macs Parts In Universal Pic; Start Postponed

In order to write in expanded featured part for the Merry Macs in Universal's 'Moonlight In Hawaii', start on the musical has been postponed several days. Milton Schwartzwald, who will produce, and Ken Goldsmith, directing, caught the Macs' personal appearance at the Palladium and decided to boost the spot for the trio, Ted, Joe and Judd McMichale and Mary Lou Cook.

John Ray and Gene de Paul are cleffing five tunes for the picture.

Jane Frazee is set for the top femme role with Johnny Downs.

Minneapolis Anti Decree Measure Nears Passage

★ Continued from page 1 ★

marker. It needs only a bare majority to carry.

Bill contravenes consent decree's groups-of-five sales plan by requiring distributors to offer for sale the entire season's product, the same as at present. It also compels distributors to allow 20% minimum cancellation privileges and to refrain from forced selling of any pictures. Companies opposing the measure have indicated they'll fight its constitutionality in the courts and seek a temporary injunction to restrain its enforcement.

Malafronte Comes West

G. J. Malafronte, who for several years has worked out of the Universal home office in New York, has been appointed salesman for the Los Angeles exchange, to cover Arizona. He replaces Sam Minton, who takes the California territory formerly sold by Foster Blake, who in turn has just been made Seattle branch manager.

Wineberg Quits Col

Harry Wineberg, who has been with Columbia for number of years, is no longer with the Los Angeles sales force, having been cut off the payroll last week. No successor has been named.

Ill in Pix

PENNY SINGLETON was bedded over the weekend at her home because of an old rib injury she suffered in an automobile crash last year.

ROBERT C. SHERWOOD will enter Good Samaritan hospital today for tonsil operation. He trained in from New York Saturday.

Title Changes

Stephens-Lang's RKO release, 'Interlude', now titled 'They Meet Again.'

20th-Fox's 'The Dead Take No Bows' to 'Dressed to Kill.'

Metro's 'The Uniform' to 'Unholy Partners.'

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ANTI-CONSENT BILL NEARS LAW

COMPROMISE PLAN IN STRIKE

Compromise proposal for the settlement of the fight between the Columbia Recording Company and striking members of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America was made at yesterday's meeting by Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. conciliator. Proposal was given each side for consideration by Fitzgerald with answer expected when negotiations are resumed at 10 a.m. today before the labor conciliator.

In making his proposal Fitzgerald

◆ Continued on page 6 ◆

Producers Study SAG Plan Secretly

Producers committee handling negotiations with the Screen Actors Guild on latter's proposed revisions in the basic agreement met privately last night to discuss the SAG proposals. Producer group, headed by Y. Frank Freeman, are slated to get together for a number of further sessions before again meeting with the SAG committee on the revisions. Latter's demands now are all in and only awaiting action from the Producers.

Assembly Tables Bill On Agency Fees

Sacramento, April 21.—The California Assembly labor and capital committee tonight tabled Assembly Bill 2508, by Augustus Hawkins of Los Angeles, prohibiting employment agencies from charging or collecting fees from persons registered or placed in employment. Action was taken when the author failed to appear at a scheduled hearing.

Nick Schenck Foregoes Coast Looksee

New York, April 21. — Nick Schenck, prexy of Loew-Metro is foregoing his usual trip to Culver City this spring to confer with studio execs on forthcoming production. Instead he has Eddie Mannix and Nicky Nayfack here. They will stay around another week before returning to the Coast.

Par Terms Booth

Paramount has signed Katharine Booth, photographer's model, to a term contract.

SPRECKELS JOINS DISNEY TO CASE LABOR

Walter Spreckels joins Walt Disney Productions tomorrow as labor relations counselor to handle negotiations with the various guilds and the American Federation of Labor's organizational drive at the cartoon plant. Affiliation was announced yesterday after Spreckels received word from Washington that his res-

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Tay Garnett Doubles On RKO 'Father'

Tay Garnett will produce as well as direct 'Unexpected Father' at RKO, taking over former spot from Erich Pommer who is ill at home. Pommer is expected to continue preparations on 'Weekend for Three' as soon as he recovers from illness.

FILM COMPANIES MAP COURT CAMPAIGN

Minneapolis, April 21. — Northwest Allied's anti-consent decree bill, having previously received the lower house's approval, virtually became law today with passage by the Minnesota state senate, 60 to 8. It now needs only the governor's signature which is certain to be forthcoming.

Film companies opposing the measure will fight its constitutionality in the courts and will seek a restraining order. Some distributors will refuse to service Minnesota accounts.

The law contravenes the consent decree's groups-of-five selling plan, requiring companies to offer for sale entire season's product, same as at present, and to grant minimum of 20% cancellation and refrain from forced selling of any films.

MARCH AMUSEMENT TAX FIGURE SECOND HIGHEST

Washington, April 21.—Seasonal pickup in the amusement business carried federal receipts for the 10% box office tap to the second highest figure on record during March. Collections based on February grosses came within $20,000 of the all-time high reached last November.

Recent down trend was checked with Treasury haul of $7,104,956, which was $609,673 better than revenues during preceding month, and $4,714,025 more than the fig-

♥ Continued on page 7 ♥

Langton at Republic

Francis Langton, formerly head of Paramount writers department, yesterday became story editor of Republic. Langton replaces Maurice Hanline, who resigned.

Anne Revere Spotted

Anne Revere gets the important mother role in Metro's 'The Yearling.'

Ginger Rogers Signs New RKO Contract

Ginger Rogers has signed a new three-year contract at RKO, calling for her services in two pictures a year, with an additional, outside picture also to be permitted, it is understood. Her present seven-year contract expires May 15. Actress is now appearing in 'Tom, Dick and Harry', with her next starrer slated to be 'Weekend for Three.'

Yates In Friday

Herbert J. Yates will be in Friday from New York for one of his periodic visits to Republic.

NY LEGIT OPENING

THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE

New York, April 21.—William Saroyan came forward as a producer of his latest play, 'The Beautiful People', at the Lyceum theatre tonight. He said several days ago that he had spent all his money on the play. It isn't costly, but chances of getting the investment back seems a long shot.

'People' is similar to author's 'My Heart In Highlands', which won critical acclaim here, but no coin. That was a short play and this one is slightly longer, though plenty wordy. No doubt first-nighters were

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Broth-er!

The Barrymore brothers, John and Lionel, will duel it out on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest program May 1. Orson Welles has the guest spot following week.

Thomas Mitchell Hurt In 'Devil' Drive

Thomas Mitchell is in Cedars of Lebanon with brain concussion as result of an accident yesterday on the set of 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', William Dieterle production for RKO. Just how serious actor's injuries are and how long he will be laid up will be determined today by his physician, Dr. Saul Fox. Mitchell and Lindy Wade, moppet, who was treated at the Van Nuys receiving hospital and sent home, were victims of a runaway team of horses during filming of a buggy sequence in the picture.

Two Par Houses Hit In Nazi Raids

New York, April 21.—Two Paramount theatres in the Astoria area in England were damaged by Nazi bombers during recent raids, according to word received here today. Theatre at Brixton was badly damaged while house at Streatham suffered minor damage from bombs.

Moray Back in NY

Norman H. Moray is back at his Warners short subjects sales manager's desk in New York after conferences at studio here and swing around company's branch offices. He was on tour two months.

PREVIEWED

THE DEVIL COMMANDS
(Col)

ROAR OF THE PRESS
(Mono)

(Previews on page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Wolfe Gilbert back from NY.

Don Terry back from Palm Springs.

Robert Cummings back from Lindsay, Calif.

Paul Jones, NBC page, goes to camp tomorrow.

Russell Hicks gets featured role in Warners 'Sergeant York.'

Herman Simms returned from a business trip to Santa Rosa.

Don Wilson planed out yesterday for Amarillo, Tex., via TWA.

Director Ray McCarey winds up 'The Man With a Shovel' at 20th-Fox tonight.

Bruce Manning is entertaining John Klorer, pal from New Orleans, as house guest.

'That Hamilton Woman' has been held over for a fourth week at Radio City Music Hall in NY.

John Garfield planed to New York yesterday to be at bedside of his father who is seriously ill.

Marty Weiser out to San Francisco and Bay region today for advance publicity on 'The Great Lie'.

Columbia staged a trade showing yesterday of its 'Penny Serenade' at the Fox Boulevard theatre.

Damon Gifford is tossing cocktail party tonight at the Scheherazade for all the press fashion gals.

Imogene Powell, press head for J. Walter Thompson in Chicago, here to gather material on J. W. Kellogg.

Errol Flynn will be one of the chairmen for Racing Jamboree Charity Show at Gilmore Stadium Sunday, May 4.

Eugene Conrad, New York radio comedy writer, arrived yesterday to start a scribbling pact at the Hal Roach studio.

Guy Kibbee and his missus getting that trailer loaded up for opening of trout season when they will be at the Mackenzie river in Oregon.

Felix Mills takes off first Sunday in four years to sail his 42-foot yacht, Burrapeg, in annual Southern California yachting stag cruise to Catalina (27). True Boardman, Glen Taylor and members of his music arranging staff will be the crew.

Madeleine Carroll, who has been doing a flying tour of Canada appearing on the 'Voice of Canada' radio show, airs in tomorrow for another appearance on the same program from here. She returns to New York end of the week for another broadcast (28).

Benny the Gouge sez — History doesn't repeat itself, as the historians tell us. It pauses now and then to shift gears.

Hollywood Inside

NEWSPAPER editors and wire service heads in the east have been summoned to a meeting in New York today by Department of Justice to hear from James Boyd of the Solicitor's General's office the real purpose of Columbia's 'The Free Company' air series. Charles Vanda, producer here of several of the 'Free Company' programs, said yesterday that the series ends with the broadcast of May 4, with one less program than originally planned. One in which George M. Cohan was to appear was cancelled due to network ban on music identified with Cohan on account of the Ascap controversy. Sunday's broadcast features Paul Muni in Maxwell Anderson's 'Miracle of the Danube.' Finale the following Sabbath will be an unfinished story by the late Sherwood Anderson. Both will be done from here with Vanda producing.

☆ ☆ ☆

WHILE heretofore reported Hearstian attack on RKO and Orson Welles' 'Citizen Kane' has been largely in the talk stage, company now is understood to have concrete evidence that ban on things RKO'ian and Wellesian is in full force. Having appropriated a large sum for newspaper advertising on the picture in advance of its three openings between now and May 9, RKO approached various Hearst papers, along with others, with juicy advertising contracts. Advertising was refused by sheets in the Hearst string. Campaign allegedly will begin its initial blast when film opens New York, Chicago and Los Angeles first special runs.

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DEMANDS for a senority rating for Class B extras on the Central Casting rolls were presented to Fred Beetson yesterday by J. Edward Dahlen, who has been protest-picketing Central's offices for the past four weeks. Dahlen's demands also asked for establishment of a Class B representative at Central to insure following out of such a senority rating if granted by the Producers. Rating would give first preference to extra of 10 years or more standing, with ranks graduating down to one year or less. He also seeks banning of giving character extra calls to those who usually do dress extra work.

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PRINCIPAL players in Warners Technicolor aviation picture, 'Dive Bomber', are on special navy-prescribed diet to avoid acute fatigue from excessive sweating while working in the high altitude suits in what the Navy calls the 'ready room' aboard vessels. These duds, plus the average daily temperature of 70° on the picture sets, has taken weight off the players at the rate of from three to seven pounds a day. Watery vegetables and a plus amount of salt has been prescribed by Commander J. R. Poppen, technical adviser on the picture and a ranking medical officer.

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RKO employes who are drafted will receive up to $400 from the company, according to length of employment, and will be offered re-employment after training to the extent required by the Selective Training and Service Act. Workers of from one to two years standing get two weeks salary, up to three years, three weeks, and four weeks pay thereafter, but not in excess of $400. Group life insurance premiums will also be paid for one year. Same schedule of handling its drafted employes has been put into effect by Columbia.

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UNIVERSAL'S plan to make the sun shine for boxoffice hay with the title 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy', current picture for the comics, has come a cropper and the title has been changed back to 'In the Navy.' This is understood to be only working title, with another change in the offing. Reason for dropping names of comedians is that Dick Powell, also in the picture, has equal billing.

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HOWARD HUGHES, who is producing 'The Outlaw' at 20th-Fox, has run into difficulties with the Hays office, due to similarity of his production with Metro's 'Billy the Kid', and as a result 'Outlaw', which was intended for prior release, has been temporarily withdrawn. This leaves field open for Metro to get first release with 'Kid.'

Bette Davis Near Victim Of Wrong Potion

Bette Davis was nearly the victim of a serious accident last night just as the Lux broadcast of 'The Letter' went on the air. Actress, feeling tired and nervous, sent out for some aromatic spirits of ammonia, the messenger brought back regular household ammonia, which Miss Davis took. Mistake was discovered just as the program went on the air, Gale Sondergaard was notified to be ready to step in if things went wrong and Miss Davis was given lemon juice as an antidote. Fortunately she suffered no apparent serious effects and the broadcast went off as per schedule.

Rep Releases Spotted

Republic has set May 5 as release date for 'Country Fair'; May 7, 'Sheriff of Tombstone', and May 12, 'The Gay Vagabond.'

Evelyn Keyes Given Lead in 'Heaven'

Evelyn Keyes, Columbia contract actress, will have the ingenue lead in 'Heaven Can Wait', with Robert Montgomery and Rita Johnson. Halliwell Hobbes has a featured spot. Picture started shooting yesterday under the direction of Alexander Hall with Everett Riskin producing. Others in top cast roles are Claude Rains, James Gleason and John Emery.

SOEG Sessions

Columbia negotiating committee of the Screen Office Employes Guild meet tonight with studio executives to discuss provisions of the SOEG proposed contract. Committee met at RKO last night for a discussion of the proposed pact and will meet again at same place Wednesday (30). Next Universal session is slated for May 1.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A dimpled child a few short films ago,
A toddling star, her mother's joy and pride.
Time passes like a flash—before you know,
The kid becomes a bride.

★ ★ ★

It is amazing the way infant stars sprout suddenly into maturity, but there's a new one born every minute, to hear their mothers tell it.

★ ★ ★

Now and then you meet an actor who has not been mentioned for a featured role in 'For Whom the Bell Tolls.'

A yachting cap does not necessarily mean that the wearer owns a yacht, nor does a station wagon mean that the driver owns a ranch.

Along about this time of year somebody breaks out with a list of the Ten Best Dressed Men, accompanied by photographs, which will cause heartburn in future years. Picking out a year at random—1898—your best dressed man wore a box coat, tight trousers, buttoned shoes, a curlicue moustache and a narrow-brimmed bowler to top off his hair, which was parted in the middle. He thought he was a heller when he had his tintype taken—the last word in sartorial eclat. That is why there are so few tintypes in the world today. The ancient men-about-town have bought them up and destroyed them. In 1978 the grandsons of the best dressed men of 1941 will gander the family albums and ask: 'Did they actually dress like that, or were they going to a masquerade?'

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Metro is overlooking a bet if it neglects to hire Don Ameche to play opposite Jeanette MacDonald in 'Smilin' Through.' With their combined dental brilliance, they could smile through a brick wall.

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More and more actors are going into pictures on a percentage basis, adding strength to the belief that Hollywood is here to stay.

★ ★ ★

'The Drunkard' is leading 'Tobacco Road' by six months in the marathon stage championship, which shows that a drama can travel farther on alcohol than on nicotine, or something or other.

When you get a breezy guy like Brian Donlevy playing 'Three Sheets in the Wind' it is bound to be something more than an idle zephyr.

Another version of the motorman-on-his-day-off idea. Sonja Henie at the Ice Capades.

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There is no end to the variations of the boy-meets-girl theme. Sam Goldwyn is about to arrange a meeting between 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen.'

What's in a title? 'Delayed Action' is hustling along, but 'The Desert Song' is still unheard in the land.

Film Previews

Roar of the Press

(*Comedy Melodrama*)

Monogram production and release. Features Jean Parker, Wallace Ford. Cast: Jed Prouty, Suzanne Kaaren, Harland Tucker, Evalyn Knapp, Robert Frazer, Dorothy Lee, John Holland, Maxine Leslie, Paul Fix, Betty Compson, Matty Fain, Eddie Foster, Charles King, Frank O'Connor, Dennis Moore, Robert Pittard. Producer, Scott R. Dunlap. Director, Phil Rosen. Screenplay, Albert Duffy. Original story, Alfred Block. Photographer, Harry Neumann. Musical director, Edward Kay. Previewed April 21. Running time: 72 mins.

Fine acting by Wallace Ford in a newspaper story that has a fresh slant and plenty of action ought to give 'Roar of the Press' a good chance at first run bookings and, most certainly, a warm reception by fans in the secondary spots. Scott R. Dunlap, who produced, and Phil Rosen, who directed, rate cheers for their effective work.

Ford, a star newspaper reporter, marries a country girl, Jean Parker, and brings her back to New York for the honeymoon. Before they can share any nuptial bliss Ford accidentally stumbles across a murder and Jed Prouty, his managing editor, puts him to work on the news story. Ford, tracking down clues, finds another dead man. Both were connected with a Guard America committee. Ford scoops the town on the yarn, but his honeymoon is delayed when the cops get him.

Ford's inside information worries Robert Frazer and John Holland, subversive agents who caused both deaths. They hire Matty Fain, a gunman, to take care of Ford. Fain goes to Paul Fix, a numbers racketeer, for help. Fix, who sees that a sabotage of defense industries is at the bottom of the plot, tips off Ford. When the gangsters kidnap the reporter and later, to make him talk, also snatch his wife, Fix and his lieutenant, Eddie Foster, come to the rescue. Miss Parker, while captive, pretends to faint, goes to a window for air and drops out a note, written in lipstick, that brings the cops to the scene.

Story is liberally larded with laughs. Newspaper background is well handled, made to look authentic every foot of the way. Ford carries the heaviest acting load and fits extremely well into the role of a reporter torn between his bride and keeping after a big story. Prouty is admirable as a tough managing editor. Miss Parker, with less footage than Ford, does a splendid job in the femme lead as the frustrated but loyal bride. Fix is excellent as the patriotic racketeer. Harlan Tucker, Frazer, Holland, Foster, Fain, Betty Compson, Dorothy Lee, Evalyn Knapp, Donald Kerr, Willie Costello, Maxine Leslie, Wilbur Mack and Bob Pittard are well cast in supporting roles.

Al Block's original and Albert Duffy's screenplay avoids stupidities usually connected with newspaper stories and the plot is never awkward. Edward Kay's music is excellent.

The Devil Commands

(*Melodrama*)

Columbia production and release. Stars Boris Karloff. Features Richard Fiske and Amanda Duff. Cast: Anne Revere, Ralph Penney, Dorothy Adams, Walter Baldwin, Kenneth MacDonald, Shirley Warde. Director, Edward Dmytryk. Screenplay, Robert D. Andrews, Milton Gunzburg. Story, William Sloane. Photography, Allen G. Siegler. Art director, Lionel Banks. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Sound, Phil Faulkner. Previewed April 21. Running time: 66 mins.

'The Devil Commands' is not for the kiddies. For almost an hour a mood of expectancy, of something terrifying and cosmically important that is about to happen, is created by the sustained suspense of this Boris Karloff gooseflesher. Of its kind, the picture qualifies as adequate entertainment.

Story is the usual one of a mad scientist who thinks he has discovered means to communicate with the dead. He becomes non compos when his wife dies in an auto crash, hooks up with Anne Revere, a medium whose interest in him is intrigued by the idea that he will be all-powerful if he can contact spirits. He leaves his young daughter, Amanda Duff, sets up housekeeping on a lonely stretch of New England coast, installs electrical gadgets of every description and begins to experiment. Corpses are needed for the ghoulish business. So Karloff and the medium dig 'em up from their graves. After the cadavers are rigged up to Karloff's maze of instruments they become people with light coming out of them. His village neighbors begin talking about the weird house. A maid, asked by the sheriff to peek into the lab, is electrocuted. Authorities think she has fallen over a cliff. Nevertheless, the sheriff decides that fun's fun and all that, but, and sends for Karloff's daughter, who arrives with Richard Fiske. Miss Revere is killed in one more experiment before the pair arrives. Karloff is helped by Ralph Penney, giant janitor who has been made into a human robot by the electrical gadgets. In one last experiment with his daughter in the hot seat, the scientist's machinery explodes and kills him shortly before a lynch mob is about to batter down the lab door.

In the telling 'The Devil Commands' copies 'Rebecca', opening and closing on the great storm-lashed house of mystery above the sea cliffs. Here Miss Duff's eloquence is compelling, as her voice describes the house, her father and his insanity. Karloff fans will find nothing wrong with his work as the mad doctor. Miss Revere is perfectly cast as the brooding, plotting spiritualist. Fiske is convincing as the younger scientist. Penney is good as the robot and Dorothy Adams turns in a grand performance as the frightened, curious maid. Walter Baldwin, Kenneth MacDonald and Shirley Warde give capable support.

Acting, direction by Edward Dmytryk, art direction by Lionel Banks, photography by Allen G. Siegler, musical direction by M. W. Stoloff and weird noises created by Phil Faulkner almost make up for the weak story, which is about as convincing as a souvenir half dollar.

Cartoonists Strike At Pal Unless Scale Okehed

Membership of Screen Cartoonists Guild last night empowered Guild board to call a strike at the George Pal studio unless agreement was reached on a new wage scale. Members voted 100% on the strike move and a committee headed by George Bodle, William Littlejohn, Fred Horvath, Robert Larsen and Laurie Hollings, board representatives from the Pal unit, will frame wage demands for presentation to the Paramount producer.

SCG strike vote was taken after membership was given Pal's counter wage scale proposal, which would call for a rate of about half Guild's demands and considerably less than paid at other cartoon plants signatory to Guild agreements.

Selwyn, Sinclair Plane Out on B'dwy Play

Edgar Selwyn and Robert Sinclair tomorrow plane to New York for 10-day stay to line up preliminaries for legit production of Frederick Hazlitt Brennan's play, 'We Fought at Arques', to be bankrolled by Metro. Selwyn will produce, starting late in August, and Sinclair direct. Show, which brings Selwyn back to Broadway as producer first time in many years, will be filmed later.

Bogart Lifts Suspension Via LOP Baton

Humphrey Bogart, set for the lead role in the radio adaptation of 'The Wagons Roll at Night' on Louella O. Parsons' LifeBO program Friday night, refused to go through with the booking unless his suspension at Warners was lifted. Studio assented and restored him to the payroll.

Tedford Aids 'Belle'

Charles Tedford has been assigned at Warners to work with Stephen Longstreet on the screen version of Clement Ripley's novel, 'Mississippi Belle.' Yarn soon will appear in Liberty mag.

Pan on 'Cruise'

William LeBaron has assigned Hermes Pan as dance director on his production at 20th-Fox 'Caribbean Cruise.' Mack Gordon and Harry Warren will cleff the songs.

Trio for 'Patrol'

Ottola Nesmith, Eddie Conrad and Leland Hodgson have been added to featured bracket in Warners 'The Flight Patrol.'

Morgan Tops 'Carnival'

Dennis Morgan will have the lead signing role in Warners musical comedy, 'Carnival in Rio.'

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ELIZABETH ROBB, secretary to Joe Bigelow at J. Walter Thompson agency, and Ben Alexander, radio actor and commentator, will be married this summer. . . . Deanna Durbin and Vaughn Paul are passing their honeymoon at Santa Barbara. They're registered at the Biltmore there. . . . Belle Postal, secretary to Jerry Dale of the Korda publicity offices was tossed a birthday party by the girls of the Korda organization yesterday. . . . Next benefit for the Greek War Relief fund to be staged in this area will be the Bob Hope show at the Civic Auditorium in Long Beach next Thursday night. House, a 4,100 seater, has been scaled at $1, with a few $2 seats to make a total capacity of $5,000.

Pat West yesterday observed his 22nd wedding anniversary and at the same time was notified of his election as commander of Post 3208, Veterans of Foreign Wars, which he helped organize at Sierra Madre.

KENNETH DUNCAN, actor, is hobbling around with a few broken ribs and other minor injuries as the result of being kicked by his race horse, Vain Belle, during the first race at Caliente last Sunday. Nag was cut down in the running of the race and Duncan, with his trainer, Frankie Gay, former Hollywood scenario writer, went to the rescue. . . Wayne Morris hosted Patricia Stewart at Charlie Foy's Supper Club last night.

Eddie Norris has been given a six-month draft deferment while he studies to qualify as flying instructor. Warners is talking with Norris for a top role in 'Hot Nocturne.'

GLORIA JEAN was honor guest at 60th anniversary of Girl Reserves of the U.S.A. held at Wilshire Methodist church. Girls and mothers numbering around 500 attended, one of many celebrations across the country. . . . U. S. Naval Training Station at San Diego, and Commander Perry Wood, will play host to Universal's Abbott and Costello 'In the Navy' company on May 10, one day after scheduled completion of the service comedy. Cast principals will be guests. . . . William Heath will go to Mexico City for 20th-Fox to direct more complete tests of Mapy Cortez, young Mexican actress discovered by Director Rouben Mamoulian while filming 'Blood and Sand.' . . . Hollywood contingent gets into Sacramento today to entertain 3,000 guests at the Legislative Ball tomorrow night. . . . Talent includes Ella Logan, Constance Moore, Lucile Fairbanks, Eleanor Stewart, Maria Montez, Anita Louise, Ames & Arno, Phil Silvers, Kathryn Grayson, John Carroll and Connie Russell.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .

ROY DEL RUTH

DIRECTOR

Under contract Metro--Goldwyn-Mayer

Does she think of me—when the men-buyers are thinking of her?

I wonder who she's modeling for now? . .

Why does she enjoy her work so much? .

I've got a model wife—and she's always on pedestals!

Joan
BLONDELL and **Dick POWELL** in

MODEL WIFE

with
Charlie Ruggles · Lee Bowman · Lucile Watson
Ruth Donnelly · Billy Gilbert · John Qualen
Screen Play, Charles Kaufman, Horace Jackson, Grant Garrett · Original Story, Leigh Jason
Produced and Directed by LEIGH JASON

NATIONAL RELEASE APRIL 18th

PICTURE OF A MAN BLOWING UP JUST BECAUSE HIS WIFE IS A MODEL!

**He misunderstood her!
And 30 million other
misunderstood women
will rush to see why!**

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

U. S. Aide Presents Compromise Plan In Strike

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

is understood to have stated that compromises put forth by Columbia indicated its offer could not be considered as a settlement of the labor dispute and that a fair and reasonable offer would be raises of five, seven and a half, and 10 cents per hour to those now employed, with a 65c minimum. Union is asking for 75c minimum, or an increase of 20c over the present 55c per hour.

Fitzgerald's proposal also provided for the granting of six paid holidays per year and that agreement run until June 30, this year, at which time either side could reopen negotiations. At present no paid holidays are granted Columbia Recording employes. Fitzgerald asked that both sides take the proposal back with favorable recommendations.

Yesterday's meeting had Homer I. Mitchell stepping in as attorney for Columbia Recording and offering for consideration the written contract proposed by the company when negotiations were broken off last Wednesday. Pact would scrap seniority ratings that had accrued during the past two years, and departmental seniority, covering transfer of an employe from one department to another, would be lost. Seniority ratings would be up to company executives who would decide on all promotions. Pact's offer of a 65c hourly rate and an increase of one and seven-tenths of a cent per hour had previously been rejected by the union.

William B. Elconin, union international field organizer, blasted Mitchell's offer, saying, 'This is complete proof to us that the company has no other desire than to smash organized labor in its plant. They are ignoring all legal proceedings for the settlement of a labor dispute.'

The union's negotiating committee, headed by Robert Kennedy, indicated that it would recommend Fitzgerald's compromise proposal to the membership. Mitchell also will make a favorable recommendation on the Fitzgerald proposal to Columbia Recording. However, Paul Crowley, general manager of the recording plant, indicated he would refuse to concur with Mitchell.

In meantime distribution of records made in the company's Bridgeport plant continued to hit snags. Charles Lindholm, general manager of the Ray Thomas Distributors, Inc., handling Columbia discs, is understood to have made an agreement yesterday with the union that his company would not attempt to receive shipments from Bridgeport, or attempt to distribute any recent shipment, to dealers in this territory, if picketing of the Thomas company was stopped.

Serial radio programs are likely to be running off schedule in the near future, due to lack of processing facilities for new episodes, unless the strike reaches a settlement soon.

'Barbara' Press Preem

'Major Barbara', Gabriel Pascal's screen production of the George Bernard Shaw play, will have press preview at the Four Star theatre at 2:30 tomorrow. Gala premiere will be held at same theatre on the evening of May 6.

1,000 GUESTS TO RAZZ BENNY ON 10th ANNI

Picture industry execs will make up a heavy complement of the 1,000 or more guests attending NBC's testimonial to Jack Benny's 10th year on the air in Biltmore Bowl, May 9.

Invitation list being prepared by Clay Morgan, aide to NBC prexy, Niles Trammell, and in charge of arrangements, includes the names of officials from every studio. It will mark the first time that radio has played host to the film biz at a formal shindy.

Radio execs from New York and Chicago have been bidden to the affair and it is estimated that around 200 will make the trip here. In the New York NBC delegation will be Trammell, Sidney Strotz, v.p. in charge of programs; Bertha Brainard, head of program and talent sales division, and John Royal, headman of television and short wave. Trammell arrives here May 6 and following the dinner flies to St. Louis for annual convention of National Association of Broadcasters.

NBC will air a half hour of the dinner program, consisting largely of speeches and witty sayings. Music will be conducted by 12 maestros now stick waving on NBC shows here.

Kate Smith rounds out 10 years on the air with her Friday night program from New York. William S. Paley, president of CBS, who signed the singing star to her first radio contract, makes an appearance on the program to extend congrats.

SPRECKELS JOINS DISNEY TO CASE LABOR

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

ignation as regional director for the National Labor Relations Board in Los Angeles had been accepted.

Spreckels falls heir to the many problems tied up with the organization drive under way at the Disney studio and will attempt to bring about agreements for both sides that will forestall strike talk that has been in the air because of what the unions assert was a failure on the part of Disney representatives to negotiate problems.

Spreckels' deal with Disney also permits him to handle other clients in a labor relations consultant capacity and he will open offices shortly downtown to service other fields than the motion picture industry. Understood that Spreckels has had an offer to handle the labor relations of a group of 25 aircraft parts manufacturers as well as other companies and individuals.

It is expected that William Walsh, NLRB regional attorney here, will assume Spreckels' duty in the local office temporarily until Washington names a successor to the vacated post.

'Orleans' Group Out

Universal's contingent to the New Orleans premiere Thursday of 'The Flame of New Orleans' trained out yesterday, and included Director Rene Clair and wife, Peggy Moran, Roland Young, Hugh Herbert and wife, Andy Devine and wife, Mischa Auer, Helen Parrish and mother, Cameraman Rudy Mate and Joe Pasternak.

Chas. Feldman to NY

Charles Feldman planed for New York yesterday to be on hand for the opening of 'Model Wife', Universal picture, there Wednesday night.

Tinturin Lyrics Rogers

Peter Tinturin will do the music and lyrics for the next Roy Rogers-Gabby Hayes picture at Republic.

BIOFF ATTORNEYS SEEK INFO FOR JUNE TRIAL

Attorneys for Willie Bioff appeared before U. S. District Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer yesterday, asking for a full bill of particulars regarding the charges that he failed to pay a tax on $27,853 income in 1936 and $169,211 of income in 1937, for which the ex-labor leader was indicted and for which he goes to trial June 24.

William H. Hall, assistant U. S. district attorney, told the court he would reveal enough particulars so that Attys. George M. Breslin and Michael J. Luddy, representing Bioff, could prepare their defense, whereupon preliminary hearing scheduled for yesterday was postponed.

Bioff is at liberty under $5,000 bail.

SWG Meeting May 1

Screen Writers Guild has called open board meeting for May 1 to discuss with the membership the problem of screen credits during the interim contract with the Producers pending the working out of a new pact. Old contract expired April 10.

Coast League Baseball Results

No games scheduled yesterday.

GAMES TODAY

Los Angeles at Hollywood—Gilmore Field, 8:15 p.m.
Sacramento at Seattle.
San Diego at Portland.
Oakland at San Francisco.

Wallace Milam 100G Trial Skeded Today Against WB

Damages amounting to $100,000 are sought by Wallace Milam from Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., in suit scheduled for trial in Superior court here starting today. Action asks an accounting, as well as damages, plaintiff contending that following submission of a manuscript entitled 'For Their's Is the Kingdom', a story dealing with Boys' Day or Boys' Week, Warners produced a motion picture titled 'Angels Wash Their Faces', and that the film appropriates plaintiff's literary material.

Defense of producing company is that its picture was based upon an original story entitled 'Battle of City Hall', by Jonathan Finn, and secondly, that even though there was limited access to plaintiff's story material, nothing was taken from plaintiff's story.

Case probably will require five or six days to try, with John P. McGinley, of the legal firm of Freston and Files, appearing for the defendants.

Sugar Dawn Assigned To Four Westerns

Sugar Dawn, seven-year-old horsewoman, and her performing pony, Chiquita, have been signed by Prescott Pictures, Inc. to appear in the four Tom Keene westerns company will produce for Monogram release. 'Wanderers of the West', the first, will be put before the cameras at Prescott, Ariz., in May by Robert Tansey.

NY LEGIT OPENING

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

diverted to some extent, even though they didn't quite learn what it was all about. Most of the short cast are screwball characters and of the shiftless type.

Locale is an open faced home on the outskirts of San Francisco where Jonah Webster, son and daughter live by virtue of monthly pension checks made out to a man who is deceased. Boy never had schooling, but thinks he is a poet, also that he writes books containing one word. Girl finally comes upon a youth whom she likes and then all people are beautiful. Understandable is the coming of romance to the girl because she looks after little rodents and believes they bring her flowers. Author indicates faith in mice is rather a sort of religion and understanding.

New to Broadway is Eugene Loring playing the son. Also speaking her first part is comely Betsy Blair out of the 'Panama Hattie' chorus. Known are Curtis Cooksey as the father and Edward Nannary as the priest.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. LOS ANGELES
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Spyros Skouras Planing In for Americanism Meeting Tonight

Spyros Skouras planes in from New York today to attend sixth annual Americanism meeting set for tonight at the Ambassador hotel, with Charles P. Skouras, honorary colonel of Allied Post, 302, American Legion, presiding. George Skouras pulled in from New York yesterday and Charles Skouras returned over the weekend from New York where he went following a series of meetings to inaugurate the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign.

Tonight's Americanism meeting will open with a banquet in the Fiesta room of the Ambassador starting at 6:30. W. H. (Bud) Lollier, Fox West Coast real estate chief, is chairman of the Americanism committee for Allied Post, and he and Dr. C. Zeno Holt, film row physician, are members of the board of governors.

Spyros Skouras is expected to deliver a short talk on the Greek War Relief campaign which is being conducted in this country, and the other Skouras brothers probably will participate in the discussion.

WB Will Replace Albert In 'Navy Blues' Pic

Eddie Albert will be replaced in Warners 'Navy Blues.' Studio has decided to go ahead with the picture instead of waiting on his recuperation from an illness.

Halliday in for 'Illusions'

John Halliday has arrived from his home in Honolulu to do one of the featured parts in 'Illusions', Alexander Korda production starring Merle Oberon.

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, nine ounces, to Mrs. Larry Cairns at Queen of Angels hospital Saturday (19). Father is trick cameraman at RKO.

'BELLE STARR' WILL BE FILMED AS SEQUENCED

Filming of 'Bell Starr' at 20th-Fox will be done in sequence as written, a procedure seldom followed, by Director Irving Cummings, under special permission by Darryl F. Zanuck. All actors, including bit players, will be on call during the entire shooting schedule, and no sets will be struck until the picture is completed. Cummings asked to be permitted to follow the natural course of the story because of the many intense emotional scenes.

After These Years

Cliff Edwards, who has played the ukulele for 22 years and whose professional monicker is 'Ukulele Ike', has joined the Musicians Union in order to play his pet instrument in Warners picture, 'The Flight Patrol.' Ukulele is now accepted as a regular orchestral instrument.

H. C. Potter Back at U From 'Hellzapoppin'' Talks in Gotham

Director Henry C. Potter was back yesterday at Universal from New York, where he conferred with Olsen and Johnson regarding the film version of 'Hellzapoppin' to start here around June 1. Potter will pilot the screening.

'Hellzapoppin' closes on Broadway this week. Stars then leave on vacation and report here just few days ahead of film starting date.

Phillips in 'Living'

Jean Phillips will do the second femme lead in 'Among the Living' at Paramount. Others assigned to picture include Frances Gifford, Keith Richards and Ella Neal. Production, with Stuart Heisler directing, starts Monday (28).

March Amusement Tax Figure Second Highest Tap

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

ure registered in the comparative frame for 1940.

Government in the first three months of the current calendar year has snared $20,183,516, or a bigger sum than was taken from patrons' pockets during the whole of 1939.

Jump from February to March was the first gain since November, and the fourth biggest improvement since Congress lowered the starting point last summer. Similarly, the rise over the same month of the previous year was the fourth largest.

Deal for ABC 'Pen'

Distribution deal for American release of 'Poison Pen', English-made feature starring Flora Robson, is now being worked out by Associated British Pictures Corp., Ltd.

Spitz Readies Incorp. Papers for Small Operettas

Attorneys for Arthur Spitz, who is presenting operettas at the Mason Opera House at motion picture prices, are preparing articles of incorporation for a company, to be known as the Arthur Spitz Operetta Productions, Inc., to be filed shortly with the secretary of state.

Partners of Spitz in the venture will be Bette Davis, who will hold a 25% financial interest, and the Wiere Bros., former vaudeville comedy team, with the same amount of stock. Exact amount of capital still is undetermined.

Gregg Visits Erpi

E. S. Gregg, general foreign manager of Electrical Research Products, Inc., pulls in today to visit Erpi's Hollywood office. Following brief conferences here he will sail from San Francisco (24) for regular inspection trip to Erpi offices in the Far East.

a.m. Dailies

Roach Asks Letters—
Hal Roach has asked Superior court for letters of administration of the inherited estate of his actress daughter, Margaret Roach, 20. Estate in which Miss Roach shares was left by her mother, who died last March, including property in Beverly Hills.

WHEN I DANCE, MOM, I SIMPLY CAN'T SKATE

There is an asserted shortage of chorus boys and chorines in Hollywood. For second time in a week on the same production, 20th-Fox has hit a snag in trying to get required number of routine skaters for 'Sun Valley' ensembles. Most of the proficient skaters listed also are chorus dancers, and these currently are at a premium because of production on number of elaborate musical pictures.

20th casters expected scores of skaters to show in answer to calls, from which 24 boys and equal number of girls finally would be culled. Instead only nine boys and eight girls showed as the only regulars available out of the 180 registered as skaters at Central Casting. A few days previous, Director H. Bruce Humberstone drew a blank when he put through a call for six chorines to do a straight dance number with Sonja Henie. Shooting of the number had to be postponed until some of the dancers working elsewhere are at liberty.

Plan is being worked out to ease asserted shortage of skaters by scouting various local rinks. Screen Actors Guild has issued waivers for several men skaters who haven't cards, and same may be done for femmes as well. One hundred and ninety dancer-skaters are working at Metro and Warners this week.

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Excellent for brokers' offices or business enterprises. Ideally located—center Bev. Hills—½ block Corrinne Griffith Bldgs.
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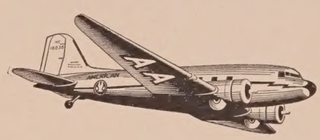

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THE SOUTHERN SUNSHINE ROUTE

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AMERICAN AIRLINES Inc.
ROUTE OF THE FLAGSHIPS

Maureen O'Hara, RKO In New Pact; Shares With 20th-Fox

Maureen O'Hara's old contract with RKO has been superseded by a new one in which she will share her services equally with 20th-Fox and RKO. Following inking of the pact yesterday, actress was at once assigned to the role of Angharad in 'How Green Was My Valley', which John Ford will direct at 20th.

Filming will be almost entirely on location at the Welsh Village, constructed in the Malibu mountains at a cost of $110,000. Houses in this village are so arranged that interiors may be lensed by opening up walls and rooms, instead of necessity of working on sets.

Darmour Back From NY-Col Confabs

Larry Darmour is back from two weeks confabs with Columbia home office executives in New York on plans for production of his next Ellery Queen picture, 'The Devil to Pay', to be directed by James Hogan. Frederick Dannay and Manfred B. Lee, authors writing under nom de plume of 'Ellery Queen', yesterday started scripting fourth in the series, untitled, directly for the screen.

Durbin Holdover

'Nice Girl' starts its third week at first run prices in San Diego tomorrow when the Deanna Durbin picture opens a second week on moveover at the Broadway theatre, recently acquired by Lou Metzger as a continued first run for his Spreckles. This is the first Durbin opus to be held for three weeks in the border city.

Lesser 'Feeling' Dated

Sol Lesser's production, 'That Uncertain Feeling', which United Artists is distributing, goes into Loew's State and Grauman's Chinese theatres week of May 7, following one week run there of 'The Ziegfeld Girl' opening (30).

Donlevy at Work

Brian Donlevy is back at Paramount today from brief vacation with his wife at Death Valley resort to start in the Bing Crosby starrer, 'Birth of the Blues.'

Ill in Pix

RUDY VALLEE expected to check out of Good Samaritan today after undergoing treatment for sinus trouble.

JACK TOWNLEY, writer, back at his Republic desk after 10-day absence due to strep throat.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Warners)

'Rhapsody In Stripes'
Dir.: Albert Rogell
Asst.: Howard Christie

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(RKO)

'Cyclone On Horseback'
Dir.: Edward Killy
Asst.: James Casey

20th MUSIC BUDGET FOR 'SAND' $60,000

Music budget for 20th-Fox's 'Blood and Sand' will total around $60,000, the costliest melodic background for a picture this studio has set up in over two years. Alfred Newman, studio music director, has begun the scoring. A symphony orchestra of 90 pieces will spend three weeks playing the Newman score, which has a Gypsy theme. Vicente Gomez, Spanish guitarist and composer, finished recording 14 numbers for the film and has checked off. Director Rouben Mamoulian is working closely with Newman.

Title Changes

Paramount's 'Henry For President' now titled 'Henry Aldrich For President', and studio's 'Paramount On Parade' now tagged 'Glamour Boy'.

Obituary

HAROLD B. FRANKLIN

Harold B. Franklin, 52, died yesterday morning of a heart attack in Mexico City. Former theatre operator and film producer had been in Mexico about a month, accompanied by his son, Elbert, and was dressing preparatory to catching a plane to fly him to Los Angeles when stricken. Besides the son, the widow, Anna, and two brothers, Charles, a New York attorney, and John J. Franklin, operator of an independent film theatre in San Francisco, survive.

Franklin, who was widely known as a chain theatre operator, was born in New York city, and operated theatres since 1914. It was he who organized Paramount Theatres into a nationwide chain, becoming vice-president of Paramount-Publix in the new setup.

About 1927 he was made president of West Coast Theatres, spot he held until about 1930. His next theatre operation job was with the Hughes-Franklin circuit, which he formed with Howard Hughes.

Leaving the Hughes-Franklin company, he joined RKO-Radio Pictures in an advisory capacity and soon thereafter was named president of the RKO and Keith-Albee-Orpheum circuit. In 1933 he former Frankwyn Productions, with Arch Selwyn, to produce stage plays. Later he became prexy of Standard Theatres. In 1935 he joined Columbia Pictures' production staff, and in 1938 he was manager of the 'Motion Pictures Greatest Year' campaign.

Franklin was the author of several books on motion picture theatre management, and during 1939 and 1940 produced two films, one, 'The Gambler', in New York, and the second and last, 'The Villain Still Pursued Her', for RKO release last year. Adolph Ramish, theatre tycoon, is understood to have financed 'Villain'.

Franklin went to Mexico City about a month ago, accompanied by his son, and Theodore (Ted) Gildred, former San Diego theatre builder, who in appreciation of favors extended to him by the former West Coast prexy at the time the circuit's Fox theatre there was erected, had completed plans to finance Franklin in a Mexican theatre circuit.

First of these theatres, a 1,000-seater, was to be located in Gildred's Mexico City subdivision, Tepeyac Insuguentes, with others in and about the Mexican capital contemplated. Plans for the initial theatre have been virtually completed by Architect S. Charles Lee of this city, who met Franklin in Mexico about three weeks ago.

Owing to the possibility that the high altitude of Mexico City might be detrimental to Franklin's health, he made the trip to Acaculpo by boat. Lee met him there two weeks ago, driving from Mexico City. A couple of days later they drove to Cuernavaca, Mex., where Franklin was assured by a physician that his heart was okay, but that he had a bad liver condition. Satisfied as to his physical condition, Franklin made the trip to Mexico City, accompanied by Lee, who then returned here to start work on the first of the new theatre plans.

Due to international complications, it was virtually decided late yesterday to have Franklin's remains cremated in Mexico City. A telegram was received late yesterday afternoon advising that the son, Elbert, would reach Los Angeles some time today.

The Franklin home here is at 616 North Maple drive, Beverly Hills. Purpose of the projected trip to Los Angeles by Franklin was to close up his home here and move his family to Mexico, where it was planned to start work on the nucleus of his new theatre chain at once.

HANNAH L. STEVENS

Funeral services will be held today for Mrs. Hannah Laura Stevens, grandmother of George Stevens, Columbia director, at the Scovern mortuary at 11:30 a.m. Burial will be in Forest Lawn. She also is survived by Ashton Stevens, dramatic critic, in Chicago, and another grandson, George Stevens, of North Hollywood.

LEVI MANHEIM

Funeral services will be held in Syracuse, N. Y., today for Levi Manheim, 70, who died there Sunday. He is survived by three sons, Nate Manheim, of Universal; Het Manheim, of the William Morris office in New York, and Manny Manheim, who is a writer with the Rudy Vallee radio show.

FRED HARRINGTON

Funeral rites for Fred Harrington, born Fred Hansen, 58, were observed yesterday at Pierce Brothers Hollywood chapel, followed by cremation at Los Angeles Crematory. He was a radio actor in Irene Rich's program and in Calling All Cars. Born in London, he had lived in California 16 years.

Program Committee Meets Today On PCCITO Confab

Program committee for the second annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners meets here today to complete details for the June 8-11 exhibitor meeting.

Arriving yesterday from San Francisco were Rotus Harvey and Ben Levin, who with Hugh Berman, Jack Y. Berman, trustees from Los Angeles and Robert H. Poole, executive secretary, comprise the program committee. PCCITO will act as hosts for the annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, to be held here simultaneously.

Bulletin giving details of the 21st annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, to be held here at the Ambassador hotel June 9-12, has just been issued by Ed Kuykendall, prexy. He states that gathering, at which the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners will function as hosts, will be 'an all industry congress and national goodwill convention of showmen.'

Kuykendall explains in his bulletin what 'good will' means, and also what Hollywood stands for to Exhibitors. Hotel rates and train schedules and fares are included.

'Footlight', 'Serenade' Booking Here

'Footlight Favor' (RKO) has been booked as supporting feature for Columbia's 'Penny Serenade' which opens a day-date run at the RKO and Pantages theatres next Friday. 'The Devil and Miss Jones' winds up two weeks at the theatres Thursday night.

Early 'Joy' Rehearsal

'Jump for Joy', all-Negro musical revue, will start rehearsals at once at the Mayan theatre for an early summer opening. Revue will be headed by Duke Ellington and ork, with cast made up entirely of colored performers.

Vinnicof Buys House

Harry Vinnicof, indie chain operator, has acquired the Congress theatre here from Steinberg Brothers.

FRIENDLY SERVICE
SAVES TIME AND MONEY
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DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offi

Vol. 31 No. 35 — Hollywood, California, Wednesday, April 23, 1941 — 5 Cents

PAINTERS ISSUE NEW DEMANDS

TELEVISION SHOW AIMED AT EXHIBS

New York, April 22.—The demonstration of standard theatre screen television which Radio Corp. is presenting May 9 at New Yorker theatre is primarily for film theatre operators. Televised event will be the Ken Overlin-Billy Soose fight at the Garden, and among other invitees to the demonstration will be various groups of indoor and outdoor promoters and the press. Demonstration will be similar to those shown in London in 1939.

RCA idea is to learn whether film exhibitors see this development as something possibly useful to them and if they can fit it into their plans.

Jimmy Walker, Stolz Lyric Gotham Play

New York, April 22.—Jimmy Walker is doing the lyrics for a new musical being readied for fall production. His partner is Robert Stolz, best known for his 'Two Hearts in Three Quarter Time.' Book is being written by Geza Herczeg, who won the Academy award for the 'Emile Zola' screenplay.

Pathe Due In NY

New York, April 22.—Charles Pathe, French film pioneer who founded the newsreel bearing his name and who made early short pictures, is due in New York Thursday by Clipper from Lisbon. He was expected a couple of months ago but failed to arrive. Fears were felt for his safety until word of his presence on the plane was received yesterday.

Kraike Joining Par

Michel Kraike joins Paramount Monday as an executive assistant to Sol C. Siegel. Kraike resigned three weeks ago as associate story editor at Columbia.

Daylight Saving

Easterners push up their timepieces one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday, ushering in another season of Daylight Saving Time. Most network radio programs from here will be heard one hour earlier.

RKO EARNINGS FOR 1940 SEEN AT $500,000

New York, April 22.—RKO's earnings for 1940, first year in which the company has operated almost entirely out of 77-B, are expected to be less than $500,000, although the foreign figures are still coming in. This Wall Street estimate allows for uniformly good income shown in recent reports by RKO and Keith-Albee-Orpheum, two theatre subsidiaries, and improved earnings by RKO-Radio Pictures, the picture company producer-distributor subsidiary of the parent organization.

INCLUDE FIVE-DAY, 30-HOUR WEEK SETUP

Studio Painters are demanding a five-day, 30-hour week, it was disclosed yesterday in recommendations submitted to the negotiating committee of Moving Picture Painters Local 644. The proposed contract revisions also would provide for a minimum six-hour call, a guarantee of 250 working days per year for permanent crew members, 10% additional for men not employed in permanent crews, and two weeks vacation for men who have worked two years or longer in the industry.

The workers are offering to accept

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

AF of L Charges Subversive Element Blocking Parleys

Charging a subversive element in the studios is trying to upset the American Federation of Labor program, film unions in the Studio Basic Agreement have petitioned their international officers to arrange an immediate meeting with Producers to negotiate conditions. Wires sent to the internationals by the local business representatives stated that in the past four years efforts to improve conditions have met with a stalemate, but that because of the 'present shortage of skilled crafts and manpower', the time is now opportune to go the limit in pushing these demands.

The wires also stated that outside crafts of the AFofL and dual organi-

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Mono Sesh in NY (26)

New York, April 22.—Third Monogram regional meeting of exchange managers and salesmen takes place here at the Warwick hotel Saturday and Sunday (26-27) with Steve Broidy, general sales manager, presiding.

RKO Will Angel B'way Plays With Pic Merit

New York, April 22.—RKO is latest film company to enter the ranks of production organizations ready to finance Broadway plays. Prime rule governing choice of legits, however, will be that the show must be of potential film material for its stars. Studio will not back plays merely as an investment.

Alice Faye Topper For 'Nightingale'

Alice Faye will star in 'The Bowery Nightingale', Mark Hellinger's first production at 20th-Fox, as her next assignment following a 12-week layoff. Picture, which John Meehan is scripting from an original by Oliver H. P. Garrett, is due to start the latter part of June.

'Rhine' Wins Critics Award

New York, April 22.—'Watch On the Rhine', Lillian Hellman's anti-nazi drama, today won the Critics Circle award as the best play of the season. 'Corn Is Green', by Emlyn Williams, was voted the best foreign play. Shows are currently running and both were produced and directed by Herman Shumlin.

William Saroyan's 'The Beautiful People', last night's opening, was runner-up for the best play with six votes. Orson Welles' production of 'Native Son', adapted by Paul Green and Richard Wright from the latter's novel, got one vote on the final ballot. Nineteen ballots were required to select the winner.

PLANS FORMULATED FOR PCC CONFABS

Program committee of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, meeting yesterday at the Ambassador hotel, mapped out details and appointed various subcommittees to function during the five-day convention opening June 8.

E. S. Calvi of Los Angeles was named chairman of the Hotels committee; Herman Lewis heads Transportation, and Jack Y. Berman is

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

NY Brass Rail Pickets Attack Own Union

New York, April 22.—Waiters, Cooks and Bartenders' union pickets which have been parading outside the Brass Rail restaurant on Times Square, began striking Monday against their own union, demanding $3 per day instead of the present wage of $2.50. Union is now, in effect, picketing its own pickets by installing new sandwich carriers. The Brass Rail holds the Broadway long run record, having been continuously picketed for about three years.

'G Men' Goes Monday

Edward Small's 'G Men vs. Scotland Yard' rolls next Monday on the original starting date with Tim Whelan directing. Picture had been set ahead but reverted to April 28 due to prior commitments of Basil Rathbone.

Paige Lent Universal

Universal yesterday borrowed Robert Paige, Paramount contract player, for male lead in 'Rhapsody in Stripes.'

PREVIEWED

A VERY YOUNG LADY
(20th-Fox)

THE WAGONS ROLL AT NIGHT
(WB)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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1940, at the Post Office at Los Angeles,
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Don Gilman to Frisco.

Jim and Marian Jordan trained out for Kansas City.

William Keighley is back from six weeks in New York.

Dorothy Peterson in from New York for Paramount role.

Arthur Freed has joined Al Kingston & Co. to handle writers and stories.

Robert Chapin is developing his original, 'Man From the F.B.I.', for Warners.

Lyle Moraine, Warners stock player, has been called to report for army duty May 3.

'Major Barbara' press preview will be held at 2:30 p.m., April 30, at the Four Star.

Stanley Rose has joined David Diamond, Inc., to handle writers and story material.

Norman McLeod trained for New York last night to see 'Panama Hattie' which he will direct for Metro.

Inez Gorman opens as featured singer at Cafe Lamaze tonight, with Floyd Buick, numerologist, as added attraction.

Carolyn Lee, Paramount moppet, appears in Superior court here today for ratification of her contract with the studio.

Paul Malvern checked in at Universal yesterday as associate producer, and has as his first assignment 'Flying Cadets'.

Allan Jones planes in Saturday after four weeks of personals and a British war relief show he'll do Friday night at St. Louis.

Cecil B. DeMille will represent the picture industry today at a Biltmore Bowl luncheon for Air Marshal W. A. Bishop, of Canada.

Trio of ex-football players have been spotted in Warners 'Navy Blues' — Don MacPherson, Glen Thompson and Tex Harris.

Spencer Tracy, accompanied by Frank Whitbeck, left for New York last night via train for a week's vacation before he goes on to Ocala, Fla., to start work in 'The Yearling'.

Anna Neagle trained last night for Wheeling, W. Va., where she will appear in a British war relief show Friday night. David Tihmar planes out tomorrow to join her there and act as her dancing partner.

Benny the Gouge sez—Any time you see a bald-headed guy stepping along Vine street, you know he is a producer. He is the only dramatist who can get by without a toupee.

Hollywood Inside

REPORT that Sol Lesser would head RKO-Radio studios got around town 10 days after Murray Silverstone, United Artists head, had told George Schaefer that it was no soap. Silverstone was called upon by Schaefer for release of Lesser from the latter's personal exclusive contract to produce from one to three pictures a year for UA until Sept. 30, 1945, and also to deliver one production produced and directed by Ernst Lubitsch. The UA chief informed Schaefer that Lesser has a contract that must be fulfilled and its provisions did not permit Lesser to do any other production chore or picture operations outside of UA. Lesser was recommended to Schaefer for the RKO job by Ed Weisl, personal attorney for Floyd Odlum, with Schaefer talking a five-year deal to Lesser until it hit a snag with Silverstone refusing to grant the producer his release. Lesser starts his next UA picture 'Strange Victory' shortly. Lubitsch is expected to begin his final picture on the UA schedule early this summer.

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WITHOUT singling out any pictures for attack, Al Williams, Scripps-Howard aviation columnist, recently took a crack at the picture industry for not being objective in the treatment of flying yarns. 'Writing the dramatics of the air as dramatics in Hollywood's job', Williams said, 'and I think it is not being very well done. Hollywood insists on writing drama into aviation, instead of realizing that aviation of this period IS dramatic and devoting talent to interpreting that drama. Hollywood kills or crashes every hero. It doesn't hesitate a second to crack up the hero's plane, though it carefully avoided killing Tom Mix's horse, thus interpreting the true drama of Tom's horsemanship. Crash pictures and stories are for the oldsters—those who don't understand aviation and never will.'

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IF ENGINEERING complications can be ironed out either Gargantua or Toto, two gorilla attractions of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey circus, will appear in David Hempstead's RKO production, 'Journey Into Fear.' Talk has been going on between Hempstead and John Ringling North, circus head, on possibility of one of the gorillas appearing in a sequence where such an animal gets loose on a boat while being transported from the African jungles to a zoo. Conclusion of a deal hinges entirely on whether studio will be able to cope with the problem of providing the proper air-conditioning for Gargantua or his mate during stay on the Coast. Another problem is the Gargantua disposition, which bars direct handling by keepers.

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HOW to separate the Loew's State and Grauman's Chinese newspaper adver-tising for the current week and still give each theatre equal play, was finally solved by George Watters of the Fox-West Coast first run publicity department. Both houses have long been identified as day-daters, but for current week Carmen Miranda and her ork is playing a solo engagement at the Chinese. 'Topper Returns' will be on the screen of each theatre, with 'The Penalty' added for the downtown house. By simply using dividing rules between the two ads each house is individualized for the week and the possibility of any confusion is removed.

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GINGER ROGERS' new three-year contract with RKO commits actress to only one picture a year and provides that she have story approval. Heretofore Miss Rogers, under her old seven-year ticket expiring May 15, usually passed on all vehicles selected for her by the studio, although contract carried no written provision for approval. New contract will allow Miss Rogers to take advantage of a number of picture deals at other studios each year and her representatives, Hayward-Deverich, Inc. are now handling negotiations from two lots on commitments for 1941-42 season.

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LADY SYLVIA ASHLEY, arriving at LaGuardia airport in New York over the weekend with Norma Shearer for a New York visit, said she has had no dispute with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. over his father's estate 'as yet.' She added that she did not know how rumors of differences with her late husband's son had started and explained that she had not engaged an attorney, 'as yet', but that 'some legal complications always crop up in connection with estates.'

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VERY proud was Sam Vorzimer, of the Paramount advertising department, when Sam, Jr. was taken into the Army. Recently, he had the boy, all decked out in his uniform, for a visit to the lot. Sam, Jr. has now been put in a camp hospital for observation, with doctors theorizing about smallpox. Members of the advertising department are taking the proper vaccine.

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UNDER strict orders by the Naval Intelligence Bureau, Warners must send triplicate prints of all stills, Kodachromes and off-stage publicity pictures made on 'Dive Bomber' to the bureau at the U. S. Navy base at San Diego for approval before release.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles, 5; Hollywood, 3.
San Diego, 4; Portland, 0.
Sacramento, 7; Seattle, 3.
San Francisco, 6; Oakland, 0.

Lang Crew to Sun Valley For Army Ski Short

Otto Lang, 20th-Fox director, and James Van Trees, cameraman, heading a crew of 15, leave today for Sun Valley to film a short subject on skiing for the United States Army. Briefie will be used for troop instruction in Alaska.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Education is swell. Now you learn something you didn't even mention to your best friends when you were a young squirt. You are a subject of sexappealometry. You are measured scientifically by a unit of manpower, figured out by Dr. Joseph W. Catton, up San Francisco way, to determine your reactions to feminine heat on the screen. You can learn, with the air of a scientific gadget on your wrist, how you react to Marlene Dietrich, Lana Turner, Ann Sheridan, Betty Grable and the rest of the high-blood-pressure gals.

Twenty selected students, according to the good Doctor, wore glorified wrist watches, known as psychometers, to register their heart beats as they glanced at pictures. Highest batting averages were registered by gals working on the Warners lot, which has nothing to do with a scientific treatise.

Higher education is higher than it was in your old man's student days when he considered himself lucky to save up enough dough for a couple of steins at the Blue Goose on a Saturday night. Now the scholar is asked about his reactions in the following scientific situations:

'Think of Miss X. You are picnicking together. You are riding along together in the moonlight. You are holding her in your arms, dancing to seductive music. You are kissing her good night.

'Units of credit should be given for "no reaction", "mild reaction" and "strong reaction".'

And so the educators go on, finding out about things that nobody ever suspected. Some day they will learn why there were livery stables around college towns in the horse-and-buggy days.

Mickey Rooney and Sidney Miller have dashed off another song, 'Of All People, Fancy Meeting You Here.' One of these days the boys will dash off a song that somebody sings.

Republic is delving into the past to revive the thrillers your old man paid 10c-20c-30c to see, 'From Rags to Riches', 'Nellie, the Beautiful Cloak Model', 'The Black Crook' and 'Ten Nights in a Barroom', all in modern versions, whittled to suit conditions in 1941. 'Ten Nights' probably will be changed to 'Ten Afternoons in a Cocktail Bar' and the theme song will be 'Grandma, Dear Grandma, Come Home With Me Now.'

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Difference between a ventriloquist and a voice diffusionist is about $3,000 a week.

★ ★ ★

Even pastry is becoming air-minded these days. New stage play is titled 'Pie in the Sky.'

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Hollywood is a pretty good example of democracy. A milkman's child and a banker's offspring have the same chance to break into pictures.

★ ★ ★

The brilliant actor's ready wit had
suddenly grown damp—
His gag-man was afflicted with a
case of writers' cramp.

Film Previews

A Very Young Lady

(Drama)

20th-Fox production. Stars Jane Withers. Features Nancy Kelly, John Sutton. Supporting players: Janet Beecher, Richard Clayton, June Carlson, Charles Halton, Cecil Kellaway, Marilyn Kinsley, JoAnn Ransom, Catherine Henderson, Lucita Ham, June Horne. Director, Harold Schuster. Associate producer, Robert T. Kane. Screenplay, Ladislas Fodor and Elaine Ryan. From a play by Ladislas Fodor. Photography, Edward Cronjager. Art direction, Richard Day, Joseph C. Wright. Set decorations, Thomas Little. Film editor, James B. Clark. Costumes, Herschel. Sound, Bernard Freericks, Harry M. Leonard. Musical direction, Cyril J. Mockridge. Previewed April 22. Running time: 80 mins.

A human little drama of teen-aged girls and their romantic leanings which will be recognized by all parents with such a youngster in their home. 'A Very Young Lady' gives 20th-Fox an opportunity to further advance Jane Withers along her maturing career and jump from the tomboyish stage into the 'growing up' phase. Withers fans and their families will find this to their liking in spite of some talky spots and over-long running time, both of minor consequence.

Hoydenish Miss Withers is packed off to a young lady's finishing school to acquire some drawing room polish. Higher manners are having little effect until she imagines a romance with the school principal, John Sutton. Collecting a multitude of love hints from all sources, the young lady pours out her heart in secret letters, never meant for perusal. When a stern teacher accidentally stumbles on one of the missives an investigation and near scandal results, permitting some genuine dramatic portions. A renunciation scene in which Miss Withers turns her secret love over to one of her favored instructors, Nancy Kelly, and her first kiss, with Richard Clayton, are handled delicately and with humor.

Jane Withers romps off with her assignment, taking care of the humorous phases in her acceptable style and treading the more dramatic sequences with considerable sureness. Top ranking aid is lent by Nancy Kelly and John Sutton, both of whom faultlessly bring to life characters that could easily have been wooden. Janet Beecher the teacher who starts the trouble, Charles Halton, another old-school exponent of learning, Richard Clayton, a juvenile suitor for Miss Withers' hand, June Carlson, a student, and Cecil Kellaway, a kindly professor, are excellent.

Harold Schuster has instilled a naturalness in the players and his direction manages considerable movement to the talkative, but well-plotted script turned in by Ladislas Fodor and Elaine Ryan from a play by Fodor. Robert T. Kane's associate production is first-rate. Camera work by Edward Cronjager; art direction and other technical points are top-notch.

Kaus, Dratler Do Schulberg Yarn

Gina Kaus and Jay Dratler have been assigned by B. P. Schulberg at Columbia to screenplay 'Highly Irregular', and Michael Blankfort goes on 'He's My Old Man', also a Schulberg production.

The Wagons Roll At Night

(Melodrama)

Warners production. Features Humphrey Bogart, Sylvia Sidney, Eddie Albert and Joan Leslie. Supporting cast: Sig Rumann, Cliff Clark, Charley Foy, Frank Wilcox, John Ridgely, Clara Blandick, Aldrich Bowker, Garry Owen, Jack Mower, Frank Mayo. Directed by Ray Enright. Associate producer, Harlan Thompson. Screenplay, Fred Niblo, Jr., and Barry Trivers. Suggested by story by Francis Wallace. Photography, Sid Hickox. Art director, Hugh Reticker. Film editor, Frederick Richards. Special effects, Byron Haskin and H. F. Koenekamp. Music, H. Roemheld. Orchestral arrangements, Ray Heindorf. Music director, Leo F. Forbstein. Previewed April 22. Running time: 84 mins.

Avoiding the pitfalls encountered in numerous predecessor films dealing with circus life, 'The Wagons Roll At Night' tells an absorbing, standard melodrama of bigtop and carny folk focused upon the handling of a dangerous lion act. Picture has the smell of the sawdust, but avoids overstress on background and setting in order to concentrate on human interest and the thrills connected with the big scene in the cage with a killer lion. Performances by Humphrey Bogart, Eddie Albert, Sylvia Sidney and Joan Leslie ably carry the intense portions of the tale, with competent support from a dozen skillful players well cast. Direction by Ray Enright exploits the entertain elements thoroughly, combining melodrama, a lot of genuine comedy and romantic warmth with a sure hand, to complement the careful and intelligent production organization by Harlan Thompson.

Drama, scripted by Fred Niblo, Jr., and Barry Trivers, from a story suggestion by Francis Wallace, pivots upon the attitude of Bogart, boss of the circus-carnival, that the general run of folk in his branch of the show world are not good enough to associate with his ingenious, convent-bred sister, Joan Leslie. Because of an accident, Eddie Albert, a grocery clerk who has been made an animal trainer to supplement a drunken lion tamer, is taken to Bogart's farm for recuperation. He meets the young sister. They fall in love. Albert violates Bogart's ultimatum not to see the girl again. Bogart's violent passions of hatred and resentment break out in an attempt to have Albert mauled to death by an insane lion, into whose cage he persuades Albert to go for a quick reputation. Instead, the beast kills the circus boss, who, at the desperate pleas of the sister and of Sylvia Sidney, goes into the cage to save the other man. Sylvia Sidney is a crystal-ball gazer with the show, loved by Bogart in his cynical way.

Albert's easy comedy and his unaffected devotion to the girl, and Joan Leslie's ingenious behavior in the romantic scenes are high lights. Sig Rumann as the drunken lion tamer tops the support. Cliff Clark is good as the circus barker. Charley Foy and Clara Blandick do well with their assignments.

Savagery of the big cats in the animal tent, in connection with human hatred and fights, is well exploited for thrills. These scenes also are exceptionally well photographed by Sid Hickox, augmented by the special effects by Byron Haskin and H. F. Koenekamp.

Spyros Skouras Lauds Americanism At Huge Fete

In a moving speech, Spyros Skouras, head of National Theatres, last night paid his personal tribute for the privilege of American citizenship at the sixth annual Americanism meeting and banquet at the Ambassador hotel. Presiding over the assembly as co-host was Charles Skouras, prexy of Fox West Coast Theatres, and honorary colonel of Allied Post 302, American Legion.

Guests of the evening were 250 ROTC boys from the high schools of Los Angeles and vicinity; state and national officers of the American Legion, Navy and Army men and newspaper representatives, numbering in all over 600 persons.

Taking as his subject, 'What An Adopted Son Thinks of America,' Spyros Skouras eloquently related the ideals of democracy he got as a birthright in Greece and their practical national expression in the United States to which he had come in young manhood. He told of how, after Greece had decided to face the Axis powers, the contribution to Greek war relief in this country had swung 60% from Americans of all origins and 40% from Americans of Greek origin, now totaling some $6,000,000.

The next few days, he stressed, were vital to the Greek cause, and relief workers in this country were redoubling their efforts to sustain Greek morale. For this purpose Skouras said he was holding a meeting here today at 11 o'clock, one on Thursday in New Orleans, another one on Friday in Chicago, one next Monday in Washington, where special pleas would be made to secure several hundred planes to be sent to the fighting Greeks.

Other brief speeches were made. The ROTC band of Los Angeles high school supplied music.

NVA Benefit Profits Take Nosedive

New York, April 22.—First entertainment and ball Sunday night at Manhattan Center, staged by the National Vaudeville Artists at $10 top was a disappointment with a gross of around $6,000 and net of about half that. Previous NVA benefits have been variety entertainments, usually at a Broadway legit house. None of the latter was available this year because of Sunday legit performances.

Bracken Due At Par For 'Navy' June 16

Eddie Bracken, after a New York vacation, reports back to Paramount by June 16 for one of the top roles in 'We're in the Navy Now' which rolls that day. Paramount has signed Betty Hutton, of the 'Panama Hattie' musical cast, for a role in the film and she will report here in June.

WB Terms Tedford

Charles Linton Tedford, who scripted number of the patriotic shorts at the Burbank studio, as well as 'Santa Fe Trail', has been signed to term writer pact at Warners.

Matrays in 'Soldier'

Ernst and Maria Matray will be featured in the dance numbers for 'The Chocolate Soldier' at Metro. Paul Kohner negotiated.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THE William Powells head for New York Sunday to do a bit of vacationing. It will be the first trip for Diana to her home town since she originally came to Hollywood when she was eight years old. . . . Jerry Lester and Maxine Lewis will head the Charlie Foy cafe floor show starting May 1. Following this stint Miss Lewis goes to Avalon, Catalina Island for her annual summer chanting. . . . Bob Evans, Negro dancer at Foy's for the past 14 weeks, opens two weeks engagement at the Golden Gate in Frisco today. . . . Walt Disney was given a scroll honoring his lighting effects in 'Fantasia' at special dinner last night held by the Illuminating Engineering Society at Disney's cartoon studio. Alexander D. Cameron, national prexy of the Society, made the award. . . . Tom Brown entertained friends from the east with party at Victor's in Beverly Hills last night.

Hedda Hopper has a bid from the American Legion to be its honor guest at the national convention in Milwaukee Sept. 15. She will accept if it doesn't conflict with local commitments.

MITCHELL LEISEN has his personal press agent staggering on the ropes by hatching out whole litters of exploitation ideas. Not content with designing costumes, staging and developing the Mary Parker-Billy Daniel show at Cocoanut Grove, Leisen first fetched forth an idea when he sent out 250 gardenias and carnations to local names, suggesting they wear the posies to see his proteges in action. For the new show starting next Tuesday Mitch is sending one-sheets with a true circus flavor to an enlarged list, with a pair of circus clowns making delivery. Comeon is a bag of peanuts. . . . Angelica Loyo, Mexican and Latin American artist, here on business, to be guest of honor at annual San Souci celeb breakfast at Earl Carroll's Monday. . . . S. George Ullman hosting press and players at his new Sunset boulevard agency office yesterday. . . Dr. Luiz Vergara, secretary to the Presidency of Brazil, and his family, Senora Vergara and Senorita Moema Vergara, now touring the United States, visited Columbia studio yesterday.

Karen Morley makes her return to the legit in a leading role in 'Somewhere In France', new play opening at Washington, D. C. (28). It goes to Broadway following week. Miss Morley was signed by New York Theatre Guild several weeks ago.

ARTHUR JOHNSTON, song writer, back from London, is about to be guested by his old friend Bob Murphy, at the House of Murphy, Friday night. . . . Extras and bit players called today will number 250 for finale number in Universal's 'In the Navy.' . . . MacDonald Carey, of the cast of 'Lady In the Dark', legiter, reports to Paramount June 1 for his first assignment.

Abbott, Costello Top Mayfair 'Hats' On Universal Loanout

New York, April 22.—Bud Abbott and Lou Costello will head the cast of Jules Levey's Mayfair production, 'Hold On To Your Hats', through loanout deal arranged with Universal, which will release the picture. Costello will do the role created on the stage by Al Jolson.

Signing of Abbott and Costello for the top roles in the picturization of the play means Levey's deal with Eddie Cantor to do the Jolson part has gone cold. Martha Raye is still set to repeat her stage character in the film.

No date for start of the production has been set as yet by Levey, who is now preparing 'Hellzapoppin' for a go signal the first part of June.

PLANS FORMULATED FOR PCC CONFABS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

chairman of the Special Events body. Mrs. Jenne Dodge of Ventura was named general chairman of the Ladies' Entertainment committee, with the following co-chairmen: Mrs. William Johnson of Seattle, Mrs. William Graeper of Portland, Mrs. Vera Hardy of Fresno and Mrs. R. D. Whitson of Los Angeles.

Board of directors of the PCC will function as a reception committee, with the Coast association being hosts to the annual convention and all-industry good will gathering of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, which will hold its session each afternoon, June 9 to 12.

Next meeting of the PCC program committee is set for May 20, at which time full program details will be announced.

Hamilburg Talks Durbin Air Deal in NY

Mitchell Hamilburg trained yesterday to New York to confer with ad agencies on a radio deal for Deanna Durbin. He will also attend to other business deals while there and look in on some of the Broadway shows before returning.

Story Buys

Paramount yesterday bought the rights to a life story of Texas Guinan from the late nitery queen's heirs, and musical titled 'Tex Guinan' will be readied for 1942. Fourteen scrapbooks, covering her life from the days when she was a silent picture actress to her career in New York night clubs, went with the deal.

'New York Nocturne', story by Matt Taylor which will be published in the American magazine, has been purchased by 20th-Fox. Walter Morosco and Ralph Dietrich will be the associate producers on yarn, which makes the fourth picture lined up on their current program.

For a price around $25,000, Paramount has purchased 'Mr. and Mrs. Cugat', novel by Isabel S. Rorick. Fred Kohlmar will produce it.

HEARSTIAN 'KANE' BATTLE CONTINUES NATIONWIDE

New York, April 22.—Battle of Hearst papers against Orson Welles continued wholesale last week as RKO readied the preem of 'Citizen Kane' at the Palace, New York, and elsewhere during the month. Among the Hearst moves were attacks stirring up American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other patriotic groups because of 'The Free Company' broadcast; Hearst dailies refusing to accept 'Kane' ads; harassment of Welles by Hearst photogs at Palm Springs trying to get 'personal' pictures, and persistent inquiries at the draft board as to why Welles hasn't been drafted.

Whatever other effect the Hearst attacks are having, they are definitely stimulating interest in advance sale of tickets for the 'Kane' engagement.

Judy Canova, Republic Shake; 'Puddin'' Starts Next Week

Judy Canova and Republic late yesterday settled the altercation which had placed the star on suspension list and had delayed start on 'Puddin' Head'. Misunderstanding which had resulted from Miss Canova's insistence on story supervision and final decision on casting and director, was ironed out after several hours' conference with M. J. Siegel, prexy, and withdrawal of the star's demands, it was asserted at the studio.

Starting date for 'Puddin' Head' was set for (29), a delay of a week from the original schedule. Miss Canova started pre-recording yesterday afternoon.

'Showboat Sal', original by Ray Golden, is being readied at Paramount for Miss Canova. Maurice Leo is working with Golden on the screenplay and picture will be a musical. Actress has contract to make one a year for Paramount.

Scharf Composition Gets Debut Sunday

Walter Scharf, composer and arranger currently scoring Paramount's 'Birth of the Blues', will have his first serious work, a symphonic composition, 'A Dream At the Hollywood Bowl', presented Sunday at the Horace Mann high school by the Beverly Hills Symphony orchestra, Lon Silvers conducting. Number of foremost musicians here will be guests.

Wood'en Take Nickels

Honorary mayor of LA during Boys' Week beginning (27) will be Edgar Bergen's wooden tease, Charlie McCarthy.

Romberg, Hammerstein Play Gets Outdoor St. Louis Preem

World premiere of 'New Orleans', play with music by Sigmund Romberg and Oscar Hammerstein II, will be held outdoors in St. Louis June 5.

Piece will be performed by the civic opera group and likely will be held until fall for Broadway staging. Hammerstein, who wrote the book and lyrics to Romberg's melodies, returned east over the weekend after working for three weeks on the libretto.

Hope to March Field

Bob Hope will do his May 6 Pepsodent broadcast from March Field, Riverside, with Frances Langford as guest vocalist. Stuart Erwin has been set for (29) program.

'Please' Guests Mature

Victor Mature will do a guest appearance on the 'Information Please' broadcast from New York Friday.

Mercer Lyrics 'Blues'

Johnny Mercer will write lyrics for music composed by Arthur Schwartz for Warners 'Navy Blues.'

AF of L Charges Subversive Element Blocking Parleys

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

zations have in certain instances 'secured conditions exceeding those existing under the Basic Agreement'. Unions in the Studio Basic Agreement include the Carpenters, Musicians, Plasterers, Utility Employes, Teamsters and Electricians affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes withdrew from the agreement more than a year ago and has since handled its negotiations separately. There has been some talk recently, however, that the IATSE might return to the agreement.

Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, now is in the east to talk with the international officers, but start of negotiations has been held up until the Wage-Hour Administration handed down decisions on certain disputed classifications of workers. These decisions are expected within the next week, in which event negotiations between the Producers and Basic Agreement unions probably will get under way early in May.

Academy Researchers Study Sound At Warners Meeting

Members of the Academy Research Council Basic Sound Committee met last night at Warners for another of the series of comparative runnings of studio sound recording. These listening tests are being held to check current recording from each studio for the purpose of determining the comparative quality of each studio's sound product.

The committee also spent some time discussing sound recording standardization problems. Members of the committee are Loren Ryder, chairman; Lawrence Aicholtz, C. W. Faulkner, Charles L. Lootens, Wesley C. Miller, William Mueller, Clem Portman, Elmer Raguse, Gordon Sawyer, S. J. Twining, and Gordon S. Mitchell, manager of the Research Council.

Luces Talk on China At Bevwilsh Friday

Select group of picture people will hear a commentary on China by Henry R. Luce, publisher of Time, Life and Fortune, and his wife, Clare Luce, playwright and political commentator, at the Beverely-Wilshire Friday night. The Luces leave for the orient next week in the interests of Chinese relief and for the purpose of studying conditions in the Far East. Committee arranging the talks includes Edward Arnold, Charles Brackett, Frank Capra, Sheridan Gibney, Alexander Korda, Ernst Lubitsch, David O. Selznick and Kenneth Thomson.

Reagan Subs Albert

Eddie Albert has been withdrawn from Lifebuoy's broadcast Friday night of Warners 'Wagons Roll at Night' and the spot given to Ronald Reagan. With Albert reported to be on indefinite leave at Warners, Herbert Anderson has been assigned to take the featured role Albert was to have had in 'Navy Blues.' This marks Anderson's elevation to more important roles, following his showing in 'The Bride Came C.O.D.'

Col. SOEG Resume Talk

Negotiations between Columbia executives and the Screen Office Employes Guild were resumed last night. Most of the time was spent in reviewing various clauses in the tentative contract submitted by the SOEG. While negotiations are being conducted separately with the various studios, the Guild is seeking to get uniform wage scales and conditions throughout the industry.

Births

SON, to Mrs. Robert Carter, Jr., at Glendale hospital, Glendale, April 21. Father is assistant manager at the Fox Glendale theatre.

Jackie Moran Presents
1941's Funniest Comedy
'PASS THE NUTS'
TROUPERS THEATRE
1641 N. Las Palmas
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FAIRBANKS STARTING S.A. GOODWILL TRIP TODAY

Washington, April 22.—Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., designated by President Roosevelt to visit South America in interests of cementing a better inter-American understanding through the theatrical arts, will start his tour by plane, taking off for Rio de Janeiro from Miami tomorrow. Fairbanks will be accompanied by Edward H. Robbins, assistant to the co-ordinator of commercial and cultural relations between the American republics. Actor also will be accompanied by his wife.

During his two months' tour Fairbanks will ascertain the views and suggestions of the governments and the people of those countries, with respect to improving the role of the theatrical arts as a possible vehicle for boosting inter-American understanding. Upon his return to this country June 28 Fairbanks will report to the state department.

Bally Films on U. S. Defense Stamps Roll This Week

Production gets under way this week on the filming of the motion picture industry's contribution to the Federal Government's new defense savings stamps and bonds campaign. Studios will make clips for newsreels, 20-foot clips for use on the end of feature pictures, 500-foot shorts, radio transcriptions and stills and poster art.

Committee, headed by Howard Dietz in New York, and a local unit chairmanned by Robert Taplinger, are coordinating the work and first of the film bally for the government's fund-raising drive is expected to be ready the first part of May. Shorts will be made under Frank Whitbeck at Metro, while other lots will do the clips and transcriptions. 20th-Fox will use Jane Withers; Warners, Ronald Reagan and his baby; Paramount, Bob Hope and Carolyn Lee; RKO, Ginger Rogers, and Universal, Abbott and Costello. Other plants are lining up star names for their portion of the drive.

Transcriptions will be sent direct to Washington for distribution to the radio stations and networks around the country, while film portions go to Dietz in New York. Studio publicity and trailer departments are combining their efforts in turning out the work.

'Ice-Capades' to Garner Around $35,000

First week's take for 'Ice-Capades of 1941' will be between $32,000 and $35,000. It is here for 24 days and may go to 26, and is expected to gross $120,000 for the engagement. On opening night the show gave away 400 seats at $5 each for benefit of the Salvation Army. That is why the gross for initial session was $3,500. However, the average since then has held around $5,000 per day.

Avery on 'Beds'

Stephen Morehouse Avery has been signed by Edward Small to make the screen translation of the play, 'Twin Beds.' Paul Kohner set the deal.

Ratoff Dropped

Gregory Ratoff was deposited in the middle of the street car tracks on Santa Monica boulevard yesterday when a wheel on his Packard car decided to leave the machine suddenly.

Obituary

MARC LACHMANN

Funeral services for Marc Lachmann, onetime Broadway press agent and former studio publicity head at Universal, will be held tomorrow at Pierce Bros. chapel, 5959 Santa Monica boulevard. Private rites will be conducted by Rabbi Mayer Winkler. Burial will be in Beth Olam cemetery. Lachmann died yesterday morning at Veterans hospital in Sawtelle following an illness of six weeks.

Lachmann came out of Dallas, where he did newspaper work, to become one of the better known press agents of Broadway shows and roadshow pictures. An associate of Harry Reichenbach, he exploited 'Hunchback of Notre Dame' in Europe. For several years he was press rep for Charles B. Dillingham, B. G. DeSylva and Ray Goetz stage shows. After doing exploitation for Universal in New York he was moved here to head the publicity department for the company at the studio. He held this post for two years and then returned to New York to press agent legit shows. In recent months he had been inactive on account of ill health.

Lachmann, who was 44, leaves the widow, Melva, former stage dancer, and an infant son.

FRANKLIN RITES

Memorial services for Harold B. Franklin, who died suddenly Monday morning in Mexico City, where his body was cremated, will be held Friday morning at 9:30 at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather in Forest Lawn cemetery. The son, Elbert, who was with his father when he died, arrived here last night, having planed in from the Mexican capital.

Deval, Sturges Collab On 20th Original

Jacques Deval has been signed to collaborate on an original story with Preston Sturges at 20th-Fox, where Sturges has one commitment outside his Paramount contract. Paul Kohner agented the Deval deal.

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
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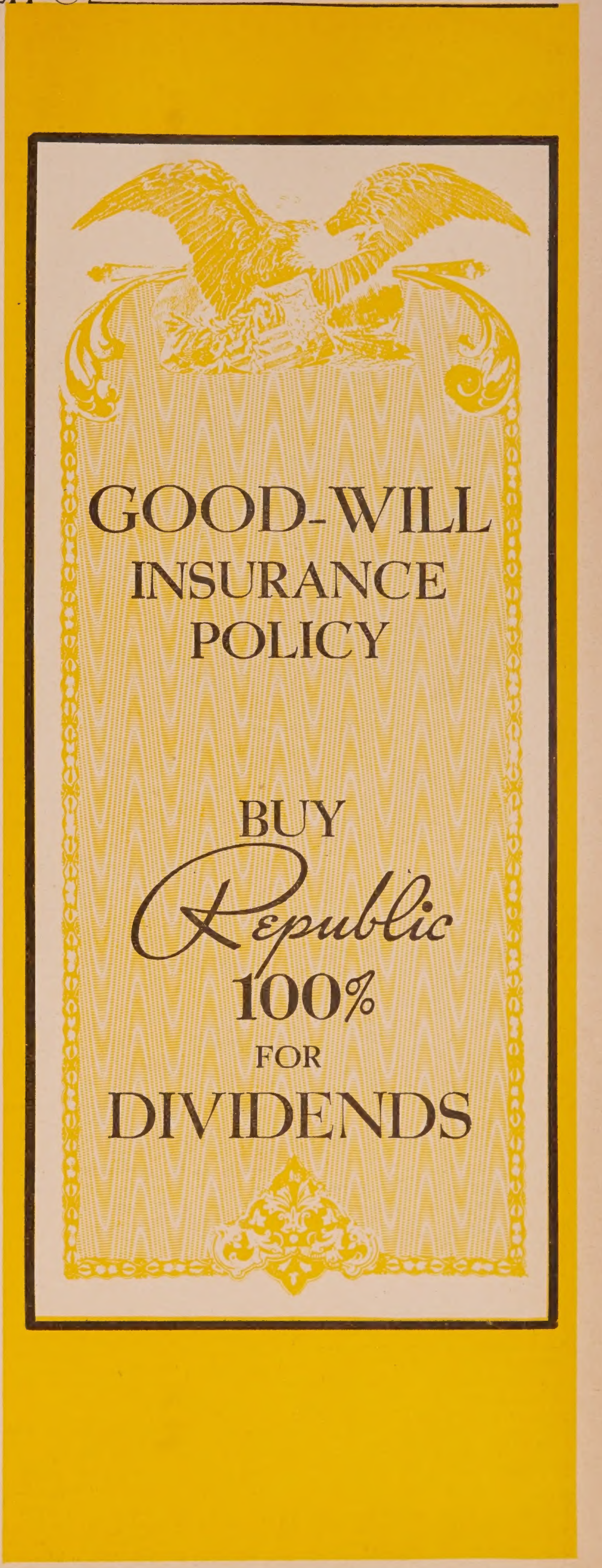
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager



Mitchell's Accident May Cause Dieterle To Stop 'Webster'

Thomas Mitchell was reported resting easily last night at Cedars of Lebanon hospital after a brain specialist, Dr. Carl Rand, had been called in and diagnosed his injuries as skull contusions. Mitchell was knocked unconscious Monday when a buggy he was driving in a scene at RKO ranch careened and he was thrown to the ground.

Actor will remain in the hospital for one, and possibly two weeks. William Dieterle shot scenes for 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' around him yesterday and will continue to do so today. Tonight Dieterle and his associate, Charles Glett, will decide whether to continue with unit work or suspend until Mitchell recovers.

Jane Wyatt was handed femme lead in 'Unexpected Uncle' yesterday, which is scheduled to start May 1. Mitchell was slated to go into that film, but his injury may cause a casting shift.

Disney, AFofL Parley Set for Tomorrow

A new effort to negotiate an agreement between the Walt Disney Studio and American Federation of Labor crafts will be made tomorrow when Walter Spreckels takes over labor relations for the company. The union will be represented by Aubrey Blair, AF of L organizer; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and George E. Bodle, attorney for the Screen Cartoonists Guild. Negotiations between the SCG and Screen Gems also will be resumed tomorrow. Negotiations for the Guild will be handled by Attorney Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers of America.

Ralph Cohn Promoted To Handle Col Biggies

Ralph Cohn has been promoted to status of producer of Columbia's higher-budgeted pictures. Cohn has been with the Briskin unit for the past two years. He is the son of Jack Cohn. His first production will be 'Most Likely to Love', story by Murray Boltanoff and Martin Rackin. Richard Halliday, of the Frank Vincent office, set the story deal for Liebling-Wood, New York agency. Cohn is now setting casting and writing assignments.

Carter in 'Panamint'

Lou Carter, one of the original Keystone comedy cops, checks in at Paramount today for role in Harry Sherman's 'The Parson of Panamint.'

a.m. Dailies

Wallington Divorced—
James Wallington, radio announcer, was divorced in Reno yesterday.

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Excellent for brokers' offices or business enterprises. Ideally located—center Bev. Hills—½ block Corrinne Griffith Bldgs.
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Columbia Recording Strikers Accept Compromise Plan

Columbia Recording Corp. strikers yesterday voted unanimously to accept a compromise settlement recommended by Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. labor conciliator. End of the 10-day walkout, however, hinges on acceptance of the offer by company executives when the two groups go into conference today.

While the proposed settlement has already been okayed by certain company representatives here, union leaders were skeptical that it would be approved by home office executives in Bridgeport. In announcing the workers had approved the tentative deal to end the strike, Robert Kennedy, of the Los Angeles Industrial Council, stated:

'Again the union bends over backwards to settle this dispute. We will be pleasantly surprised, however, if the company meets us half-way by accepting this proposal. This is the last time we intend to consider a compromise proposal.'

Unionists said that Attorney Homer I. Mitchell had agreed to recommend acceptance of the settlement, but that Paul Crowley, local manager, had indicated he would not concur in the recommendation. Today's conference is scheduled for 10 a.m., at which time it was expected that an official reply would have been received from the home office.

The proposed settlement would give the workers a wage minimum of 65 cents per hour, instead of the present 55 cents. The union had been demanding the minimum be tilted to .75 cents per hour. The various wage brackets would be increased five cents, seven and a half, and 10 cents per hour, with the latter going to smaller paid workers.

The contract also would provide for six paid holidays annually, closed shop, full seniority rights, and one week's vacation with pay for workers employed a year or longer.

William Elconin, international representative of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, stated last night that Columbia distributors were laying off employes because of inability to restock their records. He said the union also had received 100% response from retail outlets, all of them agreeing not to restock until the strike is settled. Elconin checked out for the north last night to assist in conducting an election for the Congress of Industrial Organizations. During his absence James Dougherty, of the Industrial Council, will be in charge of union negotiations, assisted by a committee headed by Robert Kennedy.

Approximately 85 workers are affected by the strike, the plant having been closed since the walkout was ordered. Clerical employes were called back to their jobs, but refused to cross the union picket lines, blocking what unionists termed a move to reopen the plant.

PAINTERS ISSUE DEMANDS FOR 5-DAY, 30-HOUR WEEK

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

10% under the studio scale when employed on location, but are demanding a guarantee of 70 hours work, with triple pay for all time worked over 10 hours daily. The union also is asking that the label of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America Local 644 be affixed to all completed films before they are screened.

Recommendations for short week and pay scales for men on late shifts asks: 'A 30-hour week for all hourly rate men. A demand for six hours per day, five days per week, Monday through Friday, which shall constitute a regular work week, six within seven consecutive hours between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. shall be termed a regular work day.

'A demand that all time worked between midnight Friday and 6 a.m. Monday and not in excess of six hours in any one work or regular day shall be paid for at the rate of time and one-half. Time worked between 6 p.m. and midnight shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half. All time worked between midnight and 6 a.m. shall be paid at the rate of double time.'

The proposed demand referring to employment of permanent crews, states: 'A permanent crew shall be maintained on each shift, who shall be guaranteed not less than 250 working days per year. No man shall be discharged or laid off except for just cause, and the same to be submitted to an arbitration board to consist of three members of the Producers' Committee and three members of Local 644. These preferred men to be permitted to accept calls direct, and that all men on this preferred list who have worked two years or longer in the industry shall be given two weeks vacation with pay. This classification also to apply to all key men.'

All extra men required by a studio would be called through the union, and would be paid the regular studio rate for whatever classification used on, plus 10% extra. Men not notified of their dismissal at the end of a shift would be considered as working the next day. When notified of a layoff he would be given a tool pass and an order for his wages to date. No weather permitting calls would be permitted, and no cancellation of calls between shifts.

Tentative wage scales recommended to the negotiating committee would call for a rate of $1.55 per hour for straight painting, $1.77 per hour for color mixers and shop men, $1.77 for paper hangers, and $1.85 per hour for marbilizing, graining, flogging, lining, hand ageing, air gun work, bucket pump or hudson pump, lining brick, decorating, furniture polishing. A $2 rate was recommended for set foremen.

Eve Arden at 20th

Eve Arden signed at 20th-Fox to play role of the dance hall hostess in 'The Last of the Duanes.'

Andrews Sisters Ready Nationwide Tour After U's 'Navy'

The Andrews Sisters leave on a series of personal appearance tours which will carry them across the country, starting here at the Orpheum (30) after they finish in Universal's Abbott and Costello starrer, 'In the Navy', and winding up late in September to bring trio back for their next Universal commitment around Oct. 1.

Following the Orpheum week they will play one-night stands at Manteka, Fresno, Reno, Sacramento and Oakland. Then they return here for 10 days' added scenes in 'Oh, Charlie!' after which they go into the Palladium (24) for three weeks. On June 7 they go to New York for Decca recordings, then to Havana for week and a week each at Atlanta, Atlantic City, Washington and Philadelphia.

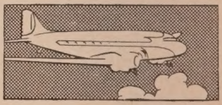
Goldwyn Signs Wyler To Two-Year Pact

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday signed William Wyler to a new two-year contract which goes into effect following completion of 'The Little Foxes.' Picture is now in rehearsal and ready to roll. Wyler is currently in his sixth year with Goldwyn. Pact gives his exclusive services to the producer.

Ill in Pix

BETTY GRABLE is recovering at Santa Monica hospital from operation performed yesterday to remove an impacted wisdom tooth.

Thru Mainliner Sleepers
To NEW YORK



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JOAN BLONDELL and DICK POWELL

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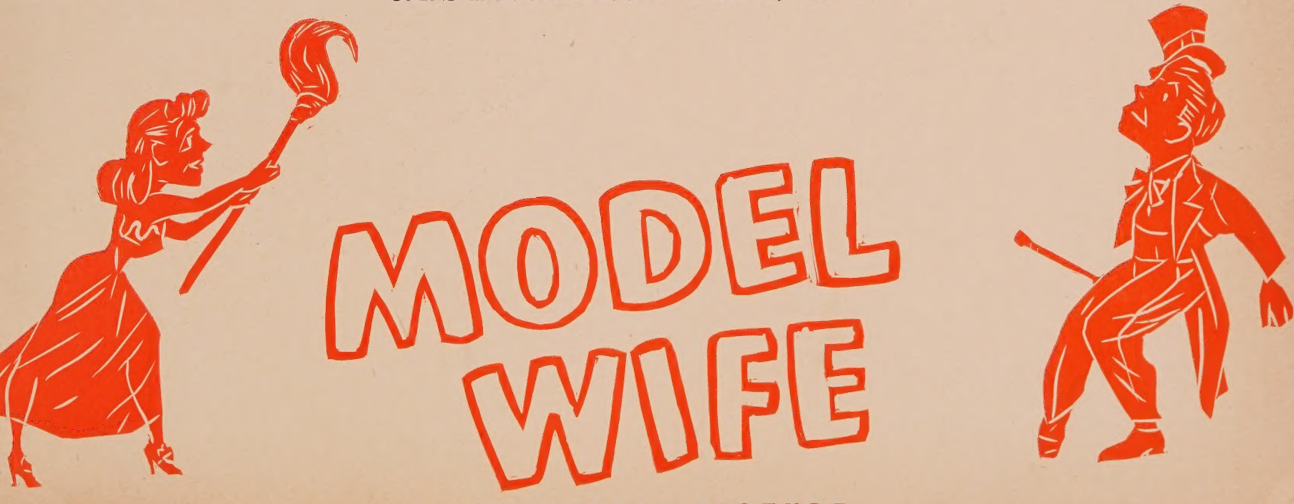

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"THE WAGONS ROLL AT NIGHT"

WITH A LOAD OF ACTION!

From **Warner Bros.** Starring

HUMPHREY BOGART
SYLVIA SIDNEY
JOAN LESLIE
EDDIE ALBERT

Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

Screen Play by Fred Niblo, Jr. and Barry Trivers
Suggested by a Story by Francis Wallace
A Warner Bros.-First National Picture

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHO
Vol. 31 No. 36 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, 5 Cents

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Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

U. S. SILENT ON MINN. BILL MOVES

COL. R'CDING GIVEN NEW THREATS

Secondary boycott of Columbia Broadcasting Co. air sponsors, with the possibility of seeking a sympathy walkout at the Bridgeport home plant of Columbia Recording Corp. was threatened by striking Columbia Recording workers here yesterday, as negotiations with company executives were broken off. Both sides insisted they had made every effort to reach an amicable agreement.

Union spokesmen said the com-

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

WB Seeking Cummings From U for 'Row'

Warners is negotiating with Universal for the loan of Robert Cummings to play one of the top parts in 'King's Row', which Sam Wood will produce and direct for the Burbank studio. Test of Cummings in role was made a few days ago. Actor is assigned to appear with Deanna Durbin in 'Almost An Angel', slated to start latter part of next month.

Rep Keeps Embryonic Group for 'Eyes'

Republic will continue its grouping of the five young actresses in its current 'Angels With Broken Wings', in a new picture slated for the coming season. Studio has purchased 'Navy Blue Eyes', based on a Mildred Cram story, as the next for the group, composed of Leni Lynn, Mary Lee, Lois Ransom, Jane Frazee and Marilyn Hare.

Spyros Skouras Planes East Via New Orleans

Spyros Skouras planed out last night for New Orleans, en route to New York. National Theatres prexy flew west to attend the annual Americanization meeting at the Ambassador hotel Tuesday night. George Skouras, who also came on from New York to participate in the meeting, returns east today.

Riter Resigns at PRC

W. C. (Bill) Riter has resigned as branch manager here for Producers Releasing Corp., and will announce a new affiliation in a few days. No successor will be appointed for Riter, at least for the time being.

FOUR MORE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS PIX SET

Start on production of four additional training pictures for the U. S. Army Signal Corps was announced yesterday by Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

A training film on instruction of

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Wm. Dudley Debuts

William Dudley, recently co-starred in 'Kind Lady' on Broadway, makes his picture debut at RKO in 'Father Takes a Wife.' He has been in show biz for 20 years.

ARNOLD DENIES APPEAL TO GOVERNOR STASSEN

New York, April 23.—Thurman Arnold, interviewed in U. S. District court today, declared the Department of Justice will make no announcement of its attitude on the passage of the Minnesota bill prohibiting blocks of five and approving block booking. Arnold indicated the Department would not antagonize Governor Stassen of Minnesota, who is expected to sign the bill, by premature comment.

He indicated he had a definite opinion on what steps to take, but denied the report that he intends to appeal to Gov. Stassen not to sign

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

HARRIS GETS STUDIO CO-OP FOR VARIETY CLUBS CONFAB

John Harris, head of the Variety Clubs of America, was guest of the Studio Publicity Directors yesterday at a luncheon-meeting held at the Hays office. Harris spoke on the Variety Clubs' convention in Atlantic City May 15, and was promised full cooperation by the Directors in seeing that the film industry is well represented with top names.

The Directors also took the position that top Hollywood correspondents had a legitimate complaint in demanding that pictures be previewed here before they are screened

★ Continued on page 6 ★

Barrington Play Taken By Harris for NY

New comedy, 'The Admiral Had a Wife', by Lowell Barrington, was accepted yesterday for early fall presentation on Broadway by Jed Harris. Barrington is the son of Lou Christ, Fox West Coast district manager for Arizona.

Garbo, Douglas Teamed

Metro is readying a production to co-star Greta Garbo and Melvyn Douglas. George Cukor will direct.

Amos 'n' Andy Go East For Broadcast, Shows

Amos 'n' Andy train east tomorrow night, stopping off in Chicago for one broadcast. They'll pass the rest of the time in New York catching the new shows and shopping around for new script ideas. They're due back in two weeks.

GTE's Net Profit

New York, April 23. — General Theatres Equipment reported a consolidated net profit of $256,886 for the three months ended March 30. Figure compares with $212,681 in the corresponding period last year.

20th Ties Andriot

20th-Fox yesterday signed Lucien Andriot to a one year contract. Andriot is currently lensing 'Dance Hall.'

Soundies Gets 20 Cameos

Receipts of 20 Soundies from Cameo Productions is announced by N. H. (Jack) Brower, general manager of Soundies Distributing Corporation. Orchestrations of Skinnay Ennis, Will Osborne and Dave Rose furnished the background music.

Schedule, started by Soundies, of delivering eight subjects as a release reel, has been maintained, according to Brower, who states that production for these especially-made films for coin machine operation is carried

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Sacramento, April 24 (Thursday)—The Assembly judiciary general committee this morning reported out as do pass the Tenney anti-Ascap bill. Vote was 9 to 4.

SEATTLE ORPHEUM REPORT OKEHED

New York, April 23.—Federal Judge Hulbert today approved the final report of the Seattle Orpheum Co., former operators of the Orpheum theatre in Seattle, Wash. Creditors will receive the first and final dividend of .00305% on $2,972,868 in claims. Two largest creditors are the Bank of California, which held a $1,000,000 first mortgage on the property, and the RKO Orpheum, with a claim of $998,095. All that remains of the estate, once valued at several millions, is $10,447.

Barnes Ankles 'Illusions', Garmes May Sub

Because George Barnes and Director Julien Duvivier couldn't agree on the way in which scenes should be photographed for Alexander Korda's 'Illusions', the cameraman has broken off work in the picture and has returned to the David O. Selznick studio where he is under contract. It is understood that Lee Garmes may get the Barnes spot on the Korda film.

Hunt, Buckner Collab

Robert Hunt has been assigned at Warners to work with Robert Buckner on the adaptation of 'Yankee Doodle Dandy', story and songs of George M. Cohan's life.

PREVIEWED

THE FLAME OF NEW ORLEANS
(U)

TUMBLEDOWN RANCH IN ARIZONA
(Mono)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
FOUNDED BY SIME SILVERMAN
News of the Show World
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Roger Pryor American Airs today for Gotham.

Stanley Brown added to cast of 'Tillie the Toiler'.

Jesse Martin has joined the Small agency as an associate.

Karen DeWolf is working on new novel, in addition to scripting chores.

Press preview of 'People vs. Dr. Kildare' will be held Tuesday at Metro.

Russell Hicks from 'Sergeant York' to a Michael Shane feature at 20th.

Robert Taylor and Barbara Stanwyck go east today for a six-week vacation trip.

Lee Wood, executive editor of the New York World-Telegram, is in town for few days' vacation.

Edith Head is designing costumes for Rita Johnson and Evelyn Keyes in Columbia's 'Heaven Can Wait'.

Ruth Terry may get a regular vocal spot on the Chase & Sanborn show if her solo guester passes muster.

Don Roberts has joined Bill Hebert's publicity staff at Samuel Goldwyn to handle unit work on 'The Little Foxes'.

Edward Burke and Henry Mieller, of RKO studio police, were painfully but not seriously injured in auto crash last night.

Universal and 20th-Fox both interested in Joe E. Brown, Jr., for musicals since his role in Universal's 'Sing Another Chorus'.

Herman Sims, theatre broker, pulls out tonight for New Orleans, en route to Washington and New York. His wife accompanies.

Additional 21 days' leave from military duty has been given Capt. William T. Ryder, who is technical adviser on RKO's 'Parachute Battalion'.

John Christ, of J. Walter Thompson radio production staff in New York, arrived yesterday and reports to his draft board Friday for induction into the army.

Buddy Ebsen's Ball Busters (RKO players) scored painful softball victory, 13 to 12, over RKO messenger boys at La Cienega Playground Tuesday night. Ebsen treated victors to lunch yesterday.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood and Vine, and maybe it covers plenty more territory, is a spot where a woman will forget a couple of kids while she pets a pedigreed hound in a parked auto.

Hollywood Inside

BETTY GRABLE'S impacted wisdom tooth may cause a delay in two pictures at 20th-Fox. Actress had to be taken to Santa Monica hospital for treatment with one scene left unfinished in 'Miami.' She was also due to start work this coming Monday in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' Tooth is not being yanked at this time, but is being treated to take down the swelling and keep discomfort in abeyance until Miss Grable has finished her current assignments. Bad luck also hit 20th-Fox's 'Manhunt' unit when a steel gum machine accidentally overturned and broke two toes on Director Fritz Lang's foot. Lang had the foot treated last night and may be able to report for work today.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS is talking a new deal with Frank Capra and Robert Riskin for the production of two more features for the company. Negotiations are expected to come to a head within the next few days, at which time story properties the director-writer partnership has in mind will be announced. Warners is pressuring the proposed deal due to results so far shown by 'Meet John Doe.' Likely that the personal corporation of Capra and Riskin will be dissolved and they will do the new pair of pictures for Warners as a team, instead of as a company, if the deal is closed.

☆ ☆ ☆

NEW high for studio-produced-and-written programs on the air has been reached at KNX where 54 sponsored and 36 sustaining shows are now doing weekly duty on the Coast key station, Columbia Pacific network and CBS. Staff under Russ Johnston, Coast program director for the chain, has turned out more than a dozen programs which have taken on a commercial status after briefly sustaining on KNX and along the Coast. Many of the sustainers will plug the time voided by sponsored shows on summer layoff.

☆ ☆ ☆

BECAUSE tragedy in Europe strikes so quickly and invaded, helpless countries have fallen swiftly to the Nazis there is some undercurrent talk here, not yet crystallized, of confining relief fund raising to aid for England or to the American Red Cross. Bulk of the $6,000,000 for Greek War Relief has already been sent to Greece, with last amounts being cabled within the past few days. Feeling now is that this money has already or will shortly fall into the hands of the enemy.

☆ ☆ ☆

THOUGH release date for 'The Outlaw', Howard Hughes-20th-Fox picture has been set back indefinitely as a result of Joe Breen trouble, it is likely the picture will reach the screen ahead of the Metro 'Billy the Kid' opus. Though there is similarity in subject matter in the pictures, there was no Hays office difficulty on this account as previously reported.

☆ ☆ ☆

HAYS office officials have notified 20th-Fox that some changes will have to be made in 'Blood and Sand' before the picture will be given the purity seal. Joe Breen and his aides object to certain shots of a dance number in which Rita Hayworth imitates a bull and Tyrone Power acts as a matador.

☆ ☆ ☆

'THAT HAMILTON WOMAN' yesterday entered its sixth week at the Four Star theatre, and will run for an additional stanza before being replaced May 6 by 'Major Barbara', also a United Artists-distributed picture. Latter will be first English-made film to be screened at the Four Star in some months.

☆ ☆ ☆

LOCAL Hearst papers will lost a minimum of $3,500 by refusing RKO advertisements on Orson Welles' production, 'Citizen Kane.' Heavy budget on picture exploitation here is being supplemented with national ads from New York.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 10; Los Angeles, 6.
San Diego 3; Portland, 2.
San Francisco, 4; Oakland, 3.
Sacramento, 13; Seattle, 2.

Helen Chandler Tested For 'Retirement'

Helen Chandler planed here from New York to be tested at Columbia for role Lillian Gish played on the stage in 'Ladies in Retirement.' Actress came at request of Paul Kohner.

Monks, Evans Signed

James Monks and Evan Evans, New York legit players, have been signed by 20th-Fox for featured roles in 'How Green Was My Valley.' Picture starts June 1.

Par Signs Cass Daley

Cass Daley, grimacing chanteuse, is signed at Paramount for comedy spot in 'We're In the Navy Now.'

Bert Wheeler Winding Up Vanities Trek

Opening in Hartford today for a week, and then moving to Providence for finale, Bert Wheeler winds up 12 weeks with the road company of Earl Carroll's Vanities which is reported to have broken many house records in key cities. Wheeler will plane here for brief vacation.

Richard Day Given 20th 7-Yr. Pact

Richard Day has been signed by 20th-Fox to a straight seven-year contract as supervising art director for the studio. Pact goes into effect Oct. 17. Day has been at 20th-Fox for three years, coming there from Metro.

MG Tests De Fore

Don De Fore, who played the juve lead in 'The Male Animal', is being tested tomorrow for a term contract.

Beaudine, Jr. Set

William Beaudine, Jr. gets important spot in Paramount's 'Henry Aldrich for President.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There once was a time when a knockout team, one fat and one slim, and both comic,
Were knocking about in this knockabout world, and their weekly returns were atomic.
But now when a fat-and-slim team hits the pix they are gathering plenty of gravy,
Joe Public is hungry for light-headed stuff in the films about Army and Navy.

★ ★ ★

Ever since Abbott and Costello lightened the burder of the defense program the producers have been looking for another comic double header. Next is Laurel and Hardy. What a happy world it would be if we could laugh off wars, and taxes.

When actors meet, take it from John Howard, they lamp each other I to I.

One of these days the Andrews Sisters will sing a song written by Mickey Rooney and Sidney Miller, if it can be sung. And if anything can be sung, those Andrews gals can sing it.

★ ★ ★

That sound of galloping hooves in the offing is news of a Paramount picture about Texas Guinan, the gal who rode rough-shod over a herd of night-clubbers and made them like it.

Milton Berle is tossing a Mack Sennett Bathing party Sunday with old bathing suits and new jokes, or vice versa.

Now and then a western picture departs from the beaten trail and delves into fourth dimensional ideas, when all Joe Public demands is a hoss, a chase and a gun.

★ ★ ★

Difference between a western and a parlor drama is that the gal puts on a chase by reverse control.

★ ★ ★

The boys in Culver City are looking for a new title for 'The Uniform', which may mean anything nowadays, including an admiral, a bellhop or the gentleman who prowls along Vine street making crayon marks on auto tires.

★ ★ ★

The casual list grows thick abroad where the battling armies meet,
And nobody heeds the motor toll on a California street.

Probably the most comprehensive detective story in history rolls next Monday—'G Men vs. Scotland Yard.' All it lacks is Nick Carter.

Hollywood is speeding up. 'Honeymoon For Three' is being whittled down to 'Weekend For Three.'

★ ★ ★

Old Archimedes was a guy who figured all the angles
But never got around to see the cinematic tangles.

Film Previews

The Flame of New Orleans

(Romantic Drama)

Universal production. Stars Marlene Dietrich. Features Bruce Cabot, Roland Young, Mischa Auer, Andy Devine, Frank Jenks, Eddie Quillan. Supporting cast: Laura Hope Crews, Franklin Pangborn, Theresa Harris, Clarence Muse, Melville Cooper, Anne Revere, Bob Evans, Emily Fitzroy, Virginia Sale, Dorothy Adams, Gitta Alpar, Anthony Marlowe. Director, Rene Clair. Producer, Joe Pasternak. Written by Norman Krasna. Photography, Rudy Mate. Film editor, Frank Gross. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Martin Obzina. Assistant director, Phillip P. Karlstein. Costumes, Rene Hubert. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Musical director, Charles Previn. Musical score, Frank Skinner. Sound supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; technician, Robert Pritchard. Music, Charles Previn and Sam Lerner. Previewed April 23. Running time: 78 mins.

Highly romantic fluff about a not too nice lady in the early days of New Orleans. 'The Flame of New Orleans' should cut a capable swath through the hearts of the femmes who make up the larger portion of matinee audiences, mainly because of the elegance in which it is dressed and the many delightful moments that appear along its course. The Marlene Dietrich reputation for semi-wicked film love, coupled in romantic play with Bruce Cabot, and the lighter moods injected by Roland Young, are the ballyhoo elements that will aid exhibitors in luring feminine ticket buyers to the box office.

Rene Clair, French director, rates attention in making his Hollywood film bow. At times he seems to hit a slightly studied pace, but there are smoothly finagled passages concealing the flimsy structure around which he had to work, and a Continental flavor to the whole that pay full credit to his craftsmanship and mark him as a welcome addition to the Hollywood directors corps. In the production saddle Joe Pasternak has ordered up an excellent cast and mounted the picture with class ornamentation in all departments.

Miss Dietrich brings all of her lure to the role of a fake countess, newly arrived in New Orleans and on the make for Roland Young, a rich banker who has reached the period of middle-aged chasing. Actress is sumptuously gowned by Rene Hubert in the eye-appealing garb of a century ago; makes her flirtatious moments thrilling and brings tenderness and feeling to her love scenes with Bruce Cabot. The latter's portrayal of a young ship's captain, smitten by the charms of the phoney lady, proves Mr. Cabot should have more opportunities to play virile screen heroes. He puts dash and color into the character. Roland Young, with easy assurance, deftly delights as the dallying banker who proposes honest marriage to the lady with a shady past.

Norman Krasna has slickly gilted his superficial plot basis with inter-

■ Continued on page 6 ■

Tumbledown Ranch In Arizona

(Western With Music)

Monogram production and release. Cast: Ray Corrigan, John King, Max Terhune, Sheila Darcy, Marian Kerby, Quen Ramsey, James Craven, John Elliott, Jack Holmes, Steve Clark, Sam Bernard. Produced by George W. Weeks. Directed by S. Roy Luby. Musical director, Frank Sanucci. Film editor, Roy Clair. Associate producer, Anna Bell Ward. Story by Milton Raison. Photography, Robert Cline. Previewed April 23. Running time: 60 mins.

Sixth in the Range Busters series, this is a trivial little western strictly for the juve trade. It attempts in a labored way to ape its film big brothers in unfolding its story backward, using a lot of vague dialog about the 'fourth dimension' which will be over its patrons' heads.

John King, one of the featured trio in the series, is hurt in an Arizona college rodeo, and the biff on the head sends his psychic ego back several generations to a range adventure which happened to his forefathers and the ancestors of his school associates. Once back there via the 'fourth dimension' about which his college prof has told him, the narrative in which he and his pals, Ray Corrigan and Max Terhune, participate, is the familiar tale of real estate crooks, buying land for a railroad, swindling the ranchers and double-crossing each other. Corrigan, King and Terhune, aided by John Elliott as a territorial judge and stimulated by the latter's pretty daughter, Sheila Darcy, save the ranch for a spunky old lady, who has been a mother to the boys, played by Marian Kerby. The boys out-trick the heavies, Quen Ramsey and James Craven, at their own game when they are finally sworn in as deputies by the judge, to legalize their rough retaliation. Story is by Milton Raison.

Playing of the troupe is okay, with the material handed them, as is the direction by S. Roy Luby. Certain amount of mild comedy is gleaned from the script, the indispensable fistic fight is incorporated, the handsome Arab horses of the heroes prance nicely for the good camera of Robert Cline, and there is a modicum of gun play. Neatly eased in are the scenes of bucking broncs at the rodeo. In addition to the standard performances of the featured trio, good roles are turned in by John Elliott as the judge, Ramsey and Craven as the heavies, Jack Holmes as the sheriff, Miss Darcy and Marian Kerby and Steve Clark.

King's good baritone voice is heard in songs provided by Bill Watters and Howard Steiner—'Tumbledown Ranch In Arizona' and 'Wake Up With the Dawn'—and 'All Hail, Arizona', a college number by E. C. Monroe and Dorothy H. Monroe. Frank Sanucci directed the music.

Schine Circuit Wins Move Against U.S. In Trust Suit

Buffalo, April 23.—U. S. District Court Judge John Knight today granted the motion of the Schine Circuit to compel the government to amend its complaint in the anti-trust suit here, and ordered the U. S. to specify what kind of conspiracy it now claims against Schine, in view of its recent dismissal of complaints against the five major distributors originally charged with having been co-conspirators.

Judge Knight also directed the government to advise him within two weeks whether it will proceed against Schine first or against the Nashville, Tennessee, chain in a similar suit pending there.

Play Review

PASS THE NUTS

There have been some sad spectacles palmed off on an unsuspecting public along the little theatre circuit, but few to approximate this so-called comedy, which opened last night at the Las Palmas theatre. At $1.65 it's a shakedown. Whoever figured on that scale and also the ones responsible for the staging, have plenty to answer for. The piece hasn't the slightest excuse for being performed on any stage. Writing is childish and acting is rankly amateurish.

Judging by the few handclaps from a handful of customers at the entrance of Patricia Van Cleve, she must be the star. She has little to do and does it badly. Charles Clark, a Joe E. Brownish character, is the only performer who may profit from the play. With any kind of lines at all and decent direction he might get somewhere. The others miss being actors from here to all the way to there.

Jackie Moran takes credit for the presentation. Writing and direction is by N. J. Francis, who also plays a low comic. Others who play at acting are Alice Campbell, Ross Hawthorne, Ragnar Qvale, Mae McWilliams, Mary Kay Wells, Bill Goodwin (not the radio actor), Bobby Nelson, O. B. Barclay, Harry Elkins, Winston Jones, Jack Lane, Othello Stewart and C. Curtain Mitchell.

If this mess of unfunny trivia finishes out the week then the theatre is beyond or unworthy of redemption.

Withers Tops 'Children'

20th-Fox will star Jane Withers in 'Not For Children', legiter by Edmund Wolf and Ludwig Hershfield. Francis Faragoh is writing the screenplay. Walter Morosco will produce.

MacKenna East

Off on a story hunt, Kenneth MacKenna, Metro scenario department head, trains out for New York tomorrow. He will be gone two weeks, gandering Broadway.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

SIX judges of the 'Racing Jamboree' at the Gilmore Stadium May 4 for the benefit of the Mount Sinai Free Clinic will be Rosemary Lane, Maureen O'Hara, Jean Parker, Nancy Kelly, Lloyd Nolan and William Gargan. Rosalind Russell is chairman of the show and Buck Jones chairman of the western division. . . . Elizabeth Arden leaves for New York today on a 10-day stay, halting shooting on her Technicolor short subject, 'Orchids to Charlie', at Fine Arts until her return. Short, for benefit of the children of Britain, has a cast consisting of Jinx Falkenberg, Blanche Yurka, Frank Fenton and Frieda Inescort and Monte Banks will handle a special sequence in the film when he returns from New York within the next 10 days. . . . Bundles For Britain, Inc., through its president, Mrs. Ernst Lubitsch, has incepted a campaign to raise $25,000 to replace the missing equipment in Guy's hospital, London. The national organization has already raised and sent to London $10,000. Although havoc by German bombs has been wrought on all sides of the hospital, it still stands, but in need of necessary equipment to minister to the war's casualties.

BEST DRESSED GAL
OF THE WEEK

Irene Dunne lunching at the Hollywood Brown Derby in a cinnamon brown woolen suit featuring a narrow skirt and a modified peplum jacket. Her diminutive cinnamon brown straw sailor was trimmed with vivid crimson poppies, while her lapel was ornamented by a canary diamond leaf clip. Brown doeskin pumps, gloves and bag completed her ensemble.

CHICAGO has invited Susanna Foster, Paramount's warbler, to be civic guest on May 18 for 'I Am An American' Day, and to sing the national anthem in Soldiers' Field. . . . Bob Hope hosted a party of friends at Carolina Pines following his weekly broadcast. . . . For the past year Ralph Dietrich and Walter Morosco, co-associate producers at 20th-Fox, have been trying to get a few additional furnishings for their offices in the studio administration building without success. Now the boys are wondering because, the morning following the preview of 'The Cowboy and the Blonde', pair walked in to their quarters to find workmen busily hanging new drapes and generally dressing up the offices. Producers are trying to figure way furnishings department on the lot fills requests—mebbe by the type of reviews received on pictures. . . . Leon Feuchtwanger will speak tonight on the refugee problem in France at a meeting in the Blossom Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel at 8:30.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
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MICHAEL GORDON DIRECTOR
Under contract Columbia Studio

New Orleans Unfurls For U's 'Flame' Preem Party

New Orleans, April 23.—Universal's party of film names, 15 strong, were given a rousing reception upon their arrival here this morning to prepare for the world premiere of 'The Flame of New Orleans' at the Orpheum theatre tomorrow night. An impromptu parade was staged as the group was taken to the hotel, followed by another at 11 a.m. when filmites were taken to the City Hall for a civic luncheon and reception by Mayor Robert Maestri.

Fifteen blocks of this city's main street were decorated in celebration of the visiting Hollywoodians, and ceremonies at the City Hall were broadcast by WWL, CBS station here. Joe Pasternak was named acting mayor for duration of party's stay. Local newspaper, Item-Tribune, got out a six-page section tieing in with the picture and premiere. Civic Center doings were followed this afternoon by a cocktail party at 4 o'clock for exhibitors and the press. Sellout of tickets both for the Orpheum screening and the supper dance that follows tomorrow night at the Roosevelt hotel, is reported. Proceeds from the dance will go to the New Orleans tuberculosis hospital.

In the party are Pasternak, who produced the picture; Rene Clair, who directed, and Mrs. Clair; Rudy Mate, photographer; Mr. and Mrs. Andy Devine, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Herbert, Mischa Auer, Roland Young, Bruce Cabot, Helen Parrish and her mother, Peggy Moran and Evelyn Ankers.

Silver Theatre Show Topped by Sullivan

Silver Theatre's summer replacement on CBS will be headed by Columnist Ed Sullivan, with the music of Will Bradley and his hot drummer, Ray McKinley. Terry Allen shares the vocalizing with Lynn Gardner. Program is heard here over KNX at 2 p.m.

Horton, Allen Show Up for Sponsor

Half-hour comedy program featuring Edward Everett Horton and Barbara Jo Allen (Vera Vague) is being handled for sponsorship by Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn. Show is packaged by NBC.

Pearce Quizzes Leonard

Robert Z. Leonard will be guest-quizzed on Al Pearce's broadcast tomorrow night, and incidentally will get in a few plugs for 'Ziegfeld Girl', which he directed.

Milestone Hurries Next

Lewis Milestone, on last lap of editing 'My Life With Caroline', at RKO, will begin preparations for production on 'Joan of Paris', Michele Morgan's second picture, within a week.

WB Keeps David Bruce

David Bruce stays on at Warners for another term under option lift on his contract yesterday. He is currently in 'Sergeant York.'

ENGLISH HOME SACRIFICE
Very attractive. 700 block in Beverly. Three family bedrooms, 2 baths, library, 2 servants' quarters. Less than $25,000.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

Gilroy Rushes Tim Holt Pic For RKO Sales Convention

Producer Bert Gilroy will stagger the preparation and direction on the next three Tim Holt starring westerns at RKO in order to have the first trio of these features on the 1941-42 schedule ready to show at the RKO sales convention in New York, June 16 to 19.

First out of the chute will be 'Dude Cowboy', starting (25) under direction of David Howard. Meantime, the second 'The Outlaw Trail', will be in preparation to be directed immediately afterward by Edward Killy. Howard again takes reins on the third, not yet titled, as soon as 'Outlaw' is booted in.

Marjorie Reynolds, who had the femme spot with Holt in 'Cyclone on Horseback', will play opposite again in 'Dude'. Morton Grant is writing the original screen play for 'Dude'. 'Outlaw Trail', original by Arthur T. Horman, is scripted by Norton S. Parker.

Minister Attacks WB Selection of Advisor For 'Foot in Heaven'

Philadelphia, April 23.—The Rev. B. Smith Stull, prominent Methodist minister, today attacked Warners 'One Foot In Heaven' as 'a scheme on the part of Hollywood to lure church people into the movies'. Speaking before the weekly Methodist ministers meeting, Dr. Stull declared that inasmuch as the film is about a Methodist minister, it should have a clergyman of that faith advising in the making of it. 'Instead,' he added, 'Hollywood obtained the advice of a Baptist clergyman.' He is the Rev. Daniel A. Poling, pastor of the Baptist Temple here and editor of the Christian Herald, Protestant publication.

San Francisco Chronicle Celebrates Air Anni

San Francisco, April 23.—First anniversary of a nightly quarter hour Chronicle News Conference program was celebrated here last night by a 90-minute broadcast over KGO and KPO from the city room of the local morning sheet. Special show, consisting of 45 minutes of music and dramatic entertainment by NBC artists and a news conference, was aired directly by KGO with KPO broadcasting a transcription later.

Robert Lowery Topper For 20th 'Nurse' Pic

Robert Lowery will play the male lead in 'Private Nurse' opposite Brenda Joyce at 20th-Fox. Casting is Lowery's first top assignment. He has been on the Westwood lot for the past three years. David Burton directs and the picture rolls May 1.

MG Assignments

Musical assignments at Metro yesterday include that of Herbert Stothart, who will be musical director on 'Smilin' Through.' Daniel Amfitheatrof and Earl Brent were assigned to score 'The Get-Away.' Tony Martin started recordings yesterday on 'Tenement Symphony', special number for 'The Bargain Basement', new Marx Brothers film. Georgie Stoll is musical director on the number and a chorus of 24 voices sings with Martin.

Melniker at Studio

William Melniker, of Loew's home office, in charge of all Loew's theatres outside the United States, is in town on a two-week vacation and business trip. He is conferring with Metro executives on plans for foreign releases.

Telecast Baseball

Thomas Lee's W6XAO resumes telecast of the Coast League games from Hollywood Park Saturday.

FOUR MORE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS PIX SET

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the individual infantry soldier will be made at Metro, starting next week. Army equipment to be used in the picture will be sent to the studio from Fort Ord. Dave Miller will direct, assisted by Film Editor Al Akst and Cinematographer Paul Vogel. Jack Chertok will supervise, with Lieut. Col. Gordon P. Savage acting as military technical adviser.

A training film showing the proper technique of operating and firing a 240mm. howitzer will be made at Paramount. B. F. McEveety will direct, assisted by Unit Manager Harry Caplan, Archie Stout, director of photography; Ellsworth Hoagland, film editor, and George Dutton, sound technician. The location sequence for this picture will be made at Fort Bragg, N. C. The production crew will leave by plane Tuesday (29) for the location. A field artillery technical adviser will be furnished at Fort Bragg. The script was written by Michel Amestoy.

A picture on the 60mm. mortar will be made by Republic, with production scheduled to start next week. Mortars will be sent to Hollywood from Fort Ord. William Morgan has been assigned as director. Rudy Abel will be unit manager. The technical crew has not yet been assigned. Script for this picture was written by Arthur Fitz-Richard.

A trainee film on the basic principles of skiing will be made by 20th-Fox. Production will start Monday (28) at Sun Valley.

'Cabin' Dancers Set

Kathryn Dunham and her aboriginal dancers, currently appearing in the Ethel Waters Broadway show, 'Cabin in the Sky', have been signed at Warners to appear in a Technicolor short titled 'Brazilian Rhythm.' Stanley Martin will direct, starting in June.

Maj. Presnell Recalled

Major James F. Presnell, Medical Corps, father of Robert Presnell, writer, has been called back to service in an advisory capacity at the Vancouver Barracks in Portland, Ore.

Laurel, Hardy Signed To Make Army Pic At 20th-Fox

Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy yesterday were signed by 20th-Fox for an Army comedy, 'Forward March'. Studio also has optioned them for a term contract.

Signing of the comedians came as a direct result of their recent visit to Mexico City with other film personalities for the Mexican Motion Picture Festival. Comics drew more applause than any others making the trip, and 20th-Fox plans heavy sales campaign in Latin America for the new film. Laurel and Hardy have been making personal appearances for the past 18 months.

U. S. SILENT ON MINN. BATTLE

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

the measure. He also denied the report that the government, together with the majors, would test the constitutionality of the bill. He declared the law would create a real hazard for film companies in that they cannot obey the consent decree and state laws at the same time, if they differ.

Arch Oboler Leaving (3) for Ohio Sesh

Arch Oboler, radio writer-producer, returned yesterday from New York and leaves May 3 for Columbus, O., to preside at two divisions of University of Ohio's Institute for Education by Radio. He will have charge of panels on radio programs and production. Institute sesh runs from May 5 to 7.

Buy 'Big Town' Scripts

Ruthrauff & Ryan agency yesterday bought two scripts for 'Big Town'. Paul Franklin's 'Green-Eyed Monster' will be aired (30) and Milton Gunzburg's 'Quality of Greatness' goes May 7.

Close Bows Sunday

Upton Close, NBC's war commentator, originates his series here Sunday for an indefinite period.

Ill in Pix

TEDWELL CHAPMAN, playwright, former newspaper man and motion picture editor of the Tailwagger mag, is in Santa Monica hospital, where he was rushed when stricken with streptococcus and pneumonia. While his condition is favorable he is permitted no visitors.

EVERY TELEGRAM'S A RUSH TELEGRAM AT
Postal Telegraph
CHARGES FOR TELEGRAMS 'PHONED IN APPEAR ON YOUR TELEPHONE BILL.

DeSylva Going East To Ogle 'Dark' And 'Pan' for Par

B. G. DeSylva leaves Sunday for week in New York to have a look at 'Lady In the Dark', which Paramount bought to screen for $283,000, and the Francis Swann play, 'Out of the Frying Pan', also bought by the studio.

If 'Louisiana Purchase', DeSylva's own legiter, doesn't remain on Broadway for the summer, DeSylva wants to bring Victor Moore here for the picture, scheduled to start July 1. Script has been written.

SOUNDIES GETS 20 CAMEOS

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

on by independent producers. Hollywood producing units include Cameo, James Roosevelt's Globe Productions, Fredrick Fehr and Neil McGuire. Cinemasters and Minoco are producing in New York.

An additional film release of eight Soundies each week now is possible, Brower states.

Wurtzel, Liebeskind Open S.A. Offices

Harry Wurtzel and Nat Liebeskind are opening offices in Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires for interchange of picture, stage and radio talent. Wurtzel is a veteran Hollywood agent, and Liebeskind has for past 16 years been in Latin America for RKO and Warners, his last post having been general manager for RKO in South America.

Pal Readies New Sked

While George Pal's third Technicolor Puppetoon, 'Hoola Boola', goes into the cutting room, producer of the cartoon novelty for Paramount is preparing his 1942 series. Paramount exercised option on Pal recently. Jack Miller has joined the Pal writing staff and will do screen treatment on next Puppetoon.

Horton's 'Can Wait'

Edward Everett Horton fills final featured spot in Columbia's 'Heaven Can Wait', Robert Montgomery starrer.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing six pounds, five and a half ounces, to Mrs. W. O. Watson Tuesday at Cedars of Lebanon hospital. Father is transmission engineer at Republic. Baby has been named Marilyn.

BOY, weighing seven pounds, was born yesterday to Mrs. Kenneth Dolan at Good Samaritan. Mother is Shirley Ross, film actress. Father is an agent. Newcomer has been tagged John Kenneth.

DAUGHTER, eight pounds, seven ounces, to Mrs. Benny Rubin, yesterday at Cedars of Lebanon. Father is actor.

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20x75, Fully Carpeted
MUST SELL ADVANTAGEOUS LEASE
Excellent for brokers' offices or business enterprises. Ideally located—center Bev. Hills—½ block Corrinne Griffith Bldgs.
255 SO. BEVERLY DRIVE

NEW THREATS HURLED BY COL. RECORDING WORKERS

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

pany had turned down a compromise settlement suggested by Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. labor conciliator, and charged an effort was being made to break up the union by taking away the employes' seniority and closed shop. Company representatives declared this was erroneous. The said the company had offered the workers wage increases and pay for holidays that would increase the annual payroll 5.34% annually, had requested no change in the closed shop clause, and had merely asked that seniority be departmentalized instead of plant-wide.

Company representatives said their offer had been made even before the strike, had been renewed several times since the walkout, and still stood. Both sides said no new move was anticipated to renew negotiations. The company said it had no interest in breaking the union and was willing to deal with it at any time, but that naturally there was a limit to what the company could offer.

After the negotiations bogged down, Robert Kennedy, chairman of the negotiating committee of the United Electrical Radio Machine Workers, issued the following statement:

'The Columbia Recording Corp. and Columbia Broadcasting Co. have refused every reasonable formula for settling this dispute over a living wage. With a $4,700,000 profit for 1940 and showing a 16% increase for the first quarter of 1941, they refuse to grant a modest 10% increase in wages to meet the rising cost of living.

'In turning down pointblank the proposal of the federal conciliator they are proving to us that they have but one objective, to starve us into submission and break our union. They are clearly attempting to evade the labor laws of the United States. The support which has come from music merchants, the Citizens Committee and both American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations unions has strengthened our resolve to fight this through to the finish.'

The union also stated that a drive has been started to unionize the RCA-Victor plant. A new union agreement recently was signed with Allied.

The strike was called April 11 when the company turned down the union demands that the minimum wage be increased from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents, with an increase of approximately 10 cents per hour in the higher pay classifications. Later the union offered to compromise on a 65 cents ceiling. The company stuck to its original offer, which it claimed was approximately 4 cents per hour and not 1.7 cents per hour.

SPRECKELS ASSUMES DISNEY POST

Walter Spreckels, former regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, yesterday assumed his new duties as labor contact for the Walt Disney Studio. He opened downtown offices at 335 Rowan building, and then spent some time at the studio discussing labor matters with Walt Disney and Gunther Lessing, company attorney.

He is expected to confer with Disney and Lessing again today on demands of the Screen Cartoonists Guild and other American Federation of Labor crafts for recognition as collective bargaining representatives for Disney workers. Spreckels' first conferences with the unions are expected the first of next week, after he has had an opportunity to familiarize himself with studio details.

A date for the first meeting between the two groups will be set today or tomorrow when Spreckels is contacted by AFofL leaders headed by Aubrey Blair and Herbert Sorrell.

Goldwyn Sets Scribes

Houston Branch and Donald Hough have been signed by Samuel Goldwyn to prepare a screen play on 'Stage Station', based on a magazine story by Ernest Haycox. Goldwyn also has set Dorothy Parker and Alan Campbell to do an assignment on the script of 'The Little Foxes.'

STUDENTS VISIT STILL SHOW

The entire student bodies of the Cinema Department of the University of Southern California and of the USC Camera Club today will attend the Still Photographic Show which the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is staging at 1455 N. Gordon. The Camera Club, headed by Prexy Lee Kelley, and the Cinema students will bring a bevy of co-eds to act as models in place of film stars who have been on hand nightly for that purpose. The USC crowd will be present from 3 o'clock to 6 p.m.

Tonight will be RKO night, and a large delegation of studio personnel is expected. Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz will model for the candid camera fans. Tomorrow night will be Monogram night, Saturday night Press Photographers night, and on Sunday, closing night, a special trophy will be presented for the most popular picture in the show. Monday the exhibit will be sent to New York for display at the Museum of Modern Arts.

'Landing' Gets Gun

The Bill Pine-Bill Thomas 'Forced Landing' company today begins filming on location at Gopher Flats under direction of Gordon Wiles. Principals, Richard Arlen, Eva Gabor, J. Carrol Naish, Nils Asther and Mikail Rasumny, will work with stunt pilots for next three days.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

AGVA Postpones Adoption of Wage Scale Till (26)

Adoption of new minimum wage scales for members of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists has been postponed until Saturday (26). Officials said that certain details in connection with the pay tilts could not be worked out in time to put them into effect last week.

The meeting of the AGVA board scheduled for this week was shoved back until next Tuesday because a quorum was not present. At this session the board will discuss its program for franchising agents handling variety performers, and also will check to see that the new scales are being observed.

Selznick-Russell Case Postponed to May 7

The Superior court hearing in the Myron Selznick-Rosalind Russell case has been postponed until May 7 because attorneys were engaged in another case. Selznick is seeking an injunction to restrain an arbitration board from putting into effect an award holding Miss Russell was entitled to be relieved of her contractual obligations with the agency.

SWG, AMG Session

A Screen Writers Guild committee headed by Lester Cole is scheduled to meet with the Artists Managers Guild today to discuss the SWG licensing plan for agents handling scriveners.

Paxton's Break

Believing they have a bet in young Dick Paxton, Mickey Rooney's former standin, who has launched his own career as an actor, Paramount has built up the part for him in 'Henry Aldrich For President' and intends to keep him importantly to the fore.

THE NEW
Old Gold
CIGARETTES PRESENT
TOMMY RIGGS
AND
BETTY LOU
TONIGHT
(AND EVERY THURSDAY)
9:30 P.M.
STATION
KFI

Miranda Opens Big At Chinese; May Garner $25,000

Carmen Miranda, South American comedienne who skyrocketed during her brief motion picture experience here, opened a week's engagement yesterday at Grauman's Chinese theatre, where she is appearing with her Banda Da Lua orchestra. The 'Brazilian Bombshell', as she is advertised, had little difficulty worming her way into the affections of an enthusiastic audience which greeted her at her opening performance, and the booking, first stage show at the Chinese in a long time, will likely reap a big $25,000.

For the Miranda booking, house has raised its afternoon price to 55 cents and is charging 75c at night. 'Topper Returns' is the main screen feature, with 'The Penalty' shown at afternoon performances only.

Fox West Coast is paying Miss Miranda and her six-piece ork $7,500 for the week, same figure that the South American singer will draw down for her week at the Paramount here, starting May 8. For subsequent stage bookings actress is reported asking $10,000.

This is her second stage appearance on the Coast, having played a week recently at the Golden Gate theatre in San Francisco, where she hung up a new house record in paid attendance.

Buys Yarn By Mexicans For H'd Flicker

Manuel Reachi, indie producer, has bought a Mexican story, 'Perfidia,' written by two Mexicans, Arturo Dominguez and Salvatore Bareda, for production in Hollywood. Idea is to make a south-of-the-border picture with south-of-the-border notions. Reachi is dickering with Arthur Hornblow, Jr. for possible production at Paramount.

United Artists Reissuing 'Zenda', 'Tom Sawyer'

United Artists will reissue 'The Prisoner of Zenda' and 'The Adventures of Tom Sawyer'. National date of reissue is set for May 16. John Cromwell directed 'Zenda', in which Ronald Colman stars, and Norman Taurog directed 'Tom Sawyer'. Latter is in Technicolor.

a.m. Dailies

Elaine Barrie In Court—

Elaine Barrie appeared before Federal Bankruptcy Referee Ernest R. Utley yesterday, testifying that the John Barrymore home on Bellagio road in Bel-Air was her property and should not be included among actor's assets in his present bankruptcy proceedings.

Janis' Husband Enlists—

Gilbert Wilson, husband of Elsie Janis, has volunteered for a year's military service and was inducted yesterday.

The Brown Derby

Restaurants

HARRIS GETS STUDIO CO-OP FOR VARIETY CLUBS CONFAB

★ Continued from page 1 ★

in New York and other eastern cities. They indicated that every step possible would be taken to recognize the complaint and to make adjustments insofar as it is possible for them to do so. The situation will be discussed with the writers at their next meeting Tuesday (29).

The praisers also agreed to cooperate with the National American Convention of Music Clubs here in June, and approved the Still Photography Show which was sponsored by the Public Relations Institute of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Medal awards to the winners in the various classifications were turned over to the individual Directors to be presented to lensers at their studios.

The group was advised that the Motion Picture Theatre Owners will meet here June 8, but action on this convention was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

Preview

■ Continued from page 3 ■

estingly developed situations, carrying along from episode to episode with witty dialog as he spends behind-the-scenes tale of a shady gal who nearly reaches her goal of rich marriage only to spurn it for a poor, but honest life as a seaman's wife.

Mischa Auer and Franklin Pangborn contribute several comedy passages as a couple of European rakes who nearly upset the countess' plans when they recognize her as an old Continent friend. Andy Devine, Frank Jenks and Eddie Quillan serve well their brief assignments as Cabot's comic crew. Melville Cooper does a particularly good job as a relative by marriage to Young. Laura Hope Crews neatly portrays her part. Theresa Harris, maid to Miss Dietrich and accomplice in her schemes, shows well, and others are first rate support.

The score by Frank Skinner and the musical direction by Charles Previn are the picture's highlights, capturing every mood and aiding materially in advancing the plot. Rudy Mate's camera brings out the full values of the feminine loveliness and the colorful trappings. Art direction by Jack Otterson and his associate, Martin Obzina, are creditable contributions, as is the set decoration by R. A. Gausman.

'Webster' Offed Until Mitchell Recovers

After shooting around Thomas Mitchell for two days in RKO's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' because of actor's serious injuries in a horse-and-buggy runaway accident on location, the company last night closed down until Mitchell is able to resume work. Decision to suspend was made by Producer-director William Dieterle and his associate, Charles L. Glett. Mitchell is expected to remain hospitalized for two weeks.

Whitney Bolton Joins Selznick May 1

Whitney Bolton becomes publicity and advertising director for David O. Selznick on May 1. Victor Shapiro will remain at the studio in charge of a new department of pre-production exploitation. Selznick will send Bolton to Mexico to bring back a musical act the producer signed at Guadalajara while he was on the Mexican Film Festival trip last week.

Pepper in 'Blues'

Barbara Pepper draws featured role in Paramount's 'Birth of the Blues.'

Obituary

STANLEY FIELDS

Stanley Fields, 57, veteran stage and screen actor, died suddenly at his home in Hollywood yesterday. He had been in perfect health until he suffered a heart attack, with death following almost instantly.

Fields was born in Allegheny, Pa., and had about 15 years of stage experience before entering pictures 11 years ago. He appeared in numerous George M. Cohan musicals. The widow, Alta, survives.

Among pictures in which Fields appeared were 'Hook, Line and Sinker', 'Mammy', 'The Border Legion', 'Ladies Love Brutes', 'The Street of Chance', 'Manslaughter', 'Cimmaron', 'Little Caesar', 'City Streets', 'Way Back Home', 'The Dove', 'Traveling Husbands', 'Girl Crazy', 'Terror Abroad', 'He Couldn't Take It', 'Palooka', 'Sing and Take It', 'Strictly Dynamite', 'Many Happy Returns', 'The Daring Young Man', 'Baby-Faced Harrington', 'Mutiny On the Bounty', 'It Had to Happen', 'O'Malley of the Mounted', 'The Mine With the Iron Door', 'Show Boat', 'Gay Desperado', 'The Devil Is a Sissy', 'Way Out West', 'Maid of Salem', 'Souls At Sea', 'Wells Fargo', 'Three Legionnaires', 'The Hit Parade', 'The Sheik Steps Out', 'All Over Town', 'Counsel For Crime', 'The Toast of New York', 'Wife, Doctor and Nurse', 'Danger—Love At Work', 'Ali Baba Goes to Town', 'Midnight Court', 'The Adventures of Marco Polo', 'Algiers', 'Flirting With Fate', 'Painted Desert', 'Chasing Danger', 'Straight, Place and Show', 'Lady From Cheyenne', 'Blackwell's Island' and 'Hell's Kitchen'.

Fields was to have reported yesterday at RKO for a feature part in 'Lady Scarface'.

Body is at Pierce Bros. mortuary in Hollywood, with funeral services set there at 11:30 a.m. Friday.

'Wife' Goes to Valley

John M. Stahl's 'Our Wife' company at Columbia tomorrow moves to San Fernando Valley for several days location shooting.

Metzger, Srere Start Work on 1,000 Seater In San Diego

Construction will be started immediately on a new 1,000-seat theatre, to be named the Tower, at Broadway and Indio streets, San Diego, for the Lou and Gus Metzger and Harry Srere interests. Plans for the theatre have been completed by S. Charles Lee of Los Angeles, and it is hoped to have the structure completed around Sept. 1.

Tower will be fourth film house in the border city for the Metzger-Srere interests, all located on Broadway, within 10 blocks of each other. Theatres already operated by the company are the Spreckles, Cabrillo and Broadway. Spreckles is presently a first run house with the Broadway functioning as moveover for continued run.

Republic Ends Pair; 'City' Goes Tomorrow

Production on 'Thunder Over the Ozarks' and 'Saddlemates' was completed at Republic yesterday with Nick Grinde directing the former and Les Orlebeck the latter. Company puts 'Nevada City', Roy Rogers-George Hayes western, before the cameras tomorrow with Joseph Kane producing and directing. Sally Payne has femme lead and others in the cast include Billy Lee, Joseph Crehan, Glenn Strange, Jack Ingram, Roscoe Ates, Rex Lease.

Fullback Kimbrough Up For Film Fling

John Kimbrough, Texas A&M All-American fullback, is coming to Coast in June following his graduation for a try at pictures during the summer months. Deal is now being negotiated for him through the Everett Crosby agency. Kimbrough is signed to play with the New York Giants on the professional gridiron this fall.

Nebraska Divorce Bill Killed in Committee

Lincoln, Neb., April 23.—Motion Picture divorce bill was killed today in committee by a blanket motion, along with 14 other proposed measures. Divorce bill was designed to prohibit distributors or producers from owning or controlling any theatres in Nebraska.

Tanya Widrin Set

Tanya Widrin has been set by Artists Studio Agency to do a series of shorts for Sam Coslow.

Story Buys

Republic has purchased 'Pride of the Circus', story by Dennis Jones, as the second of two starring vehicles for Mary Lee on company's 1941-42 program. First will be 'Peck's Bad Girl'.

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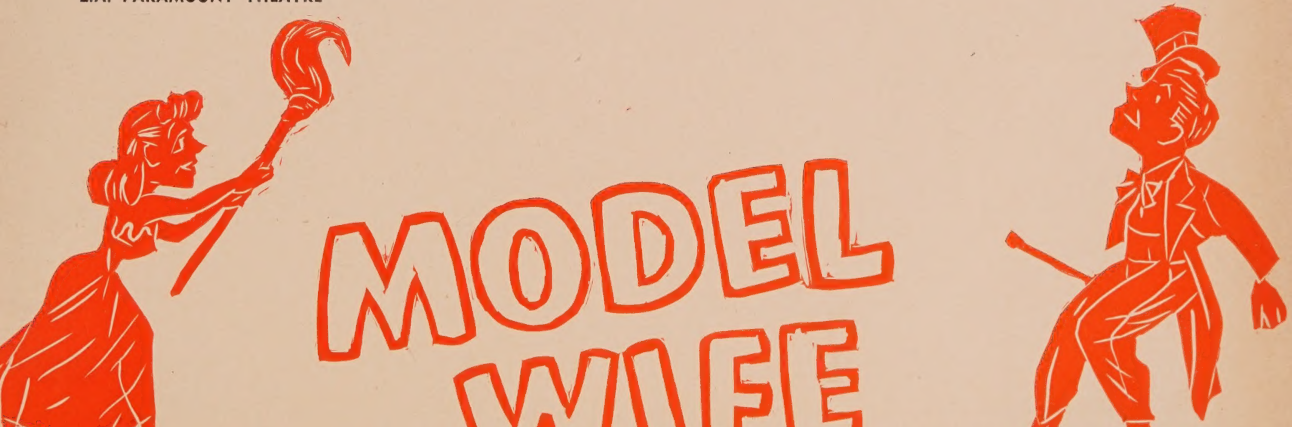

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NEWS OF THE

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HARMON MAY SUCCEED JOE BREEN

15% FEE IN GOLDWYN, WB DEAL

Although secrecy has veiled the negotiations of Samuel Goldwyn for the release of his pictures, it is understood that Warners has sewed up a deal with the producer for a 15% distribution fee. Arrangement, said to be more to the liking of Goldwyn than any of the others proferred, provides for handling of his entire output, makes available production financing and

★ Continued on page 10 ★

Col. Recording, Union Situash Status Quo

Negotiations between Columbia Recording Corp. and striking employes still are at a standstill. Each side insisted the other would have to take the initiative if the parleys are renewed. In the meantime picket lines were maintained in front of the plant, and the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers announced that the 'biggest picket line Hollywood has ever seen' will march in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. tomorrow night.

Thornton Joins Roach May 5 as exec. v.p.

C. W. Thornton joins Hal Roach Productions May 5 as executive vice president and general manager after two and a half years with Edward Small Productions as treasurer and business manager. In addition to his production duties, it is understood Thornton will be representative of the backers financing Roach's new program for United Artists.

Schroeder's 'Cyclone'

Doris Schroeder is polishing Republic's 'Kansas Cyclone', which George Sherman will produce and direct. Picture, for Don Barry, rolls May 10.

Oh! No, Louella

Louella O. Parsons was all excited yesterday about the resignation of Joe Breen. She called her fave contact in industry, Jock Lawrence, and inquired of him, 'Do you think it is because he gave the Hays seal to "Citizen Kane"?'

DISNEY DEADLINE SESH CALLED TUESDAY

With request for a complaint against Walt Disney Studio already drafted by the National Labor Relations Board, William Walsh, acting regional director here, has called a conference of company executives and labor tops for 1:30 p.m. Tuesday (29) to see if a settlement can be arranged without a formal hearing. Walt Disney will represent his com-

● Continued on page 12 ●

Scully In Tomorrow

William A. Scully comes in tomorrow from New York for sales conferences with Universal studio executives.

RESIGNATION TENDERED HAYS HERE MARCH 15

Francis S. Harmon, executive assistant to Will Hays, likely will be the successor to Joseph I. Breen as head of the Production Code Administration of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association. Breen, whose resignation was disclosed yesterday in New York, tendered it to Will Hays on March 15 when latter was here. Breen told Hays at the time he felt he was overworked, tired and wanted to get out at once. Hays requested that Breen keep the matter under cover until a successor could be found or Breen changed his mind about quitting in the interval.

Harmon currently is the eastern

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Daylight Savings

That old guy, Daylight Savings, is in again, prowling along about 2 o'clock Sunday morning. He won't make any difference in the California clocks, but he will fuddle up a lot of radio programs. Most of the network shows will be heard one hour earlier.

O'CONNOR, MEYERS QUIT RKO AFTER SQUABBLE

New York, April 24.—John J. O'Connor, general manager of the RKO theatre circuit, and Fred Meyers, in charge of film buying and booking for the chain, both resigned today. Resignations are effective tomorrow, and came as a surprise in film circles here. But O'Connor stated this afternoon the resignations are not exactly sudden, since they came as result of inter-company friction.

Beyond stating there has been a division in opinion resulting in the resignations, O'Connor did not elaborate, but it is believed that increasing domination of the Atlas (Floyd Odlum) interests in the company may

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Ames In From NY

Leon Ames has flown in from New York, where he has been appearing in 'The Male Animal', to play the lead in 'No Greater Sin', University Pictures production which William Nigh will direct. Film rolls at Fine Arts studio May 1.

EXTRAS EARNINGS TAKE BIG LEAP

Earnings of film extras in March showed a jump of $69,000 over February, and the ratio of increase has been even higher so far this month. Total placements in March were 22,294, showing an increase over the previous month of 2,400 in assignments of open orders by Central Casting Corp.

Total earnings of extras in March were $259,740.17, as compared with $218,783 in March, 1941, when placements totaled only -18,783. Requests during February, 1941, were 33% of the over-all

◆ Continued on page 2 ◆

ASSEMBLY GROUP IGNORES ANTI-ASCAP BILL KICKS

Sacramento, April 24.—Over strong objections of San Francisco attorneys and Richard Powers, western division manager of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Assembly judiciary general committee reported out as do pass the anti-Ascap bill proposed by Assemblyman Jack Tenney by a 9 to 4 vote. Harry Levenson and Ed Roeder, counsel for the Society, told the committee the provisions of the measure make it necessary to obtain the individual approval from copyright owners 90 days before performance and pointed

♥ Continued on page 10 ♥

STUDIO PAYROLLS UP IN MARCH

Motion picture company payrolls registered an increase of $29,465 during the month of March over the preceding month, according to figures released by the California Labor Statistics department. An aver-

■ Continued on page 12 ■

NY Reports Par Board Talks Statement

New York, April 24.—Paramount held a board meeting today but took no action, although it was reported plans for the issuance of a financial statement covering this year's first quarter were discussed. Among directors who were absent were Stanton Griffis, Austin Keough and E. V. Richards. Another meeting will be held May 29.

Cregar For 'Aunt'

Laird Cregar has been assigned the role of Sir Francis in 20th-Fox's 'Charley's Aunt.'

PREVIEWED

MUTINY IN THE ARCTIC
(U)

THE SINGING HILL
(Rep)

THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST
(20th-Fox)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

John Christ deferred briefly from changeover to khaki.

James Wong Howe will handle the camera on Warners 'Kings Row.'

Darryl Hickman into the Marx Brothers opus, 'The Bargain Basement'.

Howard Herty, former Metro flack, has gone into the agency biz on his own.

Basil Walker has option picked up at 20th-Fox. He now is working in 'Dance Hall'.

Dan Dailey, Jr., to New York to visit his father soon as he finishes in 'Getaway' at Metro'.

Edwin Silverman, head of the Essaness theatre chain in Chicago, visited Warners lot yesterday.

Adele Commandini is writing the screenplay of 'Almost An Angel', Durbin starrer, at Universal.

Warners 'Dive Bomber' cast and crew will return to the San Diego Naval Base next Wednesday for exteriors.

Bill Jordan has closed his Miami Beach spot and is heading here to reopen the Hollywood Bar of Music in mid-May.

Director James Tinling takes the 20th-Fox 'Last of the Duanes' company on location at Lone Pine Monday for week's work.

Helga Moray (Mrs. Tay Garnett) appears on 'This Was My Inspiration' program over KNX tonight. Hanley Stafford is opposite.

Harry Marx, manager of Loew's State theatre, pulls out Monday for Louisville to visit his parents. He will be away about two weeks.

Joe Sherman joins the RKO studio publicity department Monday as a unit man, filling vacancy left by Whitney Bolton, who resigned to go with David O. Selznick.

Arnold Pressburger, United Artists' producer, and his wife were welcomed at dinner given by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kohner. Guests were Walter Huston, Francis Lederer, Marta Eggerth and Maria Ouspenskaya.

'Scattergood Pulls the Strings', second of Pyramid's features starring Guy Kibbee for RKO release, will get its world premiere aboard the new Milwaukee & Michigan Steamship Lines' Great Lakes boat, the Milwaukee Clipper, on May 29.

Benny the Gouge sez—They have finally plucked the street car rails out of Vine street, which will be good to the ear drums. Machine guns ain't music, even in times of peace.

Hollywood Inside

HIGH altitude flight equipment from the Lockheed P38, which has been called the Army's twin-fuselage miracle plane, was jerked out of the ship yesterday so that Warners technicians might duplicate it overnight for use today in 'Dive Bomber'. Equipment, replaced within one hour, delivers oxygen to pilots at the 30,000 foot level and above. It was the only outfit of its kind immediately available to studio's prop makers. Much technical equipment for the film was borrowed from the Wright Field laboratories at Dayton, O. Other stuff, not available because of Army and Navy demands, had to be duplicated at the studio, and all of it had to be practical. One of the things built by Bob Martin's prop men was an electro-encephlagraph, rare scientific device that measures the brain waves of pilots. Commander J. R. Poppen, of the Navy, has been supervising installation or building of technical equipment. Others advising on the flying end are Commanders Seth Warner and Charles Brown and Lieutenant Ray C. Needham, of the Saratoga.

☆ ☆ ☆

MINOR'S contract between seven-year-old Carolyn Lee and Paramount, which was approved in Superior court yesterday by Judge Emmet H. Wilson, makes special provision for youngster to spend a portion of her time at her home in Martin's Ferry, O. Little Miss Lee will be paid $1,250 per week on an eight-week guarantee for each picture, with contract calling for three pictures a year, or a minimum of $30,000 each 12 months. Deal runs for five years with yearly options. Young actress will spend at least eight weeks between each film at her Ohio home, according to contract stipulation and a percentage of her earnings will be placed in trust until she is 21 years of age, at which time one-tenth will be turned over to her until she is 30.

☆ ☆ ☆

HAL ROACH is instituting a music contest in 132 colleges and universities throughout the country to find an appropriate melody and lyric as a rah-rah number for his forthcoming Stream Liner, 'College Rhythm'. Prize of $250 is being offered, through letters addressed to deans of the schools, and the additional usual royalty on the song if it is published. Idea originated from LeRoy Prinz, who will produce 'Rhythm', from an original story by Prinz and Hal Roach, Jr. Hal Roach and Hoagy Carmichael will aid Prinz in judging the contest.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE many publications compiled by the late Federal Theatre Project, which ceased to function in 1939, will soon be circulated as a reference library, according to announcement from the Southern California Administrator of the Works Progress Administration. It is proposed to gather several duplicate sets of manuscripts of plays and the many research volumes and other printed bulletins and magazines produced by the FTP into nationwide collections. Many will be put to use by drama groups throughout the country.

☆ ☆ ☆

VISITING band leader is getting himself disliked around the radio studios for his persistent practice in making the rounds with his own photographer and having himself mugged with stars appearing on the various programs. In one studio he took over the music director's stand for a shot and disarranged the sequence of the show's music just before broadcast time. Program's maestro frantically got the sheets in order just before the red light flashed.

☆ ☆ ☆

IN AN EFFORT to outdo Alexander Korda in the matter of lavish sets on their forthcoming pictures, Samuel Goldwyn tried to borrow Vincent Korda from Alexander as set designer, only to be turned down cold by the latter. Korda is erecting his most lavish set on the Samuel Goldwyn lot for 'Illusions'. Goldwyn would like to outshine it in his 'The Little Foxes', and, largely because of the competish, boosted the set budget on his picture to $150,000.

EXTRAS EARNINGS TAKE BIG LEAP

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

original placements, and in March 27%. It was pointed out, however, that Central had only one and one-half calls per Guild member to assign during March, 1941, basing the Class B membership of the Screen Actors Guild at 6,200.

While all indications point to an even larger increase this month, regular members of the SAG will not receive all of the benefit. Because of the demand for high school kids and youngsters 18 to 25 years, it was necessary for the SAG to issue many waivers. Producers have steadily increased their demands for young dress sets and for extras 18 years and under, making it difficult, and in many instances, impossible, for Central Casting Corp. to give the older extras work.

There were 9,338 open orders in March, 2,845 request orders, 10,111 continuations, making a total of 22,294 placements. Few waivers were issued in March, but the situation was changed this month, when the directors began calling for high school students.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 4; Los Angeles, 3.
Portland, 4; San Diego, 0.
Oakland, 8; San Francisco, 3.
Seattle, 7; Sacramento, 3.

Small Signs Temple

Shirley Temple has been signed to star in a picture for Edward Small after she completes her commitment to do 'Kathleen' at Metro. Small now has four stories under consideration for youngster, one of which is 'Lucky Sixpence', the novel by Emily Benson Knipe and Allen Knipe.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

It is a youthful mariner who rambles past the door,
He is a wide and handsome lad and measures six-feet-four.
And walks alone in Vine street on a sunny April day,
Nor any girl upon his arm to speed him on his way.
P.S.—The sailor probably has a date at Vine and Yucca.

★ ★ ★

'Why', asks a baseball fan, 'don't they make a good baseball picture?' The answer is easy. Too many people know too much about baseball. You can kid about life and war and marital triangles, but when you write about baseball you gotta write about baseball, and no fooling.

★ ★ ★

'The Gang's All Here' will get over, but the rest of it will have to be changed to 'What the Heck Do We Care.'

Jane Withers has grown up. Her next picture is 'Not For Children'.

Now you know why Greta Garbo has been staying away so long. Her next role is a double header.

★ ★ ★

Speaking of double roles, the world awaits Spencer Tracy in his dual clinch with Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. There is a job where Mr. Hyde is out of luck if he creates one single snicker.

★ ★ ★

Sam Goldwyn covers everything in his next picture title, 'From A to Z.'

★ ★ ★

Belle Starr was the toughest gal in the toughest time of America's history. So the boys are complaining about tough weather, out Missouri way, where Belle used to pull two guns, rain or shine.

★ ★ ★

'The Merry Widow' is waltzing along merrily on a two-bit basis, which shows that money isn't everything.

Easiest way to become a beautiful actress is to get pinched for something or other.

Maybe it's a slap at the Harvard Lampoon. Anyway, Milton Raison and Jack Harvey are doing a film story, 'A Horse Goes to College.'

★ ★ ★

There is no end to art. Jack Oakie is creating a dance ensemble, to be known as 'Elephantiasis.'

★ ★ ★

Production costs mean a lot in Hollywood. So they cut down 'The Singing Hills' to 'The Singing Hill.'

★ ★ ★

'Birth of the Blues' sounds like a remake of George Ade's doleful rhyme:

> *'It is no time for mirth and laughter*
> *The cold, gray dawn of the morning after.'*

LA Col Exchange Jumps

Los Angeles Columbia exchange has moved up into third position of the far western district in company's exhibitor good will campaign. Salt Lake City tops the list and Portland is second. Drive ends May 30.

Film Previews

The Great American Broadcast

(*Filmusical*)

20th-Fox production. Stars Alice Faye, John Payne, Jack Oakie and Cesar Romero. Features The Four Ink Spots, Nicholas Brothers, James Newill and Wiere Brothers. Supporting cast: Mary Beth Hughes, Eula Morgan, William Pawley, Lucien Littlefield, Edward Conrad, Gary Breckner, Mike Frankovich, John Hiestand, Eddie Acuff, Mildred Gover, Syd Saylor, Eddie Kane, William Halligan, Frank Orth and Herbert Heywood. Director, Archie Mayo. Associate producer, Kenneth Macgowan. Original screenplay, Don Ettlinger and Edwin Blum, Robert Ellis, and Helen Logan. Lyrics and music, Mack Gordon and Harry Warren. Musical director, Alfred Newman. Photography, Leon Shamroy, Peverell Marley. Art director, Richard Day, Albert Hogsett. Set decorations, Thomas Little. Film editor, Robert Simpson. Costumes, Travis Banton. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, April 24. Running time: 92 mins.

One of the undertakings in which 20th-Fox executive guidance functions best and its top players perform most brightly is the film devoted to phases of the show world. 'The Great American Broadcast' deserves to stand amongst the top rank in Darryl Zanuck's lengthening list of successful, widely entertaining features based on music and the radio. It sparkles, it has draw names, captivating music, a smart collection of specialties and sound dramatic interest, splendidly presented.

The narrative, richly embellished with melody, is a loose historical sequence of the highlights in radio entertainment, from the early gropings of amateurs and crude transmitters to the first coast-to-coast network broadcast. For a projection highlight, the narrative resurrects clips from the Dempsey-Willard fight at Toledo as a savage thrill which will excite the man audience everywhere. The old yellowed print is neatly eased into the studio footage which has been given an antique appearance to match. The personal drama in the tale has to do with the romantic quadrangle created by early competition in the radio field and the rasped pride of one of the early visionaries of the kilowatts whose wife was its first star entertainer. The story substance and treatment by Don Ettlinger, Edwin Blum, Robert Ellis and Helen Logan is a smart job of collation of the romantic, musical and retrospective diversion values.

Jack Oakie does an impressive job of trouping as the early radio tinkerer and broadcaster, who, like his buddy, John Payne, is in love with Alice Faye, a honkey-tonk chanter. Oakie's handling both of the flippant and the sentimental requirements keeps him firmly in the van of the screen's character comedians.

Alice Faye sings so often and so well that her romantic indecisions are given little time, but she takes care of her share of the plot very well, dallying between Payne and Cesar Romero.

John Payne puts fire and vigor into his role as the war-time pilot who ties up his whole faith and future with the growth of radio when it was still a plaything.

Cesar Romero gets one of his bland roles, a light assignment but expertly done, and reminiscent of his

Continued on page 4

Mutiny In The Arctic

(*Melodrama*)

Universal production and release. Stars Richard Arlen and Andy Devine. Features Anne Nagel, Addison Richards, Don Terry, Oscar O'Shea. Supporting cast: Harry Cording, Jeff Corey, Harry Strang, John Rogers. Directed by John Rawlins. Associate producer, Ben Pivar. Original story, Paul Huston. Screenplay by Maurice Tombragel and Victor McLeod. Photographed by John W. Boyle. Art director, Jack Otterson. Film editor, Ed Curtiss. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Dialog director, Maurice Wright. Previewed April 24. Running time: 60 mins.

'Mutiny In the Arctic', newest Richard Arlen-Andy Devine picture for Universal, is an action film in every sense. Producer Ben Pivar has provided a production that stands out predominantly, and most everyone connected with the opus has done his share to make it 'audience' from every standpoint.

Aside from the story angles, which concern an expedition to the Arctic regions in search of radium, the picture is filled with stirring sequences, including crumbling icebergs, a daring and hazardous airplane flight over the snow-capped ridges of the Far North, fist fights that are beauties, and speedy action to warm the cockles of even the most ardent of adventure film fans.

Dick Arlen and Andy Devine add new laurels to their long list of successes and several members of the supporting cast stand out in their particular roles. In earlier days 'Mutiny in the Arctic' could quite easily have been turned into a 'million-dollar' epoch, and cinema addicts who crave action in their celluloid entertainment are afforded unlimited opportunity here to regale themselves.

John Rawlins has done a choice directorial chore, and he is successful in sustaining the interest right to the final fadeout. Whatever lapses film may have, and they are very few, can be attributed primarily to the injection of a few bits of corny dialog, and a trite yarn around which the action evolves.

Paul Huston is credited with writing the story and he turned out a good-enough yarn which Maurice Tombragel and Victor McLeod transformed into a satisfactory screen play.

Aside from Arlen and Devine, both of whom portray their roles flawlessly, histrionic honors must go to Addison Richards and Don Terry, the ringleaders of a conspiracy to get possession of the radium find after Arlen and Devine, ostensibly with Richards' assistance, have worked up the necessary expedition.

Only femme role is portrayed by Anne Nagel, who lends a pretty picture to the proceedings, but fails to convince in her small, but important role. John Rogers has a neat bit as a mess boy and others of the supporting cast are adequate.

Photography of John W. Boyle is outstanding, particularly his storm-at-sea shots and the breaking up of the icebergs, although there remains the possibility that these latter sequences were 'lifted'.

Almost every foot of the celluloid depicts action of some sort or another and exhibitors who book 'Mutiny In the Arctic' will have no need to make excuses.

The Singing Hill

(*Western With Music*)

Republic production. Stars Gene Autry. Supporting cast: Smiley Burnette, Virginia Dale, Mary Lee, Spencer Charters, Gerald Oliver Smith, George Meeker, Wade Boteler, Harry Stubbs, Cactus Mack, Jack Kirk. Director, Lew Landers. Associate producer, Harry Grey. Screenplay, Olive Cooper. Original story, Jesse Lasky, Jr., Richard Murphy. Photography, William Nobles. Songs: Jule Styne, Sol Meyer, Eddie Cherkose, Smiley Burnette, Gene Autry. Musical supervisor, Raoul Kraushaar. Film editor, Les Orlebeck. Previewed April 24. Running time: 73 mins.

About as fine a Gene Autry musical western as any Republic has ever produced is 'The Singing Hill'. Film has been given excellent production (with Harry Grey as associate producer), a swell feminine lead in Virginia Dale, smooth direction by Lew Landers and five grand new songs. There can be little doubt that this one will assay high at the box-office.

Story centers about the Circle R ranch, owned by Miss Dale, a spoiled absentee heiress. When she tries to go back on the kindly traditions of her family and sell the land, Autry, her ranch foreman, is hard put to stop her. George Meeker, a crafty broker, wants the ranch so that he can close all free grazing acreage to other, smaller ranchers, and drive them out of business. Autry, Smiley Burnette, Mary Lee (the orphan daughter of one of Autry's cowboy pals), and Cactus Mack, another cowpoke, go to the city and force Miss Dale to come to the Circle R. Spoiled as she is, she will not give in even when Autry has Spencer Charters, whimsical small-town judge, declare her legally irresponsible to manage her own affairs. Autry is given control of the ranch and ordered by the court to return $25,000 option money to Meeker. Miss Dale has already spent the money, so Gene and the little cowmen pool their cattle and start to herd them to market. Floods drive down a canyon, the cattle are stampeded and one of the ranchers is killed. Autry and his men return defeated, but Miss Dale, who finally realizes that all will be ruined if she sells out, relents, and helps Gene capture the gang in a wild battle.

Autry is the same old Autry, immensely pleasing and in good voice. Miss Dale, who took the femme lead after Patricia Morison turned it down and was suspended by Paramount, more than makes good. She is better than any of Autry's previous leading ladies. Burnette draws his usual quota of laughs. Mary Lee is an honest, likeable kid, with better than average pipes. Gerald Oliver Smith is amusing as the rich girl's butler, and Meeker is tops as a heavy. Charters, Boteler, Harry Stubbs, Mack and Jack Kirk give excellent support.

Although Olive Cooper goes into no sustained flights of originality, her screenplay is a well-turned job. Burnette's tune, 'Sail the Seven Seas'; a couple of numbers by Jule Styne, Sol Meyer and Eddie Cherkose, along with Autry's song, 'There's Nothing Like a Good Old-Fashioned Hoe Down', are splendid. William Noble's photography is up to par.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

H. M. WARNER, J. L. Warner and Hal Wallis will host Canadian Air Marshal William Bishop and his staff at Warners studio today from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Affair will be held in the executive dining room. Top picture people from all lots have been invited. . . . Robert Taylor and Barbara Stanwyck planed east last night for NY gadabout. . . . Addison Randall, Alice Hilton and Harry Mines fly into Gotham today on the American Mercury. . . . Adelpha Harley is breaking in as secretary to Dean Hyskell at Fox-West Coast, replacing Florence Panian who has returned to domestic life. . . . Davey Forester and his orchestra, current at the It cafe, will furnish the soft chords for Milton Berle's Mack Sennett party Sunday.

Mel Blanc, the gravel-voice in 'Bugs Bunny' Merrie Melodies cartoon, has been signed to term contract by Leon Schlesinger, setting precedent in the animated cartoon field. Contract does not conflict with Blanc's radio engagements. His first impersonation for Schlesinger was in Porky Pig six years ago.

LEAH BAIRD has been given a role in Warners 'Manpower'. Former silent star re-started at Warners in 'Underground'. Her last silent was 'The Destroying Angel', made in 1923 with George Walsh, brother of Raoul Walsh, who is directing her current picture. . . . Ann Sheridan is head of the Warners studio committee to gather discarded wardrobe which will be auctioned at an 'Aid to China' benefit in New York May 18. . . . Dorothy Lamour and Andy Devine will be among the guests of honor at the inaugural ball for Hiram E. Casey, new exalter ruler of the Los Angeles Elks, at the Elks temple tonight.

Harold Melniker, former executive at Central Casting Corp., is through worrying about finding work for extras for at least a year. He telephoned friends yesterday that he had been inducted into military service at Fort MacArthur, and that he was hopeful of getting his first leave tomorrow afternoon.

MARY KARNS, 19-year-old daughter of Roscoe Karns, will be given a screen test today at Warners. . . . ZaSu Pitts reported at Walt Disney studio yesterday to start recordings of her voice as the harp in the new Mickey Mouse animated feature being prepared for RKO release. . . . The Screen Cartoonists Guild is tossing a Guild party tomorrow night at the Beverly Hills A.C. Prexy William Littlejohn will be in charge of the festivities, aided by a Guild entertainment committee. . . . Bernard Hermann has checked in from New York to begin work on the musical score of 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', William Dieterle production at RKO.

Benny Testimonial Dinner Talks Will Run To Flippancy

Serious speeches will be held to a minimum at the testimonial dinner to Jack Benny in Biltmore Bowl May 9, saluting his 10 years in radio. Louis B. Mayer will speak for the picture industry, and Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, spokesman for the radio business. Other talks will be more or less of a flippant nature.

Unable to make the trip here from New York between broadcasts, shunning air travel, Fred Allen is sending a transcribed 'tribute' to be played at the dinner.

Clay Morgan, aide to Trammell, who is handling arrangements for the testimonial, said yesterday that invitation acceptances assure a capacity turnout. Shindy will be strictly a black tie affair.

O'CONNOR, MEYERS QUIT AT RKO

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

have been involved. Also, it is understood that friction with Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president of the Circuit and also vice-chairman of the Keith-Albee-Orpheum board, who has been with the company since 1933, and who is aligned with the Mike Meehan interests, might have been a likely factor. It is known that Kingsberg has been trying to wield general operations power over RKO and that O'Connor did not relish this intrusion.

The resignations were made today by wire to George J. Schaefer, prexy of RKO, who is in Hollywood, and to Kingsberg. O'Connor has been with RKO for 20 years and Meyers for 12. In theatre operations circles the duo is known as the top combination in the field and have had the respect and co-operation of all the other circuit operators in their work.

George Schaefer last night stated all he knew about the resignations of O'Connor and Meyers was contained in the wire sent him, but he did not expect they would quit tomorrow. He said he had not considered a successor for either post. However, it is believed that Kingsberg probably will take over the reins held by O'Connor.

Shirley With Charlie

Shirley Temple makes another call on Charlie McCarthy on java program's May 4 broadcast.

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FRANCIS HARMON LIKELY SUCCESSOR TO BREEN

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

head of the PCA and functions as liaison with the Breen office here. He also has been working for the Hays organization on the industry National Defense cooperating plan as coordinator of the committee of which George J. Schaefer is chairman.

Breen figures on being relieved of his job within the next couple of weeks, and though he plans a two months' vacation, it is understood he likely may make an immediate studio affiliation. Various company heads have talked to Breen about a new connection, with George Schaefer, head of RKO, informing Daily Variety that he has not yet talked to him, but would now as the others were. When queried whether he had the top studio spot in mind for Breen Schaefer said, 'I don't know until after I have talked to him.' These talks may be held over the weekend.

Breen joined the Hays outfit in 1929 as assistant to Hays in New York, and came to Hollywood Jan. 1, 1931, in same capacity. In January, 1934, he succeeded Dr. James H. Wingate as head of the Studio Relations Committee, which was established in 1928 with Col. Jason Joy at the head.

Then, with the Legion of Decency mandate to the industry on a clean screen, Breen devised the idea of the Production Code Administration Board, worked on it two months, went to New York and had the Haysite board okay it in June, 1934. He put it into immediate operation.

When Breen joined Hays he was getting $18,000 a year, and job he now is quitting paid him $1,000 weekly.

Harmon, who joined Hays a few years ago, was editor of a newspaper in Hattiesburg, Miss., president of the National Council of the YMCA and general secretary of the International Committee of the YMCA of the United States and Canada before joining Hays.

Preview

⁂ Continued from page 3 ⁂

fine showing in 'Tall, Dark and Handsome'.

In the specialty brackets The Four Ink Spots beguile with choice harmony and comicalities; the Nicholas Brothers put on another demonstration of their incomparable hoofing; the Wiere Brothers amuse with a continental routine, and James Newill sings.

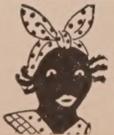
Director Archie Mayo knows his show world stuff, too — what will translate with sure-fire entertainment to the screen—and here does a capital job, in the quality and holding power of his scenes, the crisp socking of the musical numbers and specialties, and in the general pace which makes the 90-minute show seem considerably shorter.

In the minor player rank the roles of Mary Beth Hughes, Edward Conrad and Eula Morgan are well etched.

Mack Gordon and Harry Warren contribute the prodigal song potpourri, ranging from fine sentimental ballads to farced ditties and radio ad numbers. 'Long Ago Last Night' is one of the tops, and a honey, as is 'Where You Are'. 'I Take To You' is a sentimental jingler. Others are 'I've Got a Bone to Pick With You', sung by the Ink Spots; 'The Great American Broadcast', topical; 'It's All In a Lifetime', and 'Run, Little Raindrop, Run'.

Leon Shamroy and Peverell Marley do splendid job of lensing, and Alfred Newman's music direction is a solid merit in the melodic values.

Kenneth Macgowan as associate producer gives the picture impressive presentation.



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Don Lee Strikes Out For Commercial Modulation

First move locally toward commercial frequency modulation was made yesterday by the Don Lee network when its general manager, Lewis Allen Weiss, placed an order for a high voltage transmitter to be erected atop Mt. Lee, overlooking Hollywood. Atop a 230-foot steel tower will be erected a six-bay turnstile antenna, adding another 70 feet to the radiator's height.

New unit, to be placed in operation early this summer, will service an area of 7,000 square miles. Frequency modulation receivers are now on the market, retailing up to $150. Frank Kennedy, Don Lee chief engineer, will supervise installation of the FM equipment, which will give greater tone fidelity to sound broadcasting.

Thornburgh Out for Ad Agency Sesh

Donald Thornburgh, CBS Coast chieftain, trains out tonight for Hot Springs, Va., to attend convention of advertising agencies. He then proceeds to Chicago and New York on network business, stopping off in St. Louis for convention of National Association of Broadcasters. He'll be away for three weeks.

'B-Liner' On Tour

Tom Breneman's 'Spelling B-Liner' is on tour for its Seaside Oil bankroller, flying out Saturday from Frisco to Sacramento. Stops will be made at Fresno and Phoenix before resuming origination at KNX. Paul Pierce, producer, is making the swing.

Elbert Franklin May Take Over Mexican Circuit Operations

Elbert Franklin, son of Harold B. Franklin who died suddenly in Mexico City last Monday, probably will operate the new circuit of neighborhood theatres which Theodore (Ted) Gildred has launched in the Mexican capital and which were to have been operated by Franklin, Sr. Gildred is committed for the first of this proposed chain of 10 or more nabe houses and expects to start work at once on plans drafted by S. Charles Lee, Los Angeles theatre architect.

The younger Franklin, who planed in from Mexico City last Tuesday night, expects to return there within the next week or 10 days. Mission of Harold Franklin, who died just as he was preparing to catch a plane for Los Angeles, was to dispose of his Beverly Hills home and move his family to Mexico.

These plans, it is understood, will not be changed as a result of Franklin's death, and the son and Mrs. Franklin are now planning to take up their official residence in Mexico City.

Memorial services for the former Fox-West Coast prexy, and later film producer, will be held this morning at 9:30 at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, in Forest Lawn cemetery in Glendale. Franklin's body was cremated in Mexico City and the ashes interred there in a crypt.

Paul Short, O'Donnell Head West Next Wk.

Paul Short, chief barker of Tent No. 17, Variety clubs of America, and Bob O'Donnell of the Interstate circuit arrive next Tuesday in Hollywood to complete arrangements for stars, producers, directors and executives to attend the National Variety convention in Atlantic City May 15-17. They will confer with Walter Wanger and other industry chiefs.

'Children' Resumes (4)

Walter White's 'Nobody's Children' resumes on the Don Lee-Mutual chain May 4, with Jeanette MacDonald as the initial guest. Program dealing with social service is underwritten for 13 weeks by $10 contributions weekly from 20 film and radio players for duration of the quarter.

Abe Reynolds on Lux

Abe Reynolds has been set for a comedy role on Lux broadcast Monday of 'Wife, Husband and Friend.'

Obituary

PERCY MORRIS

Funeral of Percy Morris, 62, assistant director at Paramount, will be held Saturday at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather at Forest Lawn. Morris died Wednesday after 28 years at Paramount and the old Lasky company. Surviving are his widow and his son, James.

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Director—Bernard Vorhaus

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PENNY SERENADE

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

Assembly Committee Ignores Anti-Ascap Bill Objections

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

out orchestras play an average of 81 tunes nightly. They declared unemployment will increase rather than decrease if the bill becomes effective. Roeder said the bill is identical to the Florida act, provisions of which were recently held invalid by a constitutional court. Appeal is now before the U. S. Supreme court. Delegation from Frisco's Musicians Local No. 6 led arguments in support of the measure.

Elmer Vincent of that group testified 'The consent decree isn't worth the paper it's written on.' He said if the Ascap monopoly isn't broken now the condition would spread to the entire amusement industry. He added that 21 states now have similar legislation as that contained in Tenney's bill.

Edward Love, secretary of the Frisco local, declared 'excessive license fees cost us untold loss of employment. The irony of it is this—live music is subject to tax, while juke boxes are not.'

Support also was voiced by Newell Hooey of California State Hotel Association. After explaining the music assignment setup he said the whole trouble is the power to fix prices. He pointed out that fees total nearly $6,000,000 a year. Powers denied fees were excessive, maintaining that Ascap is trying to arrive at a fair and equitable rate. Fees range from $60 to a few cases of $24,000 a year, but the average license in the U. S. is about $75.

15% FEE IN WB, GOLDWYN DEAL

★ Continued from page 1 ★

puts at his disposal its entire roster of players.

Leo Spitz, who engineered the deal for Goldwyn, declared it would be virtually impossible for any company, aside from Metro, which isn't interested, to top the Warners offer. While Spitz is in no hurry to speed along the deal, he is marking time in the hope that something better might come along.

Distribution heads are agreed that at 15% Warners can't hope for better than an even break on handling the Goldwyn pictures. Producer paid United Artists, from which outfit he recently seceded, 25% minus discounts, which only on heavy grossers in the world markets could conceivably bring the fee down to 15%. It is conceded, however, that Warners has struck a good bargain because of the new method of selling blocks-of-five. Expected that one or two top pictures from him would provide the leverage for the sale of a block.

Buildup for 'York'

Several scenes have been added to Warners 'Sergeant York' to give extra footage to Joan Leslie.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Heaven Can Wait'	Columbia	Everett Riskin	Alexander Hall	April 21
'Wranglers' Roost'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	April 21
'The Gang's All Here'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarborough	April 25
'Birth of the Blues'	Paramount	B. G. DeSylva	Victor Schertzinger	April 21
'Dude Cowboy'	RKO	Bert Gilroy	David Howard	April 25
'Nevada City'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	April 25
'The Bouncer and the Lady'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Irving Pichel	April 21
'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard'	UA	Edward Small	Tim Whelan	April 26
'Rhapsody In Stripes'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Albert Rogell	April 22
'Texas Marshal'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sigmund Neufeld	Peter Stewart	April 25

17 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Tillie the Toiler'	Columbia	Robert Sparks	Sidney Salkow	April 28
'Wanderers of the West'	Monogram	Robert Tansey	Unassigned	April 30
'The Yearling'	Metro	Sidney Franklin	Victor Fleming	May 1
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	April 28
'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	April 28
'Secrets of the Wasteland'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Unassigned	April 28
'Dildo Cay'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 1
'Murder In Uniform'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	E. B. Derr	Unassigned	April 28
'The Gay Falcon'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Irving Reis	May 2
'Puddin' Head'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Joseph Santley	April 29
'Dressed To Kill'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Eugene Forde	April 28
'A Yank In the R.A.F.'	20th-Fox	Lou Edelman	Henry King	April 28
'The Last of the Duanes'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	James Tinling	May 1
'The Little Foxes'	UA	Samuel Goldwyn	William Wyler	April 28
'Moonlight In Hawaii'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	April 28
'Radio Revels of 1942'	Universal	Joseph G. Sanford	Unassigned	April 28
'King's Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	April 28

10 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'The Texans Ride'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	George Marshall	May 5
'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	Preparing
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Unassigned	Preparing
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. De Mille	Cecil B. De Mille	May 20
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Unassigned	May 26
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 10
'I, James Lewis'	Universal	Frank Lloyd	Frank Lloyd	May 5
'Almost An Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 19
'Bullets For O'Hara'	Warners	William Jacobs	William K. Howard	May 5

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, seven ounces, to Mrs. James Wade at the Hollywood hospital Wednesday. Father is wardrobe head on 'Forced Landing', Pine-Thomas production for Paramount. Baby has been named Louis Allan.

DAUGHTER, six pounds, 15 ounces, to Mrs. William J. Heineman, in New York, April 22. Father is western sales manager for Universal. Baby has been named Rose Marie.

Hans Garay Arrives

Hans Garay has arrived from New York to fill the fourth leading man spot in 'Illusions', Alexander Korda production starring Merle Oberon.

Carroll Lent U

Universal has borrowed John Carroll from Metro for one of the top roles in Frank Lloyd's production, 'I, James Lewis.'

Pal Execs May Get Ultimatum Today

An ultimatum setting a time for a strike of employes at George Pal Productions will be handed to company executives today by representatives of the Screen Cartoonists Guild unless the two groups are able to get together on a wage agreement. A walkout has already been authorized by the workers, when and if the Guild negotiators feel it necessary.

Company executives said they were making every effort to negotiate an agreement, but that the demands submitted by the Guilders would call for a payroll increase of nearly 100%. Guild leaders said the company had been offered a number of concessions, but that the minimum pay scales requested were much lower than that paid by other studios.

Negotiations between the SCG and Screen Gems were renewed yesterday.

Ill in Pix

JAMES GORDON, prexy of the Masquers Club, in Cedars of Lebanon with throat ailment.

Mandy in 'Raiders'

Jerry Mandy is doing a comedy relief role in Universal's 'Sea Raiders', playing the part of an Italian seafood peddler. Mandy recently completed a Mexican part in 'Too Many Blondes' and also played a gangster role in a Jean Hersholt film.

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MODEL WIFE

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Schenck, Moskowitz Will Appeal On Surrender May 12

New York, April 24.—Joseph M. Schenck today was sentenced to three years on each of the first two counts on which he was convicted, and was fined $20,000, the sentences to run concurrently. This means three years. Joseph Moskowitz received one year and a day, and was fined $10,000.

May 12 was set as the date for surrender of the men, with their present bail continued. On that day Defense Counsel Harold Corbin will ask for continuation of their bail pending an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals. This will be opposed by the government, forcing Corbin to go to the Circuit court to seek the right to keep the film executives out of jail until their appeal can be heard.

Attorney Corbin summed up before sentence, asking first that the verdict be set aside as contrary to law, which was denied by Federal Judge Grover Moscowitz. Then the attorney declared the verdict was a compromise between those of the jury which thought Schenck was innocent and those who thought him guilty. He declared that in view of the acquittal on both the 1937 evasion charge and the conspiracy count, it was obvious the jury convicted on the election bets alone in 1936, and the William Goetz-Roland West stock sales in 1935, while finding their methods of doing business okay. He said that certainly was not criminal, that the issues at stake were purely technical ones, and that Schenck's way of life was exemplified by the fact that he tried to protect his friends from losses.

CORBIN LAUDS MEN

Corbin stated he has virtually lived with Schenck during the last few months, and is utterly convinced of Schenck and Moskowitz's innocence. He declared Schenck lived humanly and never turned down an appeal for aid. The attorney declared Schenck is more of an asset to the government out of jail than in, by payment of the income taxes, and that he was and is amply willing to pay.

Prosecutor Mathias Correa declared the government evidence of three years indicated there were more attempts to defraud in other years, and stated the amount deducted was small in proportion to Schenck's ability to pay. He recommended a three-year sentence on each count, with the sentence running concurrently for Schenck, plus a minimum fine of $10,000, and a sentence of one year and a day for Moskowitz, plus a $10,000 fine.

Judge Moscowitz then declared: 'It is always an unpleasant task to impose sentence, especially when the defendants have risen to such high positions, and I am sorry for the predicament they are in. It is always the innocent, the families of the guilty who must suffer for the guilty. I have given considerable thought to this decision, and in imposing sentence I must also consider the position of the public, and the effect the sentence will have in stopping others from similar crimes. The court could impose sentences of 10 and five years, but in view of the circumstances will accept the government's recommendation.'

SURRENDER MAY 12

May 12 was then set as the date for surrender. Should either or both have to go to jail eventually, Moskowitz can get out in four months on good behavior. Schenck may have to serve much longer, as with good behavior he gets two months off each year, or six months on three years, and at the end of the first year can apply for parole. However, since the perjury count is still pending against Schenck, he may not receive a parole. Neither will be jailed for at least one year, possibly more, while their appeals are pending. The Circuit Court of Appeals should hear the case by Novemeber, with a decision being handed down by February, 1942. Then an appeal may be taken to the United States Supreme Court if the Circuit Court of Appeals refuses to reverse the verdict.

EL MONTE ASKS OFFICIAL OKAY ON 63-DAY CLEARANCE

Seeking to have official sanction given the 63-day availability for 30c admission first run theatres in El Monte, A. L. Sanborn and John Rennie, operators of the El Monte theatre there, have filed a petition with the American Arbitration Association, through Attorney Rufus Bailey, urging that the schedule as set up some years ago, and under which they now are being served, be legalized.

Request is unique in that plaintiffs have no grievance against the major distributors named as defendants, and seek only for an official recognition of the availability as long established.

James Edward Theatres are named co-defendants, as Edwards' Tumbleweed theatre at Five Points, near El Monte, and the Valley theatre at Rosemead, which are operating under the 63-day clearance schedule, would be affected under an AAA official sanction for El Monte.

Suggestion is made that AAA establish an El Monte business district, as set up by the El Monte chamber of commerce, as a 63-day zone, thereby insuring Sanborn and Rennie of uninterrupted flow of product under the new government consent decree.

Case is the third filed with Secretary Walter H. Elliott of the Los Angeles AAA office, and is regarded in industry circles as quite unusual, in that the plaintiffs are seeking no redress other than to have a distribution agreement under which they have long been operating officially recognized.

STUDIO PAYROLLS UP IN MARCH

■ Continued from page 1 ■

age weekly total of 14,074 wage earners in the film industry collected $598,281 each week in March, as against a total of 12,792 weekly workers who were paid $568,816 each week during February.

Both average weekly earnings of individuals and total number of hours worked each week decreased during March, those on the payrolls working 32.6 hours to earn $42.51, or an average hourly pay of $1.305. During month of February wage earners worked 34.4 hours per week to collect an average pay of $44.47.

March averages represent considerable change over the total of workers and payrolls during March of 1940, being a plus 9.1 and a plus 6.6% respectively, although average weekly earnings were minus 2.3% less when compared to March a year ago.

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DISNEY DEADLINE SESH CALLED TUESDAY

● Continued from page 1 ●

pany, with Attorney George E. Bodle sitting in for the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which preferred the unfair labor practice charge against the studio.

In the meantime it was learned that Walter Spreckels, labor contact for Disney, has arranged to meet with the Screen Cartoonists Guild at 9:30 a.m. Monday (28), and with the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors at 4 p.m. Tuesday (29). Both crafts have filed complaints with the NLRB accusing Disney executives of 'sponsoring a company union.'

Spreckels is understood to have spent some time yesterday in conference with Disney, discussing the American Federation of Labor drive to unionize the studio. Spreckels will not appear at the NLRB conference Tuesday since the unfair labor practice charge was filed before he resigned as regional director of the board.

Scores of affidavits charging that Disney executives attended organizational meetings of the Studio Federation, and that officials have been present at Federation meetings since the SCG entered the picture have been filed with the NLRB. These will be forwarded to Washington along with the request for issuance of a complaint unless an amicable settlement is reached at Tuesday's conference.

Aubrey Blair, AF of L organizer, Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle will represent the Cartoonists at the parley with Spreckels on Monday. Prexy Edmund D. Hannan is expected to head the delegation appearing for the Film Editors.

Bob Bradley at KNX

Bob Bradley, winner in 'Hollywood Showcase' competition, has been signed by KNX as staff singer.

Gene Tierney Illness Causes Suspension Of 20th's 'Belle'

Recurrence of eye trouble for Gene Tierney yesterday forced temporary suspension of shooting on 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr', causing third disruption of film schedules at Westwood plant because of player illness within past few days.

Walter Pidgeon, suffering severe cold yesterday was ordered off the set of 'Man Hunt' by his doctor, and Director Fritz Lang rearranged schedule to shoot around him.

'A Yank in the R.A.F.' also had schedule rearranged to work around Betty Grable, who is still in Santa Monica hospital from operation on impacted wisdom tooth. Picture starts Monday.

Gene Tierney, who has title role in 'Belle Starr', had first swelling of eyelids, ascribed to an allergy, last Friday and was out until Monday. She has again been taken for treatment to the Good Samaritan hospital, and Director Irving Cummings will not resume filming until she has recovered.

Evergreen District Tops Skouras Drive In First Week

John Hamrick's Evergreen Theatres' district, operated out of Seattle, heads the list of National Theatre divisions participating in the third annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, at the close of the first week. Kern County-Arizona district, operated jointly by Homer Gill of Bakersfield and Lou Christ of Tucson, is in second place and Thornton Sargent's first run Los Angeles houses hold down third.

Tom Soriero, manager of the United Artists theatre (downtown) leads the theatres in Class C and Harold Kopp, of the Uptown, Los Angeles, heads the Class E houses.

Drive runs 12 more weeks, winding up July 13, with prize awards totaling more than $30,000 to be distributed.

Universal, SOEG Talk Proposed Contract

Negotiations between Universal and the Screen Office Employes Guild were resumed last night, with committees from the two groups meeting at the studio. Most of the session was devoted to reviewing terms of the proposed SOEG contract which were not reached at the last conference. The SOEG negotiators are scheduled to meet with Columbia executives Monday (28), and with RKO on Wednesday (30).

Writers, Managers Mull Licensing Pact

Details of the Screen Writers Guild plan to license agents were discussed last night at a meeting between committees representing the SWG and the Artists Managers Guild. Tentative agreement has already been reached on the general plan, with the main difference reported to be over the scrivener's request for appointment of a negotiator to secure bids on all story materials before they are sold.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 31 No. 38 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, April 28, 1941 5 Cents

MUTUAL, ASCAP DEAL NEARS INK

CANTOR, UA SIGN ACTOR-PROD. DEAL

New York, April 27.—Eddie Cantor closed a deal Saturday with United Artists by which the comic becomes a producer-player for the company. The pact is for three years, with Cantor doing a minimum of one film per year starring himself and having the option of turning in two additional each 12 months with or without appearing in them.

Cantor's first picture will be a lavish musical on the order of those in

♣ Continued on page 7 ♣

Moreno, Reinhardt Out To Do Baires Pic

New York, April 27.—Rosita Moreno, Spanish film star, left for Buenos Aires yesterday to make a Spanish-language feature for Baires Films. Her director, John Reinhardt, left on the same boat. Reinhardt directed Miss Moreno in 'My Faith in You', (also in Spanish) which RKO is distributing. Picture will play mainly in South America but will also be offered to arty theatres in this country. Reinhardt may remain in Argentina to work on other pictures.

Reisman To Rio

New York, April 27.—Phil Reisman, foreign chief for RKO, left yesterday by boat for Rio de Janeiro. He will be gone about three weeks, going from Brazil to Buenos Aires and then returning here. He is expected also to dig up information for Jock Whitney's Pan-American good will committee.

Melniker Planes Out

William Melniker, in charge of Loew's theatres outside of the United States, planed for New York yesterday after business visit at Metro with studio executives.

20th Terms McCarey

20th-Fox has signed Ray McCarey to a long term contract following his direction of three pictures on the lot on a free lance basis.

Banks Directs Comedy

Monty Banks will direct 'Forward March', Laurel and Hardy comedy at 20th-Fox which Sol M. Wurtzel will produce.

UNIVERSAL FIRST QUARTER PROFIT IN BIG JUMP

New York, April 27.—Universal Pictures earnings for the first 17 weeks of the fiscal year ended March 1, last, were $728,280, or $139,414 above the comparable period of the past fiscal year, according to a report sent holders of new Universal common stock certificates by J. Cheever Cowdin, board chairman. Net profits for the 17 weeks totaled $931,280

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Harry Cohn Returns

Harry Cohn returned here Saturday from New York after four weeks there conferring with Jack Cohn and Abe Montague, general sales manager, on Columbia production plans for 1941-42.

AFFILIATED STATIONS PHONED FOR APPROVAL

New York, April 27.—A deal whereby the Mutual Network would resume using music of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers appeared near consummation over the weekend, with stockholders and directors having okayed the pact Friday (25).

It is now necessary to obtain approval of the terms from affiliated stations, with a telephone roundtable of such stations reported under way. Until full approval of the Mutual affiliates is obtained, details on the terms, and when Ascap will return to Mutual, will not be known.

Sessions with the Mutual executives continued until Saturday night, but no additional details were available today.

SISK, MARCUS LEAVING RKO PRODUCER BERTHS

Robert Sisk and Lee Marcus are severing their connections with RKO. Sisk asked for and expects release today from his producer's contract, effective around May 15. Marcus turned in his resignation Saturday and leaves the company immediately instead of waiting until his contract is up in August.

Sisk is expected to close a new affiliation shortly. His release will be effective when he completes his current assignment on the Ginger

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

BREEN SUCCESSOR NAMING SOON

New York, April 27.—Will Hays arrived here Saturday from the west and is expected Monday or Tuesday to appoint a successor to Joe I.

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

GOLDWYN SIGNS RKO CONTRACT

Samuel Goldwyn closed a contract yesterday with RKO whereby latter company would distribute his product for one year. Pictures that would come under the deal are 'The Little

■ Continued on page 8 ■

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, April 27.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Amapola	Marks
Intermezzo	Schubert
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Wise Old Owl	BMI
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
My Sister and I	BMI
Do I Worry	Melody Lane
Maria Elena	Southern
Dolores	Paramount
Walkin' By the River	BMI

PROD.-DIRECTOR PARLEY SET TOMORROW

Committees representing the Producers and the Screen Directors Guild meet tomorrow night at Guild headquarters to open negotiations on the directors' demands for minimum wage scales, guaranteed employment terms, and a 90% Guild shop. While the current SDG agreement calls for contract revisions to be submitted to a conciliation board and then arbitration, both groups, because of the

★ Continued on page 8 ★

NBC Soundmen Join Radio Federation

National Broadcasting Co. sound technicians have voted to affiliate with the American Federation of Radio Artists, giving AFRA complete jurisdiction over all radio sound technicians in the country. Contract which the technicians have with NBC under the name of Radio Production Guild of America will be assigned to AFRA and will continue in force until its expiration.

Pinansky Sees Freeman

Sam Pinansky of Mullen and Pinansky, Paramount partners in New England, gets in from Boston today. Pinansky is vital power in Paramount financing matters and it is understood he will confer with Y. Frank Freeman at studio on costs and operations for coming season.

PREVIEWED

THE BIG BOSS
(Col)

THE BLACK CAT
(U)

REVIEWED

THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
(Rep)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Allan Jones in Saturday from St. Louis.

Garson Kanin growing a mystery beard.

Earl Hedrick is art director on 'Sullivan's Travels'.

Madeleine Carroll arrives from New York tomorrow.

Mrs. Pete Smith is going to New York Friday for 10 weeks.

Earl Felton has been signed to script 'War Boom' at Paramount.

Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office, flew east, to be gone three weeks.

George Skouras pulled out Friday night for New York after several days here.

Monogram holds press preview of 'The Pioneers' at Talisman studio today at 11 a.m.

Ruth Warrick reports to RKO from New York May 10 for player assignment on option.

The Grace Hayes Lodge installing new air conditioning unit, preparing for the summer.

Myke Lewis is planing out for New York to look over the current crop of legit shows.

Lloyd Hanson, son of Ole Hanson, one time mayor of Seattle, is being tested at Paramount.

Jules J. F. Neeley, magic emcee, has arrived here from the east and is working local clubs.

The David Loews held a reception yesterday at their Beverly Hills home for the David Loews, Jr.

Start on Preston Sturges' 'Sullivan's Travels' has been set back at Paramount until May 12.

Gloria Wood, daughter of Sam Wood, has petitioned Superior court to change her name to K. T. Stevens for pic purposes.

Prince Hassan, of vaude, is in town, having been booked for an indefinite stay at a couple of local night spots. Monte Blue is handling.

Crew members on 20th-Fox's 'Man Hunt' gifted Director Fritz Lang with a new thermos and luncheon set to replace his old, battered tea jug.

Harry Sherman tossed a chuckwagon lunch for the press Friday noon to introduce his new member of the Hopalong Cassidy top trio, Brad King.

Benny the Gouge sez—It makes me laugh to hear the boys talking about 'the good old days' in Hollywood. They never were better than they are today.

Hollywood Inside

JACK WHITE has his own views about the Motion Picture Relief Fund, the Screen Actors Guild, Central Casting Corp., etc., and he wants the world to know about them. Requesting reporters to visit his bedside in St. Vincent's hospital, Jack, a veteran film player and former strong man, said 'all these phoney stories about the Relief Fund, the Guild and Central are the bunk'. But, then let Jack tell it: 'Several months ago I became ill. I didn't want to bother the Relief Fund or the Guild so I went over to General hospital. My condition didn't improve. I finally went to the Relief Fund and explained the situation. And they gave me the devil for not coming sooner. The next day I was here in St. Vincent's. I was given every attention. Dr. Brown performed a major operation, and my condition has steadily improved. I feel that he saved my life and that I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the Motion Picture Relief Fund. They even gave me a check when I was out of work, but Central gave me a job the next day and I mailed the check back. I can't thank them enough. And the same goes for the Screen Actors Guild, Mr. Thomson and Mr. Somerset, and to Mr. Philbrick, Mr. Melniker and Mr. Roderick at Central. All of them deserve the highest commendation. Please give my regards to all of them.'

☆ ☆ ☆

SAMUEL GOLDWYN didn't pick up the option on William Wyler's contract for another two year-period without a struggle on the director's part. Wyler has been trying for some time to have pact changed to call for his services on only one picture a year instead of the two features he is now required to direct. Wyler had several outside deals under negotiation and figured he would be free to pick and choose among offers if Goldwyn would permit holding pact to the one feature each year. Director has the right to approve any loanout deal Goldwyn may make but because of latter's prior rights to his services there have been instances when he was unable to accept the director's post on a story he particularly liked. Wyler has turned out a number of big box office successes in the pictures he has done away from Goldwyn. Producer has also been assured of good returns when Wyler was assigned to handle the direction on a Goldwyn-UA production, which is understood to be the reason he refused to alter contract.

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CONSIDERABLE secrecy is shrouding Merian C. Cooper's two and a half month stay in Great Britain preparing for the filming of 'The Eagle Squadron', which he will produce for Argosy Productions' United Artists release. To obtain cooperation from the English government for the picture, which deals with American fliers in the Royal Air Force, Cooper had to agree not to disclose what he saw throughout England or reveal location of the Eagle Squadron headquarters, which he visited. Now that Cooper has arrived back in Hollywood he is in the peculiar position of not being able to say whether he obtained background footage for the picture or was able to bring it over with him, or any of the other customary revelations concerning production data which is usually available for queries. Picture is slated to start the latter part of June or the first part of July.

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A SCORE of film folk garden enthusiasts have arranged to show their specialties in miniature at the Flower Fiesta and Garden Show to be held at the Uplifters Ranch, May 7th to 11, inclusive. Charles Rosher is organizing chairman, his specialty being begonias. Other entries will be the Gary Coopers, Irene Dunne, Shirley Temple, Mary Astor, Otto Kruger, Jane Withers, the James Cagneys, the Robert Montgomery, Mary Pickford, Anna May Wong, Deanna Durbin, the Alfred Hitchcocks. Beside the posy show there will be dancing and dining in the redwood grove. Proceeds go to relief of bombed cities and Benevolent Fund of Royal Air Force.

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TENSION between George Raft and Edward G. Robinson that has been developing since pair started to work together in 'Manpower' at Warners reached a climax Saturday morning and after a heavy verbal exchange production was halted while pair were closeted for two and a half hours with studio executives. Shooting was resumed on picture after lunch without the two players and studio expects them to report back to work this morning if tempers have cooled sufficiently for them to rejoin Marlene Dietrich in their co-starring assignments.

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ALTHOUGH general publicity did not break until over the past week-end on the forthcoming engagement of 'Citizen Kane', advance mail reservations on the day following the initial page spread in Daily Variety passed the 600 mark, according to Charles W. Koerner, in charge of RKO theatre operation in the west. These reservations were for the premiere at El Capitan theatre night of May 8, and for the day-date runs there and at the RKO Hillstreet starting the following day.

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HAL ROACH is receiving letters of approval and congratulations from many of the big circuit owners and operators and other exhibitors, as well as fellow producers here, on his initiation of the Streamlined Features, running around 50 to 55 mins., soon to get into work for United Artists release. Consensus is that this plan may eliminate many of the conceded ills of double bills, especially in the smaller towns where late shows due to long doubles is a definite handicap.

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UNIVERSAL had more competition than it bargained for in the premiere of 'Flame of New Orleans' in that southern metropolis last Thursday night. Opposition was Kay Kyser in the Municipal auditorium, who played to 6,050 paid admissions at the afternoon concert and 11,310 for the night hop. Studio junketed a bevy of players to N.O. to accelerate interest in the film. Kyser's night take doubled the previous high there for a dance band.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Somewhere in dear old Hollywood
there always is a feud
Wherein the temperamental stars
grow rude—but not TOO rude.

They exercise their vocal chords
in many a loud attack.
The winner is the star who has the
most pugnacious flack.

★ ★ ★

Feuds are old reliable sources of publicity, not only in the show business but in sport. There have been a number of historic (and phoney) feuds in baseball and boxing. The oldtime maulers threatened to assault each other on the street, but never did. No self-respecting pugilist would stoop so low as to mingle in fisticuffs without pulling down a percentage of the gate. Even the amateurs don't fight for nothing.

★ ★ ★

Gals are wearing neon lights in their hats these nights, as if the town were not light-headed enough.

★ ★ ★

It sounds like a musical, but 'Twenty-One Whistlers' is a spy tragedy.

Some day, if you wait long enough, you will see a picture of Laurence Olivier wearing a smile.

Reviewers inform us that Joseph Cotten's acting is all wool and a yard wide.

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Film fans south of the border are not so enthusiastic over the prospect of a North American actor playing 'Simon Bolivar.' How, they ask, would you like to see 'George Washington' played by a Bolivian actor?

★ ★ ★

Life, as far as Bob Hope is concerned, is one benefit performance after another. Continuous vaudeville for charity.

If titles mean anything, the world premiere for 'World Premiere' will be doubly colossal.

This is the age of glowing youth
when starlets by the scores
Light up the big electric signs
above the film house doors,

A golden age with little Joe and
Bill and Ann and Clarence
Go toddling from their cradles to
support their doting parents.

★ ★ ★

You don't hear much nowadays about the lucky kid who was born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Now he comes into the world with a studio contract.

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It must have been a member of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce who wrote the film title, 'Two Steps to Heaven.'

Richard Dix is not superstitious about titles. He is going to star in 'Tombstone.'

'I'll Take Manila' is a musical yarn, but not about Admiral Dewey, who played a pretty good tune there in 1898.

★ ★ ★

There will be a hot time if the film premiere of 'Hellzapoppin' is held in its logical habitat.

Film Previews and Review

The Great Train Robbery

(*Melodrama*)

Republic release of Joseph Kane production. Cast: Bob Steele, Claire Carleton, Milburn Stone, Helen Mackellar, Si Jenks, Monte Blue, Hal Taliaferr, George Guhl, Jay Novello, Yakima Canutt, Dick Wessel, Lew Kelly, Guy Usher. Directed by Joseph Kane. Original screen play, Olive Cooper, Garrett Weston and Robert T. Shannon. Photographed by Reggie Lanning. Film editor, Lester Orlebeck. Music, Cy Feuer. Reviewed April 25 at the Hitching Post thatre. Running time: 59 mins.

Republic delved deep into motion picture history to grab the title for its modern version of a train robbery. Yarn in no wise, it is pointed out at the start of the picture, is to be confused with the Edison picture of the same name, produced back in 1903.

For this streamlined version, Producer Joseph Kane, who also directed, has provided a surfeit of thrills that will be especially appealing to rabid action fans. It's a story of the west, but horses give way to high-speed autos, and cowboy garb is discarded in favor of civvies. But there is a chase, with plenty of shooting and fisticuffs before the modern train robbers are brought to their end.

Bob Steele, a railway dick, starts out to guard a shipment of gold bullion via a crack train headed from the desert lands to Chicago. His brother, played by Milburn Stone, and a roadhouse proprietor, heads the holdup gang and makes light of brotherly ties in his efforts to wipe out his law-abiding brother.

Claire Carleton, an entertainer at the roadhouse, is loved by both brothers, with their mother, Helen Mackellar, always trying to patch up quarrels between the two. As usual, the law triumphs, the modern road agents are caught or killed and Steele and Miss Carleton do a fade-out in each other's arms.

Steele gives a cleancut performance as the railway detective, and an excellent portrayal of his crook brother is given by Stone. Both Miss Carleton and Miss Mackellar play their parts well, and good performances are turned in by Si Jenks, as the old prospector who ferrets out the hidden train after the wouldbe bandits display plenty of hoke in 'kidnaping' the Limited; Monte Blue, Hal Taliaferro and Guy Usher.

Kane's direction is wholly adequate, and the screenplay by Olive Cooper, Garrett Weston and Robert T. Shannon leaves little to be sought by the type of patron who will go for this yarn. Reggie Lanning's camera work is of a high order and Lester Orlebeck has done a good job of editing.

'The Great Train Robbery' fills the bill for thrills and will be especially to the liking of juvenile audiences.

The Big Boss

(*Drama*)

Columbia production. Cast: Otto Kruger, Gloria Dickson, John Litel, Don Beddoe, Robert Fiske, George Lessey, Joe Conti. Directed by Charles Barton. Original screen play by Howard J. Green. Photography, Benjamin Kline. Film editor, Viola Lawrence. Previewed April 25. Running time: 69 mins.

Highly circumstantial in its basic premise of the fateful encounter of two brothers at the peak of political power for both, 'The Big Boss' comes off as conventional but acceptable program entry for the general runs because of good performances and capable direction.

Original screen play by Howard J. Green relates a rather involved plot of business racketeering, just inside the legal bounds, by the brother who went 'bad', who considered every honest man a sucker, and who controls a state legislature. Opposing him is the 'good' brother, whose dying father exacted a pledge from him to keep the other going straight, and who now has become the governor. The grown men, both astute politicians, no longer recognize each other, having become separated in boyhood. Now one is out to break the other, until discovery of identity brings a switch.

Otto Kruger, as the callous boss, and John Litel as the governor, handle their roles with conviction, although the dialog at times gets a little unwieldy. Gloria Dickson makes an excellent impression as the assured newspaper woman who has the governor's confidence but also manages to keep close to the big politician. The romantic note between Litel and the girl grows until it reaches an open declaration of love. Don Beddoe, her reportorial rival, also carries his assignment impressively. Robert Fiske is a stereotyped heavy opposed to Kruger, although in the latter's ring, and it is the death of this character in a melodramatic battle which causes the final showdown. George Lessey and Joe Conti have good bits.

Story is exceedingly talky and is obvious in its development, but gets a directorial pace by Charles Barton which gives semblance of bustling action except in those stretches where the elaborate political plotting and exposition requires slow and often tedious progress. Director works capitally with his players for sound characterization. Confession of his masquerade and wrongdoings by the 'bad' brother to save the other for the good he will do the people of the state is too pat and easy to bring the picture to strong dramatic close.

Hymer In 'Stripes'

Warren Hymer reports at Universal today for featured role in 'Rhapsody in Stripes' before going to Paramount to do part in 'Birth of the Blues', Bing Crosby-Mary Martin musical. Deals agented through the Leo Morrison office.

The Black Cat

(*Melodrama*)

Universal production. Stars Basil Rathbone, Hugh Herbert, Brod Crawford and Bela Lugosi. Features Gale Sondergaard, Anne Gwynne, Gladys Cooper, Cecilia Loftus, Clair Dodd, John Eldredge, Alan Ladd. Director, Albert S. Rogell. Associate producer, Burt Kelly. Original screen play, Robert Lees and Fred Rinaldo, Eric Taylor and Robert Neville. Suggested by the Edgar Allen Poe story. Photography, Stanley Cortez. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Ralph M. DeLacy. Film editor, Ted Kent. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Sound technician, Hal Bumbaugh; supervisor, Bernard B. Brown. Special photographic effects, John Fulton. Assistant director, Howard Christie. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Gowns, Vera West. Previewed April 25. Running time: 69 mins.

Such chiller names as Basil Rathbone and Bela Lugosi would indicate that 'The Black Cat' is pure horror stuff, but the billing of Hugh Herbert is the tipoff that audiences also will have a generous share of nitwit doings from that fun authority. Both production and direction is interestingly developed and picture will prove capable of filling all requirements as supporting fare.

Practically every piece of ghostly paraphernalia, guaranteed to raise goose bumps, is thrown into the plot. Such things as a wealthy recluse and her horde of cats, surrounded by poor relatives doing their share to hasten her death; an odd housekeeper, an equally odd gardener, etc., are used as a basis upon which to string the varied happenings. The comedy angle is introduced by Herbert as an antique dealer, anxious to buy the old lady's treasures, and Brod Crawford, also working hard to put over the sale so he can talk of love and such things with the recluse's granddaughter, Anne Gwynne. There are enough murders, under weird circumstances, to satisfy the horror addicts and the gore is kept from dripping too heavily by Herbert.

The proper eerie touch is given to the characters porarayed by Rathbone, a sinister relative; Lugosi, the gardener; Gale Sondergaard, the housekeeper; Miss Gwynne, Gladys Cooper, Claire Dodd, John Eldredge and Alan Ladd, relatives; Cecilia Loftus, the recluse; all of whom are a choice bunch of suspects, victims and baddies. Herbert's saving dose of silly nonsense is a major contribution and Brod Crawford proves a big help in the major doings.

Albert S. Rogell, with a big supply of material to sort out in the original script by Robert Lees, Fred Rinaldo, Eric Taylor and Robert Neville, suggested by the Edgar Allen Poe story, has developed the suspense interestingly and larded in the comedy at the right moments. Burt Kelly has given the picture the benefit of wisely-spent budget money and earns a good credit in the fulfillment of his duties. Stanley Cortez's camera aids the picture's mood measurably. The special effects by John Fulton are good, as are the art direction and set decorations.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ONE of the liveliest and most entertaining parties of the year was that tossed Saturday night at the Biltmore Bowl by the 20th-Fox Studio Club members. Milton Berle acted as emcee, keeping his audience constantly laughing, pouring out an amazing wealth of pointed, uproarious wit. Entertainment was first class, headlined by Carmen Miranda and her bandalura orchestra, Ella Logan, Stanley Clements, Abbott and Costello, the Merry Macs, Virginia O'Brien, the Nicholas Brothers, Dorothy Dandridge, Ames and Arno, and Berle and Laird Cregar in a takeoff on Miranda. Music was supplied by the orchestras of Glenn Miller and Garwood Van. Darryl Zanuck, other studio executives and full contingent of 20th-Fox stars were at the party. . . . Henry Luce and Clare Booth drew about 250 to hear them talk on Chinese relief at the Beverly-Wilshire hotel Friday night. The couple head today for China to get first hand line on what is going on in the country of Luce's birth. In meantime they impressed need for folks here start ball rolling to get $5,000,000 for the united appeal for Chinese Relief in America. They announced Walt Disney would head a committee to garner the coin. Dave Selznick presided and introduced the speakers. Buffet lunch was served afterward and the 'Who's Who' of films met the Luces and learned all about their views on international matters.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt will address the State Advisory Committee of the California National Youth Administration today at an informal tea to be held at the home of Helen Gahagan and Melvyn Douglas.

FILM ROW gang tossed a farewell spread for Dr. C. Zeno Holt at Perino's cafe on eve of his departure for Berkeley to take the chair of instructor in medicine, science and military tactics at the University of California. During his absence his local offices in the Fox-West Coast home office building will be continued, with a substitute in charge. . . . Dolores, from Santiago de Chile, will premiere at the House of Murphy Wednesday (30), as a singer of friendly songs of Mexico and points south. The new show will also introduce Stan Stanellison, accordionist, and Eddie Cletro, troubadour.

MILTON BERLE, one of the community's quaintest congeries of nonsense, yesterday tossed a frivolous little party for Mack Sennett beside the swimming pool of the Beverly Hills hotel that took the guests and spectators back to the days of the Keystone Comedies.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
XXX

Represents . . .
ALEX GOTTLIEB
"BUCK PRIVATES" (Abbott & Costello)
Under contract Universal

PRODUCER

Jack Benny, 20th Pic, 'Charley's Aunt' To Roll May 14

Start of the Jack Benny starrer at 20th-Fox, 'Charley's Aunt', has been moved ahead again, and now is scheduled to face the cameras on May 14. Picture had originally been set for May, but later was shoved back until June.

In meantime dicker between Warners and Benny representatives, A. & S. Lyons agency, for comedian to do a picture at the Burbank studio is still going on. So far studio hasn't hit upon the exact property for Benny, but is searching for a story that would be acceptable. If a yarn is cleared shortly, Benny probably will next go to Warners before reporting back to Paramount for his next commitment on that lot.

Y & R Producers Move With Daylight Time

With the advent of Daylight Savings time and tapering off of the radio season, production staff at Young & Rubicam agency is breaking up and several of the producers moving east to more fertile fields of activity. Leaving tomorrow for New York are Harry Ackerman, who produced Screen Guild Theatre, and Bob Lee, shifting the reins on the company's daytime serial, 'The Second Mrs. Burton', to Ken Hansen. Glenhall Taylor, producer of Silver Theatre since show has been on the air, is in New York preparing 'Reg'lar Fellers' for a summer run in the Jack Benny spot.

Kennedy Vice Wineberg

L. E. Kennedy replaces Harry Wineberg as city salesman for Columbia Pictures. He comes here from Salt Lake City where he has been on the sales force for the past two years.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday, (April 19-25). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane	33
Amapola	Marks	28
Maria Elena	Southern	28
Time and Time Again	London	27
My Sister and I	BMI	27
There'll Be Some Changes Made	Marks	25
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	23
Wise Old Owl	BMI	23
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	22
No. 10 Lullaby Lane	Warren	22
Walkin' By the River	BMI	21
Things I Love	Campbell	19
South of North Carolina	Porgie	18
Look At Me Now	Embassy	18
High On a Windy Hill	BMI	17
I Hear a Rhapsody	BMI	17
Perfidia	Southern	16
You Walked By	BMI	15

Willson Guestor On Ford Broadcasts

Meredith Willson will be guest conductor on first four broadcasts of Ford Summer Hour beginning May 18. He'll fly to Dearborn, Mich., for the programs after Thursday signoffs of Maxwell House Time, on which he directs the music. It marks his first radio job in the east.

Ends Song Theft Suit

New York, April 27.—Carl Field, Henry Clarkson and Jeff Clarkson, song writers, settled their plagiarism suit against 20th-Fox Film Corp., Con Conrad, Herb Madigson and the Sam Fox Publishing Co., Friday in Federal court. Action, asking $525,000, charged that the Field-Clarkson tune, 'Goodbye to Love', written in 1932, had been lifted.

Bob Murphy
wants you to know . . .
Dolores
From
Santiago de Chile
Singing
Friendly Neighbor Songs
of
Mexico and Points South
Premiere at House of Murphy
Wednesday, April 30, 1941
Reservations absolutely essential . . . . Call CRestview 5-0191

UNIVERSAL FIRST QUARTER PROFIT IN BIG JUMP

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

before Federal income and excess profits taxes.

Both figures indicate earnings are running about the same as for the first quarter which ended Feb. 1.

The Universal statement cited that 1940-41 production has been substantially completed within the overall budget. Of 56 features and four serials promised, all but four have been completed. It also states that six features have been completed for next season which starts Sept. 1.

Cowdin stated that he expected one half of the pictures for the new season would be ready for release at the start of the new year. He also said that a new high had been reached in the exceeding of 10,000 sales contracts closed for the present season.

It was also revealed by the board chairman that the company's Chicago convention was the only one held on the 1941-42 product, with selling on the new season now going forward. He reported that voting trust certificate holders had approved seven-year pacts for seven top execs at Wilmington, Del., on April 22, with nearly 99% favoring the new deals. Also, by-laws of the corporation were amended to indemnify directors against suits excepting for wilful misconduct or action in bad faith.

Guests Comingore

Erskine (Skinnay) Johnson will interview Dorothy Comingore, RKO actress, tonight on his weekly Hollywood Tattletales program over KFI at 8 p.m. Hollywood chatter show starts its new time with tonight's program, having formerly aired over KECA twice weekly at an earlier hour.

Albert Freelances

Warners has given Eddie Albert his release, but he will do one picture there on a freelance basis. He will continue freelancing, but with a good prospect that he may go to Metro.

Universal Setting Plans For Employes Going Into U.S. Service

Final details of Universal's plans for employes who go into military service are expected to be completed this week following huddles between J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, and Nate J. Blumberg, president, and studio executives. Company has been taking care of group insurance premiums in the meantime until definite procedure is worked out.

Cowdin and Blumberg, who have been here past week and a half, were joined last Friday by William A. Scully, general sales manager, who arrived to huddle on forthcoming product.

AMOS 'N' ANDY, NBC HIT IN SUIT

Amos 'n' Andy (Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll) are named defendants in a $50,000 damage suit filed in Los Angeles Superior court by Boris Travnikoff, also known as William Crow, through Attorney Harold Fendler. Suit also names the National Broadcasting Co. as a codefendant, and seeks $25,000 damages for alleged unauthorized use of a series of black-face dialog, based on the 'stop and swap' idea, and an additional $25,000 for interference in the production of a motion picture based on the same idea.

Complaint charges that Travnikoff wrote some dialog with the central idea a 'stop and swap' motif, and that these were broadcast over KMTR and KHJ in 1934 and 1935. Three years later, when Travnikoff was arranging with Russell Bridges to produce a motion picture of the same idea, defendants, Amos 'n' Andy, are accused of starting a 'stop and swap' series of broadcasts over NBC. Plaintiff complained and some time later the black-face team discontinued the broadcasts.

Oscar Morgan at Par; John Balaban Easting

Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects sales manager now on a sales trip around the country, is here for studio confabs and to look over briefie product turned out on the Coast by Scientific Films and George Pal Puppetoons. John Balaban, Paramount theatre executive, has been vacationing here for several weeks and is expected to head east again Friday.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY'S DOUBLE-HEADERS

Hollywood, 5-3; Los Angeles, 2-2.
San Francisco, 5-6; Oakland, 1-3.
Portland, 5-6; San Diego, 0-3.
Sacramento, 8-8; Seattle, 7-3.

SATURDAY'S SCORES

Hollywood, 6; Los Angeles, 4.
San Francisco, 11; Oakland, 0.
San Diego, 11; Portland, 9.
Sacramento, 2; Seattle, 0.

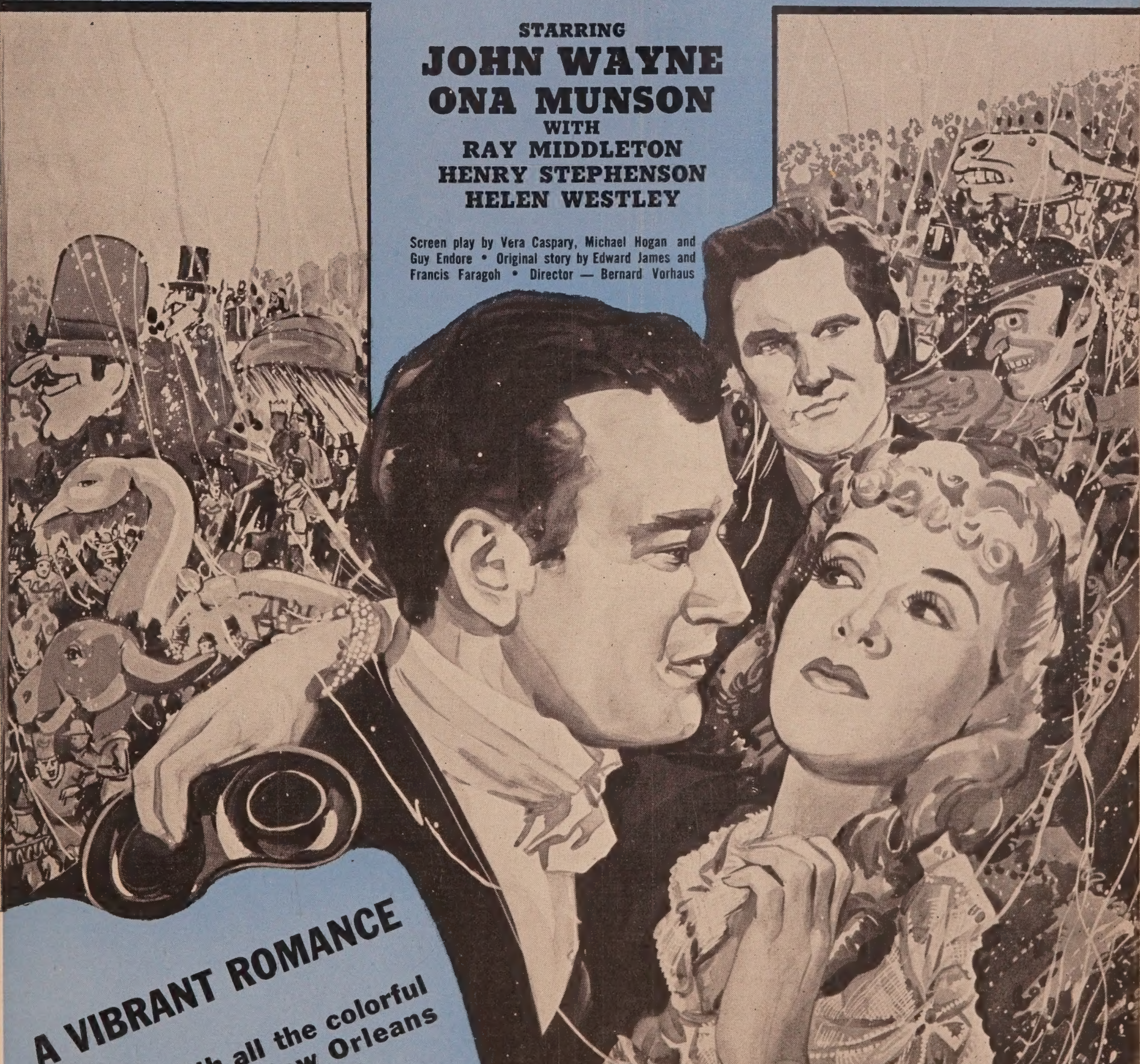
FRIDAY'S GAMES

Hollywood, 7; Los Angeles, 6.
San Francisco, 5; Oakland, 4.
Portland, 7; San Diego, 3.
Sacramento, 4; Seattle, 0.

LADY FROM LOUISIANA

STARRING
JOHN WAYNE
ONA MUNSON
WITH
RAY MIDDLETON
HENRY STEPHENSON
HELEN WESTLEY

Screen play by Vera Caspary, Michael Hogan and Guy Endore • Original story by Edward James and Francis Faragoh • Director — Bernard Vorhaus



A VIBRANT ROMANCE

Pulsing with all the colorful thrills of gay New Orleans and its Mardi Gras.

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

RKO Will Roadshow 'Fantasia' on All New Playdates

New York, April 27.—Deal has been set here for RKO to take over the road showing of Walt Disney's 'Fantasia' now that Disney sound experts have solved the problem of combining the eight Fantasound tracks into a single sound track without impairing the tonal quality. Understood deal calls for Disney to continue his own handling of those theatres which he equipped for original openings of the concert feature, but RKO will take over all new play-dates on a two-a-day basis.

Deal has been in work for some time and Roy Disney returned here suddenly from the Coast last week after studio sound experts finally reached solution of the problem which they have been working on for the past year. Disney has spent around $30,000 each on the 12 Fantasound units built by RCA, but limiting of distribution range because of necessity of tying up a theatre for installation of the special equipment caused cartoon producer to have his experts get busy developing a less costly method that could be used generally in theatres around the country. Deal with RKO will mean Disney will be able to show a faster return on the huge sum of money he has tied up in the film.

A Disney representative will work with RKO at each future opening of the feature, supervising the correct handling of the sound. Bookings now are being worked out by Roy Disney with RKO sales executives for an early, general roadshowing.

UA Sales Conferences Offed Indefinitely

New York, April 27.—United Artists regional sales conferences, scheduled for tomorrow, have been postponed to an indefinite date. It is understood that Murray Silverstone is not yet ready to announce the names of the new producers he hopes to have in line for 1941-42.

Silverstone hopes to impress UA salesmen with a powerful group of producers. First step in this direction was the inking of the pact with Eddie Cantor. Arthur Kelly, vice-president in charge of sales, who handled the Cantor deal, left immediately afterward by plane for the Coast to confer with Silverstone in speeding up parleys with producers.

First of the divisional sales meetings was to take place in New York, to be followed at intervals of a few days by confabs in New Orleans, Cincinnati, Chicago and San Francisco.

Cocking In Today

Eldred M. Cocking, survey analyst for the Wage-Hour Division, is due back today from a 10-day vacation in Colorado. Cocking made a survey of the film industry which was used to classify 25,000 workers.

Macaulay On 'Rio'

Richard Macaulay will do the screen adaptation on 'Carnival in Rio', forthcoming Technicolor feature at Warners which William Keighley will direct.

Wexley Given 'Law'

John Wexley has been set by Feldman and Blum agency at 20th-Fox to write the screenplay of 'Law and Order, Inc.', to be produced by Robert Kane.

Spyros Skouras Will Spend More Time on West Coast

Spyros Skouras, president of National Theatres Corporation, parent head of Fox West Coast Theatres, plans to spend much of his time on the west coast starting Sept. 1, dividing his interests between here and New York city. He will continue his duties as chief of theatre operations, but figures that with the new buying setup, caused by the government's consent decree, his presence on the Coast will be more needed than in the past.

Work on the construction of a new building, to cost in the neighborhood of $135,000, is to be started immediately adjoining the Fox West Coast home offices here, with provision made for quarters for the National Theatres prexy.

In addition the new structure will house the company's commissary, presently located in crampy quarters on the Washington side of the home office building, and also the main warehouse of the circuit's rapidly growing candy department. Offices for the increased film buying department also will be provided.

Plans for the new structure, which will face on New Hampshire street, are being completed and actual construction is expected to start within the next few weeks. It will be completed before Sept. 1.

Obituary

CHARLES J. CHIC

Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather for Charles J. Chic (Schick), 49, for the past four years production manager at Metro. Chic committed suicide early Saturday morning in his car near his home, 151½ South Bedford drive, Beverly Hills. Death was caused by carbon monoxide and ill health which Chic had been suffering apparently was to blame, according to friends. Interment will take place in Forest Lawn.

Chic started in the motion picture industry as a property man in 1918 with Joe De Grasse at Universal and later was an assistant director, working with W. S. Van Dyke and others, and also was assistant to William Duncan, who starred in and directed his own serials. He was brought to Metro in 1927 by Edward Sedgwick as his assistant, and also worked on that lot with King Baggott and others. He was named assistant to J. J. Cohn, general production manager, holding that spot until four years ago when Cohn became a producer, and Chic succeeded him as head of the department.

He is survived by his widow, Rachel; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Schick, of Glendale, and a sister, Mrs. Raymond Webb.

EDDIE CONRAD

Eddie Conrad, 50, dropped dead here yesterday of a heart attack. Actor, who has been in pictures for the past ten years, had but recently finished a feature role in Republic's 'Angels With Broken Wings.' He was a headliner in vaudeville for some years, appearing (with his first wife) as Eddie and Birdie Conrad. After he was divorced from Birdie Conrad he married Marion Eddy, with whom he also appeared in vaude. They, too, were divorced. Conrad was also with the Shuberts and his last show for them was 'Gay Paree.' He was in such films as Paramount's 'I Live For Love', and 'Romance in the Dark'; Warners 'Stars Over Broadway' and 'Adventures of Jane Arden'; Roach, 'Topper Takes a Trip', and 20th-Fox's 'Always Goodbye'; 'I'll Give a Million', 'Gateway', and 'Just Around the Corner.' Funeral arrangements are in charge of B. E. Dayton, Inc.

GEORGE J. FOX

George J. 'Foxie' Fox, assistant director to Al Green, Jack Boland, Raoul Walsh, John Ford and Irving Cummings at the old Fox lot, died Saturday at the United States Veterans hospital at Whipple, Ariz., after a long illness. He had been a patient there for the past year. Fox is survived by a brother, the Rev. John Fox, pastor of the Church of the Holy Spirit, at East Greenbush, N. Y. Death was caused by tuberculosis, the result of his being gassed in action during the first World War. He was with the 165th Infantry of the 42nd Division.

FRANKLIN RITES

Christian Science services, in the nature of a farewell memorial for Harold B. Franklin, former theatre chief, who died suddenly last Monday in Mexico City, were conducted Friday morning at Forest Lawn cemetery. Franklin's remains were cremated in the Mexican capital and his ashes interred there in a crypt. Theatre and a few studio execs attended the services Friday, also J. J. Franklin, a brother, who came down from San Francisco for the rites.

O'Driscoll Assigned 'Wild Wind' Topper

Martha O'Driscoll has been chosen by C. B. DeMille to play her most important role as Ivy in Paramount's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Second femme lead goes to Susan Hayward, which pairs her romantically with Robert Preston. Miss O'Driscoll will share triangle with Paulette Goddard and Ray Milland.

DeSylva Trains East

B. G. De Sylva trained for New York Saturday to stay one week talking product with Paramount home office executives and seeing new plays.

Barton Directs 'Girls'

Charles Barton has been assigned to direct 'Girls From Panama' at Columbia.

Col. R'cding Employes Plan Court And NLRB Moves

Following a brief sashay over a back-to-work movement at Columbia Recording Corp., striking employes announced their fight to keep the plant unionized will be taken into Superior court today and before the National Labor Relations Board. It also was stated that expulsion charges now are being preferred against the union member responsible for the return-to-work suggestion.

Spokesmen for the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers said that charges of unfair labor practices will be filed against the company with the NLRB, and that the union will institute legal action under the State Labor Code provision providing employers must bargain in good faith. In the meantime, clients of the company had already started legal maneuvers, which strikers admitted would break the walkout if successful.

The first legal move came Friday when Davis and Schwegler, music publishers, secured a claim and delivery court order for a master stamp plate at the Columbia plant. When the officer marched through the picket line to remove the plate, the union protested to Undersheriff Clem Peoples that an effort was being made to use his office as a strike-breaking agency. Peoples explained his office was required to carry out court orders, but is understood to have agreed to notify the union of such future moves to give it an opportunity to take action.

Unionists explained that if clients of Columbia were permitted to remove the master plates, additional records could be stamped out, and the effects of the walkout would be lost. They also claimed that the back-to-work movement was engineered by company representatives, but this was denied by the latter.

Homer I. Mitchell, attorney for the company, stated that Columbia had no desire to break the union. He said the company has and is ready to negotiate with the union at any time, and has made what it considers reasonable offers for the men. He said there is always a limit to what any employer can pay, and that Columbia felt it had been negotiated to the top.

The plant has been closed since April 11, when the company vetoed demands of the union that the maximum wage ceiling be tilted from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents. Later the union agreed to take 65 cents on recommendation of Edward Fitzgerald, U. S. labor conciliator, but the proposal was turned down by the company. The union insists the company's best offer has been a raise of 1.7 cents per hour, but company executives said the offer was approximately four cents, including pay for holidays.

Metro Seeking Grant For Garbo Film

Metro is negotiating with Cary Grant to play the male lead opposite Greta Garbo in an untitled production. Deal is understood to hinge on whether Grant's commitment at Columbia to star in 'Bedtime Story' will be completed in time to meet the starting date on the Garbo picture.

Eddie Cantor Becomes Producer-Actor For United Artists

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

which he appeared for Samuel Goldwyn. He aims to get into production around July 15 and have the picture ready for release around Christmas.

Comic will provide his own coin, UA's new financing unit or banks putting up none of it. Money is coming from his personal friends in New York, anxious to obtain an investment outlet such as this in the face of the new tax bill.

Cantor will get sole producer credit on the films and will have no associates. He does intend, however, to give himself important name support in the films in which he stars, he said.

Papers were inked at a powwow in Cantor's New York apartment on Saturday. Present for UA were Arthur Kelly, v.p. in charge of sales; Harry Gold, eastern district sales manager, and Dennis F. O'Brien, of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, UA's counsel.

BREEN SUCCESSOR NAMING SOON

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

Breen as Production Code Administrator.

Though Francis L. Harmon is first in line with Hays for the job, Hays must get the okay of the Hays organization board of directors for the appointment. Others, in case that Harmon, who is current head of the Code Administration in New York, does not get the spot, to be considered are Geoffrey Shurlock, aide to Breen on the Coast, or Harold Smith in the Hays office foreign department. One of publicity men in Hays office here gaggingly suggested Jock Lawrence, Coast press agent, for the job, feeling that the latter might endeavor to pursue his tactics of tying matters up in Code Administration as he is currently attempting with the press and publicity departments on the Coast in Gestapo fashion.

Report Small Selects 'Rooney' For Temple

'Little Annie Rooney' is understood to have been selected by Edward Small as the Shirley Temple starrer he will produce for United Artists release. Production is scheduled to start in September, likely following 'The Corsican Brothers' on Small's 1941-42 UA schedule.

Foster Joining 'Boy'

Susanna Foster has been assigned to co-star with Jackie Cooper and June Preisser in 'Glamour Boy' at Paramount. Bradford Ropes is now writing the screen play for the Sol C. Siegel production, which is slated to start May 26.

Rufe Davis' Juker

New York, April 27.—Rufe Davis, and 'Bonnie Blue—the Wonder Dog', are doing a three-minute musical novelty at Hastings Studios for distribution in the juke-box field. Davis has been appearing here at the Strand.

Cotten Assigned 'Fear'

Joseph Cotten draws one of the featured roles with Michele Morgan in RKO's 'Journey Into Fear.'

SISK, MARCUS LEAVING RKO PRODUCER BERTHS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

Rogers starrer, 'Tom, Dick and Harry', which has around three more weeks of shooting. A former Baltimore newspaperman, he has been with RKO in various capacities since 1932, when Harold Franklin appointed him director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for both Radio and the RKO circuit.

Before joining RKO he was for three years with VARIETY in New York and for six years publicity representative for the Theatre Guild. He served one year as assistant to J. R. McDonough, former RKO prexy, and then became a producer in 1935.

Sisk has been handling some of RKO's larger pictures and the two top features he was to do following the Rogers film will be assigned to other 'A' producers on the lot. Pictures are 'Sister Carrie' and 'The Play's the Thing', a forthcoming Charles Laughton starrer.

Marcus will vacation for at least two months before announcing a new connection. He has been with the company eight years, the past six of which he was in charge of the studio's budget films and was responsible for the development of several important producers during that time as well as turning out features himself.

Marcus joined Robertson & Coe on April 21, 1921, in the contract department, and when that company was taken over by F.B.O. he remained as sales manager. Later when RKO assumed control of F.B.O., Marcus moved up to become president of RKO-Pathe. Last Monday he celebrated his 20th year in the business. The first two years of the eight he was with RKO he handled shorts while learning the producing end of the motion picture business.

VARIETY ACTORS PAY JUMPED

Wage increases estimated to boost earnings of Los Angeles variety actors $250,000 annually were put into effect over the weekend by the American Guild of Variety Artists. Letters listing the new pay scales were mailed Saturday to 150 theatres and night spots.

AGVA tops stated that about 1,000 actors will be affected, with the number increasing as current contracts expire. It is estimated that the average raise per actor will be approximately $5 a week, although it will be double that amount in the higher brackets.

The scale for club dates is tilted from $8.50 to $10. The increase in other classifications is from $25 to $30 per week, $30 to $40 per week, $40 to $50 per week, and $50 to $60 per week. The latter applies only to Class A houses, the majority of which have contracts. AGVA also plans to make agents responsible for collection of actor's salaries.

Par's 1940 Earnings Around $6,304,064

Consolidated earnings of Paramount Pictures, Inc., for the year ending Jan. 4, last, were $6,304,064, plus discount on the purchase of company's debentures of $98,066, a total of $6,402,130, annual report issued by President Barney Balaban reveals. These earnings are after deducting all charges, including interest, federal taxes, depreciation and $523,783 additional reserve provided for contingencies. These figures vary about $16,000 from those released in February.

Russ Clark Bicycles

Russ Clark, who has just been given a feature role in 'The Bouncer and the Lady' at 20th-Fox, is doubling on 'Forced Landing' for Producers Corporation of America.

Writers Guest Smitter

Wessel Smitter, whose novel 'Another Morning' has just been published, will be guest lecturer at the League of American Writers tomorrow night at 8:15.

Trio Leaving May 15 For Signal Training

Three of the picture boys who are in the Signal Corps Reserves will be leaving the Hollywood scene May 15 for 28 days of training at Momouth, Va. Those going will be Lieutenants J. L. Warner, Jr., Jules Buck, photographer, and Milton Sperling of 20th-Fox. Group will likely be joined by Warners producer, Edmund Grainger, who is also commissioned in the reserves.

20th Pushes 'Valley' On 1941-42 Sked; 'Outlaw' Indefinite

'Sun Valley' has been tentatively pushed over to the 1941-42 schedule on 20th-Fox releases, and Howard Hughes' 'The Outlaw' has been shifted from a previous May release to an 'indefinite' status, according to new schedule revealed by Herman Wobber, general manager in charge of distribution.

Possible that 'Belle Starr' may be substituted for 'Sun Valley', or that the latter may again be restored to the 1940-41 schedule. Purpose is to shift the pictures so as to offer the best balanced blocks of five for readiness under the consent decree operation becoming effective Aug. 1.

Schedule of releases during next three months is as follows:

May 2, open; May 9, 'The Great American Broadcast'; May 16, 'The Cowboy and the Blonde'; May 23, 'The Great Commandment'; May 30, 'Blood and Sand'; June 6, 'For Beauty's Sake'; June 13, 'A Very Young Lady'; June 20, 'Man Hunt'; June 27, 'The Bride Wore Crutches'; July 4, 'Miami'; July 11, 'The Man With a Shovel'; July 18 and July 25, open.

Young Briskin At Col

Gerald Briskin, son of Sam Briskin, has been employed at Columbia for the past two weeks. He is just out of college and has been aiding producers in the making of shorts. After three months of this apprenticeship young Briskin will become assistant to Producer Bob Sparks.

ANNOUNCING!

A RADICALLY NEW AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF REPRESENTATION FOR PLAYERS, WRITERS AND DIRECTORS.

S. GEORGE ULLMAN AGENCY, LTD.

8981 SUNSET BOULEVARD

CR. 1-5669

Yates Arrives Today For Huddles On Rep Production

Herbert J. Yates trains in today from New York to huddle with Republic studio executives for the next three weeks on production matters. While here Yates will give a clearance to one of two stories Armand Schaefer has ready to go before the cameras and okay cast lineup.

Schaefer is awaiting the nod on either 'Tonight's the Night', formerly titled 'Jason, the Bucket', which Stuart Palmer screenplayed from the magazine story by Francis Cockrell, or 'Mercy Island', adapted by Malcolm Stuart Boylan from Theodore Pratt's novel.

O'Connor, Meyers Stay At RKO Until May 10

New York, April 27. — John J. O'Connor and Fred Meyers, respectively general manager and film buyer-booker for RKO theatre circuit, who resigned last Thursday, effective the next day, have agreed to remain with the company until May 10.

Much pressure was brought on the duo to reconsider their resignations. Peter Rathvon, member of the RKO board and the Floyd Odlum-Atlas Corp. rep on the board, and W. G. Van Schmus, managing director of Radio City Music Hall, also a board member, conferred with them to change their minds. Both were reported to have told the board members they did not want to reconsider as they felt that Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-prexy of the company and also Keith-Albee-Orpheum board member, had told them he was the important factor in operation and they felt therefore there was no need for them and he could handle the operations. Kingsberg also endeavored to get them to reconsider.

The differences between the RKO operators and Kingsberg had been going on for some time and came to a head last week after O'Connor's and Meyers' judgment in buying 'John Doe' from Warners for the circuit had been questioned by Kingsberg who said he should have been consulted before the deal was closed. Consequently the duo tendered their resignations and told Kingsberg he could take over and operate.

O'Connor has an offer from Warner Brothers to go in as assistant to its operator, Joseph Bernhard. Warners also is interested in Meyers. Latter also has an offer from National Screen Service while both have propositions to head a new group of independent theatres around New York that want to band together for operation and film buying purposes. Likely that a decision as to their future will be made by both Meyers and O'Connor during coming week.

Jones Wins Award

Ray Jones, Universal still photographer, last night was awarded the special trophy for making the most popular picture entered in the First Annual Still Photography Show of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. This made three awards captured by Jones. He won gold medals for the best action portrait and the best novelty still.

PRODUCER - DIRECTOR PARLEY SET TOMORROW

★ Continued from page 1 ★

far-reaching effects of the demands, decided to handle them through negotiations.

The companies will be represented by Y. Frank Freeman, E. J. Mannix, Cliff Work, B. B. Kahane, Fred Pelton, George Cohen, Herbert Freston, M. J. Siegel of Republic, and Maurice Benjamin. The Guild negotiating committee is composed of George Stevens, chairman; Frank Capra, George Marshall, Felix Feist, Phil Rosen and Leslie Selander.

Siegel, although not a member of the Producers Association, was called into conference by a group of company execs Friday, because of his familiarity with the situation through deals with employes in the smaller salary brackets. Siegel is understood to have analyzed the Guild demands and to have explained how their adoption would affect production costs, especially on low-budget pictures. Those meeting with Siegel included Y. Frank Freeman, Fred Pelton, B. B. Kahane, George Cohen, J. R. MacDonough, Cliff Work and Maurice Benjamin.

The regular Producer labor relations committee did not meet because of the absence of E. J. Mannix. When Mannix returns from the east today he will be given a fill-in on the actions of the Producer group and will be ready to sit with the executives when they huddle with the Directors tomorrow night. Attorney Mabel Walker Willebrandt also is due in today to discuss the proposals with the Guild negotiating committee.

The Directors are asking a minimum of $300 per week for directors employed on short subjects, montages and second units. A minimum of two weeks' salary is sought for a one-reel short, and three weeks for a two-reel subject. A minimum of $60 per day is demanded for a second unit or montage director employed by the day.

A weekly minimum of $350 is demanded for westerns and serials, with a proviso no contract in this classification shall be for less than three weeks.

For features, the SDG demands a minimum of $500 per week, with no contract for less than three weeks. Proposals also provide no flat deal shall be for less than the weekly wages specified in each instance. Where a director is employed on a contract of 40 weeks or more, the Guild is demanding a minimum of $200 per week for shorts and second units, $250 for westerns and serials, and $400 for features. Contract directors also would be guaranteed two weeks' vacation, and all directors would receive a 12-hour rest period.

The Guild wants to raise the present 80-20% Guild shop to 90-10%.

Off The Old Block

William Cabanne, son of Director Christy Cabanne, and William Beaudine, Jr., son of another veteran film pilot, will make their film debut as players in Paramount's 'Henry Aldrich for President.'

DEFINITE DISNEY MOVE TODAY

The first real move by the Walt Disney Studio to reach an agreement with American Federation of Labor crafts is expected today when Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, confers with a committee of labor tops representing the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The Guild delegation will be composed of Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

While the general labor situation will be discussed at this session, definite action probably will be postponed pending the National Labor Relations Board conference called for tomorrow by William Walsh to determine the status of the Disney Studio Federation. Walsh, NLRB senior attorney, was named acting regional director after the resignation of Spreckels.

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors meets with Spreckels tomorrow to discuss its demands.

Wanger Terms Cabot

Walter Wanger has signed Bruce Cabot to a term contract, with actor reporting there in May.

GOLDWYN SIGNS RKO CONTRACT

■ Continued from page 1 ■

Foxes', starring Bette Davis, and 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen', tentative title for a Gary Cooper starrer. Likely Goldwyn, who says he has an abundance of story material ready to go with, might add another to the group.

Deal was negotiated by Leo Spitz, Goldwyn attorney, with George Schaefer. Though terms of deal were not announced, it is understood that the deal is similar to the one RKO has to handle Walt Disney product.

Warners had offered to handle the Goldwyn product on a 15% basis for domestic distribution. Understood that RKO, figuring Goldwyn product had prestige value, probably agreed to distribute picture on cost basis to itself and benefit in reducing the cost percentage through volume of business the added product would bring.

Also likely that RKO might be financing portion of Goldwyn product costs as it did with Disney at time it made its shorts deal, contributing around 75% of the cost at time negative was delivered and splitting 50-50 after production and distribution costs were covered. On 'Snow White' RKO put out a special sales force to handle the Disney product, so likely this may be continued in the handling of the Goldwyn product and 'Fantasia', which RKO will also distribute.

Lloyd Signs Nigel Bruce

Nigel Bruce has been signed by Frank Lloyd for one of the top roles in 'I, James Lewis', latter's next producer-director effort for Universal release.

Pal, SCG Announce Tentative Wage Agreement

A strike of cartoonists employed on George Pal Productions was averted over the weekend when the company made a tentative wage deal with the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The walkout had been authorized by the workers, and 2 p.m. today had been set as a deadline for the company to give its answer.

The two groups went into conference Friday night, and the company agreed to a tentative contract calling for substantial wage tilts for all classifications. Details of the deal were sent to New York for approval, with the agreement that both sides would give a yes or no this morning. It is understood the deal has been given a favorable nod by the workers, and that its okay is certain by New York officials.

The company was represented by George Pal, Attorney Homer I. Mitchell and S. L. Vanderveer. The Cartoonists committee was headed by Attorney George E. Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters.

Dispute Over Laborer Jurisdiction Nears

The union jurisdictional dispute over studio laborers is nearing a climax, it was indicated yesterday by disclosure that Producers had issued orders to ban all workers carrying permit cards from Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The move came as a surprise since the dispute had been referred to the International presidents of Local 727 and Studio Utility Employes Local 724, both American Federation of Labor crafts. It was reported the ban on permit cards had the approval of the IATSE International, but local officials were puzzled over the move which caused some workers to be laid off. The dispute started shortly before Local 724 threw its support to the IATSE in a National Labor Relations Board election enabling the IA to defeat the United Studio Technicians Guild, sponsored by the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Tunes For 'Hawaii'

Don Raye and Gene dePaul have been set to write five original songs for Universal's 'Moonlight in Hawaii', to be sung by Johnny Downs, the Merry Macs and the femme lead, who is still unassigned. Leon Errol has joined the featured players in the cast.

Aherne In 'Smilin'

Brian Aherne has been signed at Metro for the male lead opposite Jeanette MacDonald in 'Smilin' Through', joining Ian Hunter and Jackie Horner as other cast toppers.

RKO Options Rice

RKO has taken an option for term contract on Florence Rice, following her role in 'Father Takes a Wife.'

Landers Gets 'Ship'

Lew Landers will handle direction on 'Mystery Ship', Jack Fier production at Columbia, set to start May 15.

Lugosi's Chicago p.a.'s

Bela Lugosi has trained for Chicago via Union Pacific to start a series of personal appearances.

A TEN ★ PICTURE

★ One of those "sleeper" pictures that turn out to be wide awake.

—Jimmie Fidler

★ Dependable audience entertainment . . . reflects impressively Charles Feldman's showmanly ability.

—Daily Variety

★ Grand screen material . . . threw the audience right on its face.

—Hedda Hopper

★ First "package" picture set up by the Feldman office is fast fun that will unquestionably clean up.

—Hollywood Reporter

★ Diverting comedy that should score well with audiences.

—Showmen's Trade Review

★ This first "package" deal which was arranged by Charles Feldman turned out to be a surprise package of hilarious comedy.

—Neil Rau . . . L. A. Examiner

★ A laugh a minute in this comedy . . . "Model Wife" is a model picture.

—Erskine Johnson . . . KFI-L. A. News

★ Certain of favorable reception by the large family audience . . . Charles Feldman delivered the entire package to Universal . . . probably foreshadows a trend in picture producing.

—Box Office Digest

★ It's a punchy comedy full of flavorsome situations and lines.

—N. Y. Herald Tribune

★ "Model Wife" sprightly comedy . . . swell for any audience these days.

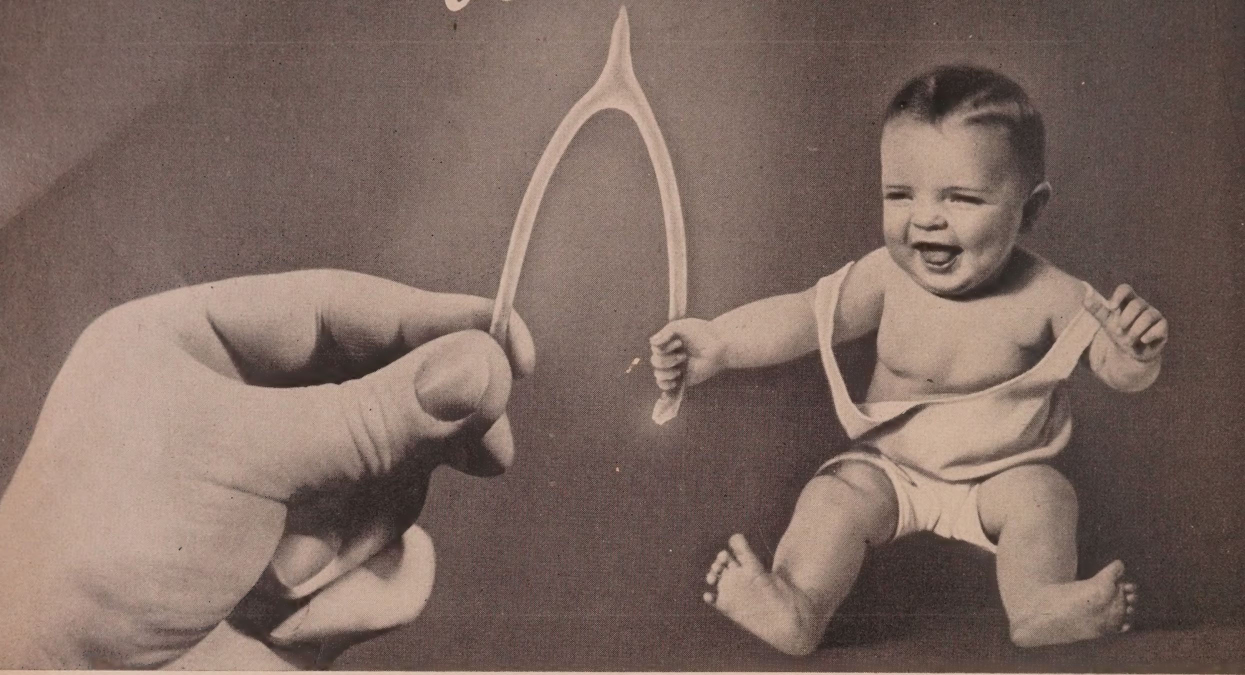
—N. Y. Post

OPENS L. A. PARAMOUNT THEATRE, MAY 8th

MODEL WIFE

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Wishing Is Wonderful!



...but action...drive...push and aggressive selling bring results.

That means advertising. That means Trailers . . . that means Lobby Displays consistently used . . . intelligently placed . . . expertly created . . . that means General Advertising Accessories tied in with your Lobby Displays . . . tied in with your Trailers . . . plentifully used . . . regularly used . . . full of selling action . . . full of selling drive . . . full of ticket-selling push.

Wishing is wonderful . . . but the Three Best Seat Sellers bring results.

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Prize Baby of the Industry!

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

Vol. 31 No. 39 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, April 29, 1941 5 Cents

$5.50 CALLS SLOW ACTOR PACT

MINN. ANTI-CONSENT BILL INKED

Minneapolis, April 28.—Gov. H. B. Stassen signed the Northwest Allied anti-consent decree bill over the weekend, making it the law of the commonwealth. Several major distribs have indicated a determination to fight its constitutionality in the courts and to seek a temporary injunction to restrain enforcement.

Contravening the government's consent decree's groups-of-five sales

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

David Butler, Kyser Here For Pic Talkover

David Butler planed in yesterday with Kay Kyser and his orchestra to confer with studio executives at RKO on his next producer-director effort. Butler will either do a Kyser starrer or the Technicolor horse racing yarn he has been working on for some time, with the Kyser vehicle likely to draw the first okay. Call-back to the studio is causing Butler to miss his first Kentucky Derby race in four years.

Carol Bruce Here In Quickie U Test

Carol Bruce, star of 'Louisiana Purchase', planed back to New York today after quick weekend trip here to make a test at Universal, where she is under contract. She arrived Saturday. Actress was signed about a year ago but hasn't reported to the studio because she is still in the musical. Executives wanted a test of her on record because she will soon be available for casting.

Leo Spitz to Gotham

Leo Spitz planes to New York tonight. While he is there the Samuel Goldwyn contract to release his pictures through RKO will be ratified by the RKO board at a meeting Wednesday.

Kitty Kelly Arrives

Kitty Kelly has trained in from New York for role in 'Hold Back the Dawn' at Paramount. Miss Kelly, formerly in films, has been doing night club entertaining recently in the east.

Truex Gets 'Toiler'

Ernest Truex will play one of the featured roles in 'Tillie the Toiler' at Columbia.

SPEEDY HEARING IN WALT DISNEY CASE SEEN

A tentative agreement to ask the National Labor Relations Board to order a speedy hearing on the Screen Cartoonists Guild demand for recognition at Walt Disney Studio was reached yesterday at a conference between Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, and American Federation of Labor tops. The request will

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Young Directs 'Revels'

Harold Young has been assigned to direct Universal's 'Radio Revels of 1942' and the picture will roll May 8. Joseph Z. Sanford is associate producer.

EXECUTIVES FEAR BOOST HITS B PRODUCTIONS

Producer agreement on the contract revisions requested by the Screen Actors Guild has been stymied by fear of certain company executives that the proposed limitation of $5.50 extra calls would substantially increase the cost of B productions. However, with the return of E. J. Mannix from the east, it is expected that a speedy agreement will be reached and that the new extra wage brackets can be put into effect shortly after May 1.

The SAG originally proposed that $5.50 tickets be limited to calls for 50 or more extras. Producers took

★ Continued on page 6 ★

SISK BECOMES PAR ASSO. PROD. MAY 12

Robert Sisk reports at Paramount May 12 under a new associate producer contract calling for him to handle top budget pictures. Sisk obtained his release from his producing contract at RKO yesterday and winds up on that lot as soon as he finishes work on 'Tom, Dick and Harry', current Ginger Rogers starrer which is slated to be completed May 7. B. G. DeSylva, Paramount production executive now in New York for a week, will assign Sisk's first production under the new pact as soon as he returns from the east.

Arthur Kelly Confabs With Silverstone

Arthur Kelly, sales chief of United Artists, arrived yesterday for conferences with Murray Silverstone, UA head, on forthcoming releases. Setup for the United Artists sales convention, to start May 12, also will be prepared by Silverstone and Kelly. Also arriving yesterday was Edward C. Raftery, attorney and representative for Mary Pickford on the UA board, and Mrs. Murray Silverstone.

Burden Aids Macgowan On S.A. Amity Job

Shirley Burden has been named Pacific Coast representative for Kenneth Macgowan in latter's work in the motion picture division of the committee for Latin-American amity. Burden will act as consultant on documentary films as well as producing and directing several. Burden, a former associate producer at RKO, has been president of Trade Films producer of shorts.

PREVIEWED

THE PIONEERS
(Mono)

THEY DARE NOT LOVE
(Col)

(Previews on page 3)

NBC CHARGED WITH PACT BREACH OVER 'KIDS' START

NBC is charged with breach of contract by the Davis-Pearson advertising agency for refusing to put 'The Kids of the Week' on the air Sunday to start off the series for Lime-Cola on 11 stations of the coast network. Donald Davis of the agency declared yesterday that the network would have to 'suffer the consequences' and that attorneys have been consulted. He said that formal demand had been made on the network to start off the series, but postponement was ordered by the chain.

It was indicated that NBC's reason

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

Morgan, Le Roy Easting After Par Huddles

Oscar Morgan, head of Paramount short subjects sales, and Fred Le Roy, sales co-ordinator for shorts from the New York offices, left for the east yesterday after conducting a two-day West Coast sales meeting here to outline new season's shorts program.

GRAHAM BAKER NEW RKO PRODUCER

Graham Baker will be added to list of RKO producers, taking the spot being vacated by Robert Sisk, who goes to Paramount. Though Baker will do the RKO chore, he will not disassociate himself from the Towne and Baker corporation, 'The Play's the Thing, Inc.' Baker was producer at Warners before returning to writing with Gene Towne.

Breslow on 'March'

Lou Breslow is scripting 'Forward March', the Laurel and Hardy feature which Sol M. Wurtzel will produce at 20th-Fox.

Directors Nominations End As Producer Sesh Begins

With the Screen Directors Guild ready to open negotiations with the Producers tonight, the general membership is electing eight new board members and is preparing to select a new set of officers to guide the organization during the next year. Frank Capra, who has served for two consecutive years, is not eligible for re-election either as president or as a director.

Ballots for nomination of candidates for the board closed at midnight yesterday. Each senior member will nominate eight candidates, and the 16 receiving the highest vote will be placed on a final ballot

◆ Continued on page 6 ◆

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Mitzi Green in town.

Lewis Allen Weiss in today from the east.

Jed Harris has planed in from New York.

Donna Adams, Metro player, has changed her name to Donna Reed.

Slim and Slam, Negro song-dance team, open tonight at Swanee Inn.

Republic watchmen yesterday blossomed out in snappy new blue uniforms.

Metro press previews 'A Woman's Face' at the Four Star theatre Friday afternoon at 2:30.

Harrison Holliway addressed Santa Barbara Advertising Club on 'Broadcasting Comes of Age'.

George Stevens, Fred Guiol and Edgar Buchanan start angling for trout at June Lake Thursday.

Mrs. J. J. Nolan, Mrs. William Hawks and Mona Rica are in Louisville for the Derby on Saturday.

Tom Andre is assistant director, and Art Smith unit manager, on Metro's 'Life Begins for Andy Hardy'.

Hugh Herbert and frau in yesterday from attending premiere of 'Flame of New Orleans' in New Orleans.

Harry Kaplan and Par crew air out today for Greensboro, N. C., to get additional shots for 'Reap the Wild Wind'.

Maureen O'Sullivan is back from six weeks' vacation to New York and Arizona to prepare for next 'Tarzan' role at Metro.

Wallace Beery is getting his annual spring mail from admirers tipping him off to good fishing spots all over the west.

Stan Rubin, Universal writer, and Jerry Schwartz have collaborated on a book, 'Small Wonder', which went to publishers yesterday.

Teddy Sherman, daughter of Harry Sherman, has one of the lead spots in 'Topaze', play which opens at the Pasadena Community Playhouse tonight.

Leland Hayward took his dad, Col. William 'Wild Bill' Hayward and John Maschio to Phoenix over the weekend to look over his flying school. 'Wild Bill', now around 68, became so enthused over the cadet maneuvering that he told his son he was going to apply to be out on active service in case of war, in charge of an infantry brigade.

Benny the Gouge sez—A sailor navigates down Vine street on a motor scooter. A modern version of the Horse Marines.

Hollywood Inside

HENRY BLANKFORT, long the top executive for the Hollywood Theatre Alliance, which produced 'Meet the People', has departed from the ranks of the H.T.A. and will help produce a strictly commercial all-Negro revue in opposition to one long planned by the Alliance. Blankfort and others have established the American Revue Theatre and announce that 'Jump for Joy' will be produced at the Mayan theatre early in June. Duke Ellington and his orchestra, the announcement says, have been signed for the show. Board of the American Revue Theatre includes Blankfort, Hal Fimberg, Walter Jurman, Sid Kuller and Paul Webster, some of whom have been associated with the H.T.A. Group plans to produce two revues a year, opening shows on the Coast and taking them later to New York. Meanwhile, the Theatre Alliance is going ahead with its plans to produce an all-Negro show. Committee composed of Charles Leonard, Edward Eliscu, Bob Meltzer, Hi Alexander and Phil Moore is working on details. Clash between those who wanted to make the Alliance a strictly commercial affair and those who wanted to use it as a non-profit organization to revive interest in the theatre here and to give young actors a break, has long stymied plans for the H.T.A.'s revue. H.T.A., in the colored show venture, is affiliated with the New Negro Theatre, which will benefit from the proceeds. 'Meet the People' is still playing in New York.

☆ ☆ ☆

GENE TOWNE-GRAHAM BAKER, 'The Play's the Thing', have obtained a six-month extension of their contract to produce 'How To Meet a Man', story by Towne. Concern was thwarted in making the picture for almost a year by casting trouble. They got Martha Scott for the femme lead with Orson Welles evincing a desire to appear in it with her and Edmund Goulding to direct. However, things did not jell and deal went cold. Yesterday the six-month continuance for RKO to release and finance pic was made with Towne to get male lead and director. In case nothing can be done there Towne has right to make the picture for another company providing RKO is paid $92,000 for the story rights and studio overhead. In event picture is made on outside Towne will provide his own financing and arrange for release through United Artists.

☆ ☆ ☆

LATE issue of PM, New York daily, carried a novel review of 'Model Wife' by the paper's film critic. Picture is playing at the Palace. Critic devoted exactly one paragraph to 'Model Wife', using the remaining eight paragraphs in the story to review the trailer for Orson Welles' 'Citizen Kane', which was screened at the same time. 'Kane' goes into the Palace May 1. Hearst papers continue their boycott of Welles, although the Los Angeles Examiner for Sunday had to give him a bow. Early last week Welles donated $25 to the fund being raised by Hearst papers for relief of the Colima, Mexico, earthquake suffering. His name did not appear among the donors to the fund. It was listed as 'O. Welles, $25.'

☆ ☆ ☆

DEAL has been worked out between Warners and Fox-West Coast whereby 'Meet John Doe', produced by the Capra-Riskin unit for WB is being booked for immediate playdates in the F-WC houses in this area. 'Doe' was given its Los Angeles premiere at the Warners Downtown and Hollywood, at slightly tilted admission prices, and distributing company was loath to generally release the picture at regular prices without stretching the protection period. Customary availability point was reached more than 10 days ago, but owing to failure of the major circuit to come to terms with the distributing company, no playdates were arranged for this territory up to last weekend.

☆ ☆ ☆

PICTURE locations are being rapidly delimited in the Los Angeles and adjacent port areas by increasing army and navy defense activities, especially in the harbor territory where heavy riveter machines make a racket which prohibits film sound tracking. Metro's 'Barnacle Bill', working at Fish Harbor, just gets in under the wire before several new steel ship-building plants get into heavy action. In the San Fernando Valley numerous locations heretofore frequently used by picture companies have had to be avoided because of increased training plane activities.

☆ ☆ ☆

UNORTHODOX procedure of keeping a radio star on the air through the summer and passing out a bonus to boot has fallen to the lot of Irene Rich, starring in a dramatic series for Welch grapejuice. Wanting to hold the audience and keep the momentum of the show going, sponsor put in the request with the added inducement, the actress assenting. She takes time out after her May 11 broadcast to fly to South Bend, Ind., to participate in the merging of two stations there, and hooking up with CBS. Miss Rich broadcasts over NBC.

☆ ☆ ☆

AT THE meeting of Common Stock Voting Trust Certificate Holders of Universal Corporation, held at Wilmington, Del., on April 22, the contracts covering the services of the senior operating executives of Universal Pictures Company, Inc., for a seven-year period from Jan. 1, 1941 were approved by a vote of 461,133 shares in favor, as against 5,547 shares opposed. Of the total vote cast, 98.8% were in favor of the proposals, or a ratio of approximately 83 to 1.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS, after sneaking 'Million Dollar Baby', has upped the music budget for the picture by $15,000 and Frederick Hollander has been assigned to do additional original songs and background music.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A sleeper is a dormant film that suddenly awakes
And causes golden gate receipts to swell.
It cheers the sad producers and it cures financial aches,
Like finding pearls within an oyster shell.

★ ★ ★

'Navy Blues' is about to break out with a femme sextet, recalling the remarkable Floradora Girls who increased and multiplied through the years. As time went on, any show girl who happened to break into print for any reason, automatically became a member of the 'Original Floradora Sextet.' It became the greatest sextet in history, numbering approximately 6,000.

★ ★ ★

Jack Benny will have to change his Maxwell for a motorcycle if he expects to fill all those studio jobs.

★ ★ ★

If the boys really want to stage a $1,000,000 benefit they have the material right here in Hollywood, r'arin' to go. They could fill any stadium with a double wind-up:

Errol Flynn versus Stirling Hayden.
Eddie Robinson versus George Raft.

Physically, Laird Cregar is a logical choice for 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.' He looks as if he came and stayed.

'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen' is pretty long for a picture title, so the professor probably will be dunked. Who cares for higher education on a marquee?

★ ★ ★

Naturally Universal picked Friday to introduce 'The Black Cat.'

★ ★ ★

Hal Roach may be the originator of Streamlined Features but it was Mack Sennett who discovered Streamlined Bathing Beauts.

'While the boys are naming candidates for the role of Texas Guinan', says N.F.P., 'allow me to enter a nomination. How about Mae West?'

Judging a beauty contest requires a lot of nerve, but the mere man who dares to judge a baby contest has more valor than sense.

★ ★ ★

Spencer Tracy is on the spot in 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.' He has to steal scenes from himself.

★ ★ ★

A censor in the picture biz—
Ah, what a thankless job it is.

★ ★ ★

When Sam Goldwyn gets to work on that picture, it will come 'The Big Foxes.'

★ ★ ★

When a show doesn't click, the producer loses. When it does, he makes enough dough to pay the taxes on it.

★ ★ ★

'The Great Train Robbery' is the grandson of the original wild western, as modern as a streamlined train. And not a hoss in sight.

Film Previews

They Dare Not Love

(*Drama*)

Columbia production. Stars George Brent, Martha Scott. Features Paul Lukas. Supporting cast: Egon Brecher, Roman Bohnen, Edgar Barrier, Kay Linaker, Frank Reicher. Director, James Whale. Producer, Sam Bischoff. Screenplay, Charles Bennett, Ernest Vajda. Story, James Edward Grant. Photography, Franz F. Planer. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Film editor, Al Clark. Art direction, Lionel Banks. Previewed April 28. Running time: 75 mins.

Columbia's 'They Dare Not Love' could have been shelved and no great disaster would have befallen the exhibitors of the country. It is just another (and not top-flight) anti-Nazi picture which is distinguished by poor direction and an anemic plot. George Brent and Martha Scott do an excellent job, as do other members of the cast, but even the fine talent of Miss Scott cannot rise above the shoddy material. Exploitation will have to emphasize the drawing power of the top names.

Brent is an Austrian playboy prince who skips out of Vienna with Egon Brecher, a professor, and his daughter, Miss Scott, just as Hitler's legions take over in 1938. They fall in love on the way to America, but her father warns her about an inexorable caste system, reminds her that she is a commoner and she refuses to tell Brent where he can find her after the boat docks. He drowns his sorrow with an American heiress, Kay Linaker, but finally encounters Miss Scott on the street. Her father rebukes him for playing while Austria is in bondage. Brent decides to give himself up to the Gestapo if seven of his countrymen are released from captivity in Austria.

Paul Lukas, the Gestapo chief, agrees that he will allow the men to cross over into Belgium if Brent surrenders. Brent sails for Antwerp on a Belgian ship, unaware that the boat has just been purchased by the Nazis and will head for Hamburg. All the other passengers have been barred from the ship, but Miss Scott discovers the double-cross and dashes to the boat to warn Brent. She, too, is made captive. At sea, the captain of the ship, Frank Reicher, marries them. For being too friendly to them he is disciplined by Lukas, who also turns up on the boat. When a radiogram from Berlin warns the captain that England and Germany are at war and orders him to change his course, he destroys the message and allows the boat to be taken by a British destroyer.

Lukas is as good as he possibly could be as the cold, melodramatic Gestapo chief. Excellent support is given, especially by Roman Bohnen, and by Brecher, Edgar Barrier, Miss Linaker and Reicher. It is sad that the abilities of Brent and Miss Scott should be wasted on the stereotyped screenplay by Charles Bennett and Ernest Vajda. James Whale is responsible for the direction. Sam Bischoff has given the vehicle adequate production, but a lily of this kind can't be gilded. Music and technical assistance are up to par.

The Pioneers

(*Western With Music*)

Monogram production. Stars Tex Ritter. Features Red Foley, Arkansas 'Slim' Andrews, Doye O'Dell. Supporting players: George Chesebro, Del Lawrence, Wanda McKay, Post Park, Karl Hackett, Lynton Brent, Chick Hannan, Gene Alsace, Jack Smith, Chief Many Treaties, Chief Soldani. Director, Al Herman. Producer, Edward Finney. Screenplay, Charles Andersen. Suggested by the James Fenimore Cooper novel. Photography, Marcel LePicard. Film editor, Fred Bain. Musical director, Frank Sanucci. Technical director, E. R. Hickson. Sound, Glen Glenn. Production aide, Samuel R. Wallis. Songs, Betty Laidlaw and Robert Lively, Jack Smith, Johnny Lange and Lew Porter, Red Foley and Lee Penny. Previewed April 28. Running time: 61 mins.

There are elements of juvenile entertainment in 'The Pioneers', such as Indians, wagon trains, chases and fights, which will allow it to get by as Saturday matinee stuff for the little kiddies, but no adult recommendations can be made. Outside of having some good songs for Tex Ritter to sing, which are well recorded, picture suffers from all manner of inconsistencies and depends on numerous library shots to pad the action and production. Western is the last of the Ritter starrers on Monogram's program, film cowpoke having gone over to another company.

Plot gets itself all worked up over the travail suffered by a wagon train treking west to settle land and the phoney Indian raids plotted by the white villain and his henchmen, who want to corner the rich lands themselves. It soon resolves down into a loosely-connected series of running fights, fist sluggings, bad marksmanship and similar desert formula, in spite of being 'inspired by James Fenimore Cooper's novel'. Ritter, the guide, is in unusually good voice for his songs and is adept at both fist and gun slinging and riding.

Red Foley and his Saddle Pals, from WLS' National Barn Dance program originating in Chicago, and Doye O'Dell from WTIC, Hartford, Conn., are prominently cast and do their best work in the vocals. Arkansas 'Slim' Andrews' comedy is thin and obvious, but with a chuckle here and there for the youngsters. Wanda McKay does okay in the brief femme assignment, and George Chesebro, Karl Hackett and Lynton Brent do well enough by the baddie parts.

Al Herman directed from Charles Andersen's screenplay, and at least has kept the action moving along. Edward Finney's production is standard, as is photography by Marcel LePicard. Best of the songs, 'Song of the Trail', was clefted by Betty Laidlaw and Robert Lively.

Big Industry Benefits Planned for Greeks In Mid-West

In spite of Greek reverses, which have led to abandonment of much of the country to the Nazis, industry aid to the stricken country and its people is to continue. At least several million Greeks are known to be at Crete and on other islands in the Aegean sea, and these, more than ever, it is stated by Greek interests, require all material aid possible.

Next big industry benefits for the cause will be staged at Cincinnati Friday night, and at the Armory in Louisville, Ky., the following night, Derby Day, May 3. Screen names to participate in these benefits include Tony Martin, Lana Turner, Don Ameche, Virginia Gilmore, Patricia Morison and Marsha Hunt. Latter pulls out today and balance of screen contingent planes out tomorrow night.

Film players will be guests of Jouett Ross Todd, Louisville chairman of the Greek War Relief, at the Derby Saturday, and other local festivities are planned.

On the west coast relief activities continue unabated. Last Saturday night Herbert Marshall appeared at the benefit performance in Seattle, and on Thursday night last Bob Hope headed a big show at the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium, when close to $5,000 was raised for the cause. Among those participating were Linda Darnell, Virginia Gilmore, Jerry Colonna and Laraine Day.

Stressing the need for continued relief efforts for the Greeks, Charles P. Skouras pointed out that once before the Greek nation had been conquered, but that after 400 years had regained its independence through the efforts of the Greek islanders. 'Hitler and Mussolini may take over continental Greece', Skouras said, 'but the millions of Greeks on the numerous islands will fight on until their independence is again secured. Greece is not defeated and never will be. Therefore, the need for material assistance is greater now than ever.'

Schaefer Goes East On Peace Jaunt

George Schaefer planes out today for New York to return by end of the week. Is going to attend monthly meeting of the RKO directorial board on Wednesday. Also might try to patch up situation to keep John J. O'Connor, RKO theatre circuit general manager and Fred Meyers, booker-film buyer, with the company, who resigned after differences with Malcolm Kingsberg, vice prexy of the company over operations authority.

Ted Lewis Back North

Ted Lewis, who played the Bal Tabarin in San Francisco in February, later filling a date at the Golden Gate theatre there, returns to the Tom Geron night spot for two weeks, starting May 27.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

BETTE DAVIS, reporting for work yesterday in 'The Little Foxes', gifted femme members of the cast of the production with bouquets of flowers while the male players drew boutonnaires. . . . Sidney Levee believes in cooperation with the fire department. When seat of his car burst into flame from spilled pipe ashes, Levee first tried pouring soda pop on smouldering upholstery. That didn't work so he drove up to the fire station and requested assistance. . . . Joseph Sawyer Santley, Examiner reporter and son of Joe Santley, of Republic, will be married Thursday afternoon to Alice Paula Sterling. Ceremony will take place at 5 p.m. at the Good Shepherd church, Beverly Hills.

Orson Welles received an embarrassing embrace on the RKO lot the other day.

MISCHA AUER will appear with five film Cossack stunt riders at the 'Movie Stars Racing Jamboree' at the Gilmore stadium Sunday for the benefit of the Mount Sinai Free Clinic and Theatre Authority. . . The Andrews Sisters escaped serious injuries when they were returning over the weekend from an appearance at San Diego. Vic Schoen, orchestra leader, was driving their car when it was struck by another machine. Both cars were wrecked. Singers' car was so badly damaged they promptly turned it in on a new one. . . Tommy Cook is mulling an offer to play in J. Lee Murphy's legiter, 'The Denial', in Providence, R. I., this summer. . . . Gene Autry, Jerry Colonna, Roy Rogers, Buck Jones, Martha O'Driscoll and Tex Ritter head the list of players who will take part in the first annual Encino horse show and carnival there May 24.

Although Kay Kyser's Luckies broadcast tomorrow night has been cancelled by President Roosevelt's talk, he will give his full hour show at NBC. Tickets had been distributed and NBC, which kicks back to the sponsor for the blackout, didn't want to disappoint the studio audience.

EDGAR BERGEN is tossing a dedication breakfast Sunday morning to a group of friends in a hangar at Montebello airport, which he recently acquired and is now operating. . . . Tea and entertainment will be given by Claire Trevor, Frieda Inescort and others of the film colony at Dave Chasen's tomorrow afternoon for British Services. . . . Erna Rubinstein, Hungarian violinist, tomorrow night premieres Alex Hyde's composition, 'Gypsy Rhapsody', at Embassy auditorium, with a WPA orchestral accompaniment. Hyde is in Metro's music department.

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Under contract Twentieth Century-Fox

Col. Recording Execs, Employes Mark Strike Time

Columbia Recording Corp. executives and striking employes continued to mark time yesterday, with each side insisting that any move to reopen negotiations would have to be initiated by the other. The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers announced that any future parleys with the company would have to be before the general membership instead of with a negotiating committee.

Union spokesmen said that while no further steps had been taken to remove master plates from the plant, arrangements had been made to block their use at other establishments. They said both Allied and RCA-Victor had promised they would not handle any Columbia work during duration of the strike.

United officials said that unfair labor practice complaints were being drafted, but that official filing with the National Labor Relations Board would be held up a few days. The walkout started April 11 following a disagreement over wages.

Sandrich, Berlin In From Story Haunt

Mark Sandrich and Irving Berlin are back from a San Bernardino hideout where they have been collaborating on the story for Sandrich's next production for Paramount, the untitled filmusical by Berlin. They will write together here for another week before Berlin goes to New York.

Obituary

LOLO MUNGER

Lolo Munger, for 15 years assistant production manager to Robert McIntyre at Samuel Goldwyn's studio, died yesterday afternoon at St. Vincent's hospital. She is survived by a daughter, Jane, and a brother, Paul Keeler. The latter is employed in the electrical department at Metro. Services will be held Thursday at Pierce Brothers mortuary, with burial in Hollywood cemetery.

JAMES SCOTT

James (Jimmy) Scott, 41, widely known in distribution circles in the far west, died at Amarillo, Tex., last Saturday following an appendicitis attack. He was recently with the Universal sales force in Chicago, later moving to Denver to represent the Alexander Film Co. in that territory and also in the Salt Lake City area for National Screen Service. The widow survives.

RAMONA BERGERE

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather for Ramona Bergere, 39, writer, actress and former wife of Cliff Bergere, the racing driver. She died Saturday in Glendale.

No Carny Stuff Allowed In Pic Within Quentin

San Quentin, Calif., April 28.—Miramar Pictures Co., which set up equipment inside the prison walls for a film on life of inmates, can at least lay claim to authentic sets. Run of the institution was given the company by Warden Clinton Duffy, who permitted filming of scenes from the 'fish' stage to the day of freedom.

Director of the picture, a San Quentin alumnus, was paid glowing tribute as 'a man who came back' in a talk by the warden to the inmates. Warden Duffy appears as narrator in the film. He said he would preview the picture before its release and order cuts to insure an accurate portrayal of prison life. Contest is being conducted among the inmates for the picture's title.

Warden Duffy announced that pictures will be shown the inmates before many more weeks. He said that Warners has donated two projection machines and as soon as they are installed the films will be shown.

Telvise Local Fights

Televising of fights and wrestling matches at Legion stadium will be resumed Monday night by Thomas Lee's W6XAO.

Vallee Will Emcee Accolade Dinner To Jack Benny

Rudy Vallee yesterday was chosen to emcee the testimonial dinner to Jack Benny in Biltmore Bowl May 9 commemorating his 10 years in radio. Hour before the 1,000 or more guests are seated, NBC will air nationally a half-hour program from three points. Fellow vauders who trouped with Benny will be heard from New York; film stars, including Herbert Marshall and Claudette Colbert, join the hookup here, after which controls are switched to Benny's home in Beverly Hills where Benny's man, Rochester, will be dressing him for the big event.

Only member of Benny's Jell-O cast to be missing from the testimonial will be Phil Harris, who is committed to an out-of-town dance date the night of the dinner.

Walker Joins Small

Thomas Walker, former treasurer for the Gene Towne-Graham Baker production unit, is joining Edward Small Productions as treasurer, filling spot left vacant by resignation of C. W. Thornton, who goes to Hal Roach May 5 as executive vice president and general manager.

SWG Board Meets

The Screen Writers Guild executive board met last night to plan an agenda for its special membership meeting Thursday night (1) at the Roosevelt hotel.. The general session was called to discuss the progress of negotiations with the Producers.

MacWilliams at 20th

Glenn MacWilliams, cameraman, for the last seven years with Gaumont-British in England, has been signed at 20th-Fox.

'Kane' Opening In Frisco May 14; Boles Arranges

'Citizen Kane' opens at the Golden Gate theatre in San Francisco May 14, policy being the same as at the RKO-Hillstreet here, two matinees daily at 75c top, and one night show, all seats reserved, at $1.10 and $1.65. George Boles, manager of the Golden Gate, spent the weekend here conferring with Charles Koerner, RKO district theatre chief, on plans for the engagement.

Boles will have a stage show in conjunction with the Orson Welles picture, it being desired to maintain the regular house policy during the run.

Advertising and publicity campaign, mapped out by Koerner and Boles, calls for heavy display space in the Chronicle and News, together with billboard and radio advertising. Copy will be submitted to the two Hearst papers, Examiner and Call-Bulletin, but house expects the same trouble there as encountered in Los Angeles, where display copy has been turned down.

'Serenade' Holdover

'Penny Serenade' holds for a second week at the RKO and Pantages theatres, starting next Friday, but with a new supporting feature. Added will be Col's 'Meet Boston Blackie'. At both theatres it was necessary to eliminate second feature, 'Footlight Favorite' at all night performances Saturday, and throughout most of Sunday at the Hollywood day-dater. Another holdover will be 'The Great Lie' at Warners Downtown and Hollywood theatres.

Extras Council Sesh

The Extras Advisory Council meets tonight at 1753 N. Highland. Harry Mayo will preside.

Breen Scoffs Moves Of Studio Heads To Stop Resig

Pressure by important studio heads has been put on Joe Breen to forget about abdicating as chief of the Hays Production Code Administration. Breen yesterday informed those who made the request that he was definitely quitting as soon as Will Hays appointed his successor.

Breen is going on vacation with his wife and will do no chores during that period even though Jock Whitney propositioned him to make a Good Will tour to South America, with expenses paid. Breen says his vacation will be strictly that and not one that would be conforming to an itinerary.

ZILLES OPPOSING CARRUTHERS

Eric Carruthers, who is seeking re-election as president of Affiliated Property Craftsmen Local 44 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, will be opposed by Emmett H. Zilles in the annual election Friday (2). John Kop, William F. Mittlestedt and Phil Temple will fight it out for the post of vice-president.

Nominees for secretary-treasurer are Del Crawford, Ray Deter, Arthur Friedson, Edwin T. Hill, Jerry L. Hume and Harry Wolfe. 'Cappy' DuVal, Bob Bradfield and Dave L. (Scotty) Smith are seeking the office of business representative. George Bahr and Edward Cook are the nominees for sergeant-at-arms, and William Goodwin and Art Kranz are contesting for the vacant trustee post.

Nominees for the executive board are: nursery set dressers, Gene Mailes, John F. Doolan, Harry D. Smith; special effects, Walter Hoffman; prop makers, J. W. Losey, Frank O'Connor; property men, Lantz Curryer, Lucian M. Hafley, Hal Sausser; upholsterers and drapers, R. C. (Brownie) Brown, William S. Hepburn, James T. Moore; swing gang, William Kantor, James N. Walters; delegate to Central Labor Council, W. A. Dailey, Frank O'Connor.

Higgins Joins Roach

Ken Higgins checks off the KFI-KECA announcing staff to take a writing berth with Hal Roach. First assignment is to whip up the screen play of his original, to be produced as a musical by LeRoy Prinz. Higgins recently sold a yarn to Metro for the 'Thin Man' series.

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Deliberate Overbuying Held OK in Minn. Anti-Trust Case

Minneapolis, April 28.—Deliberate overbuying of product by an exhibitor in order to deprive an opposition theatre owner of film sufficient to operate his showhouse properly, and thus ultimately force him out of business or damage him extensively, does not constitute a violation of the Sherman anti-trust laws or provide a Federal court cause of action for damages, it has been ruled here by the U. S. District court.

Ruling was made by Judge R. C. Bell, at the conclusion of the plaintiff's case, in ordering a dismissal of the $75,000 triple-damage suit brought by David Ratner, of the White Bear theatre, White Bear, Minn., against Mrs. Jessie Jensen, owner of the competing Avalon theatre in the same town. Although testimony introduced showed that Mrs. Jensen had overbought film considerably, sewing up seven of the eight major company products so that Ratner, who had invaded the town, was unable to buy sufficient product, the court held that the plaintiff's acts were not concerned with interstate commerce and that, accordingly, the Federal court had no jurisdiction.

Action was unique in invoking for the first time, it is believed, the anti-trust laws in a damage suit by one exhibitor against another for cornering product, without joining in the action any of the film companies that made the deals and refused to sell to the complaining theatre owner.

MINN. ANTI-CONSENT BILL SIGNATURED

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

plan, the new Minnesota law requires distributors to offer for sale their entire season's product, the same as at present. It also compels distribs to allow a minimum of 20% cancellation, and to refrain from forced selling of any of its other films.

Companies that opposed the law in the state legislature were Metro, 20th-Fox, Warners and United Artists, and they also sought to induce the governor to veto the bill. Signature of the chief executive, however, was affixed at nearly midnight Saturday, following a hearing in his chambers.

Next move is up to the distributors, one of whom, 20th-Fox, has announced already that it would not sell films in Minnesota under the new law.

Barnes Lenses 'Ladies'

George Barnes has been signed to photograph 'Ladies in Retirement', Lester Cowan-Gilbert Miller production for Columbia.

Ill in Pix

GLORIA SWANSON and FLORENCE RICE are both ill at their homes, forcing rearrangement of shooting schedule on 'Father Takes a Wife' at RKO for the next few days.

CHARLES 'CHUCK' JONES, cartoon director with Leon Schlesinger, is at home with pleurisy and complications which may keep him off the job for several weeks.

NBC CHARGED WITH PACT BREACH OVER 'KIDS' START

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

for refusing to put the show on the air was that it verged too closely on the formula of another NBC show, 'The Quiz Kids'. Don Gilman, western division head of NBC, said yesterday that certain complications had developed but that he was hopeful they would be ironed out and the show take off shortly. Davis said the program had originally been approved but that it was later tabooed as presently set up. He declared that the show would be moved to the Don Lee network if NBC refused to take favorable action.

Davis said that the program differed from 'The Quiz Kids' in that it had only one quiz angle, that of the youngsters firing questions at some outstanding personality, appearing as a guest. Otherwise they discuss current topics and pick 'the kid of the week' for some meritorious act.

Show was to have started its origination in Seattle and work gradually down the coast for an extended stand here.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Republic)

'Puddin' Head'
Dir.: Joe Santley
Asst.: George Blair

SPEEDY HEARING IN WALT DISNEY CASE SEEN

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

be made today at an NLRB conference called by William Walsh, acting regional director.

Following their talk with Spreckels, Aubrey Blair, Herbert Sorrell and Attorney George E. Bodle expressed satisfaction with progress of the union drive on the Disney lot. Spreckels said they explored all of the possibilities of how to handle the job in an orderly manner, and that 'while Mr. Disney does not feel he can tell his employes what union to join, he is willing to do anything to help clear up the situation in a manner satisfactory to everybody.'

Walsh was in Sacramento yesterday, but it was stated he would return in time for today's conference. Principal hurdle is the Studio Federation, which was certified by the NLRB about two years ago. The Guild now claims to represent a big majority of the employes, but a group in the Federation still insists it is the collective bargaining representative. The SCG has branded the Federation as a 'company union.'

New House Being Built At Imperial and Vt.

Southside Theatres, in association with Fanchon & Marco, will start construction immediately on a new 1,500-seat deluxe nabe theatre at Imperial and Vermont streets. Plans are now being readied by Architect C. A. Balch. Theatre-operating company has purchased 340-ft. of property fronting on Imperial, and entire space will be used for the theatre and parking facilities. This will be first South Side-F&M theatre building activity since it completed the Fifth Avenue on Manchester avenue, Inglewood, some 16 months ago.

CHARLEY FOY'S SUPPER CLUB
In a new All-Star Show with Comedian **JERRY LESTER** and Singing **MAXINE LEWIS.**
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Pathe Laboratories Announces Big Expansion

Pathe Laboratories, Inc., is in the midst of an expansion program that will lead to the expenditure here of $100,000, and probably three times as great a sum in the east, at the Boundbrook, N. J., laboratories. Merwin Travis, vice-president, made the announcement.

Construction here involves building of an entire second story on the present plant on Santa Monica blvd., doubling the floor space. This enlargement also will make possible the installation of a new projection room.

Alterations, when completed, will increase the capacity of the laboratories about three times above the present capacity.

Cal. Senate Committee OK's Two Measures

Sacramento, April 28.—The Senate Labor Committee has recommended passage of Assembly bills 435 and 436 by Thomas Maloney of San Francisco, permitting employment of minors by studios and radio television, with written consent of the State Labor Commissioner. The Assembly passed a bill redrafting the unemployment insurance act, including a provision for refunds to workers who worked for more than one employer during the year and who were required to pay contributions on an amount in excess of the first $3,000 in wages.

Frankovich's 'Puddin''

Mike Frankovich is set at Republic for role in 'Puddin' Head', Judy Canova starrer which goes into production today.

Title Changes

'The Man With a Shovel', 20th-Fox, to 'Accent On Love'.

'Sun Valley', 20th-Fox, to 'Sun Valley Serenade'.

'Miami', 20th-Fox, to 'Moon Over Miami'.

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DIRECTOR

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Visio Setup Readied For 500 Theatres In Five Years

New York, April 28.—RCA now has apparatus ready and for sale that will, in the opinion of Thomas F. Joyce, RCA vice-president, make possible large-screen television immediately practical in the metropolitan New York area. Joyce believes that the visio setup will be practical for 500 theatres in certain situations throughout the country within the next five years.

Announcement came at a press conference preliminary to a demonstration for newspapermen and exhibitors of the new RCA equipment on May 9. Company will televise to the 1,000-seat New Yorker (NBC) theatre from Madison Square Garden the Billy Soose-Ken Overlin middleweight championship bout.

Joyce suggested that the film industry, instead of fighting television, get in on the ground floor. David R. Sarnoff, head of RCA, has ruled out NBC as a producer of the programs for theatres, according to Joyce. Joyce foresees a producer buying up television rights to sporting events and selling service on these to theatres with receiving apparatus. He suggested 10 cents to 20 cents per seat for ordinary affairs and 40 cents for a Joe Louis championship bout or something of that quality.

Apparatus per house will cost $30,000, Joyce said. He estimated line charges at $200 a week and service on machinery from $20 to $50 per week. Pictures would be wired instead of etherized. First, because getting permission from the Federal Communications Commission for a special channel might not be possible; second, to prevent non-subscribing theatres or home television owners from grabbing the shows out of the sky.

Correspondents Talk Over Previews

Top Hollywood correspondents meet today at the Brown Derby to receive an answer from the Studio Publicity Directors Committee on their demands that films be previewed here before they are screened in New York and other eastern cities. The Directors at their meeting last week agreed that the correspondents had a just complaint and promised that everything possible would be done to remedy the situation.

Lake Given 'Travels'

Next assignment for Veronica Lake at Paramount will be co-starring role with Joel McCrea in 'Sullivan's Travels.' Her next two pictures will be 'China Pass' and 'Blonde Venus.'

Cormack on 'Story'

Bartlett Cormack has been assigned to write the screenplay for 'New York Story', which Sam Marx will produce at Metro. Sam Jaffe agented.

Births

SON, seven and one-half pounds, to Mrs. Viola Sampson, at Cedars of Lebanon hospital Sunday (27). Father is Julian Hochfelder, Metro writer.

Mitchell Out for 3 Months; Arnold Sought for 'Devil'

Effort is being made to borrow Edward Arnold from Metro to take over the Thomas Mitchell role in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' at RKO, following announcement yesterday by actor's doctors that he would be unable to appear in pictures for at least three months. Mitchell suffered serious head injuries a week ago when horses drawing a buggy in which he was riding bolted. He is in Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

Offer was made to Alfred Lunt to play the Daniel Webster character by Ben Piazza, but former turned down deal because of ill health. Lunt is closing his current play to rest at his Wisconsin home while recovering from neuritis attack.

Replacement of Mitchell in the cast means that William Dieterle and his production associate, Charles L. Glett, will have to re-do about 10 days' work. Picture has been in production for nearly three weeks. Mitchell also was supposed to go into 'Unexpected Uncle' as his next RKO feature.

$5.50 Calls Slow Up Actor Pact; Execs See B Boosting

★ Continued from page 1 ★

the position that this would make little difference on big productions, but that it might have a decided effect on the cost of B pictures, where only 10 or 12 extras might be used daily.

Other proposals called for elimination of the $8.25 and $11.00 calls and adoption of a $10.00 bracket. If the original proposal is adopted this would mean that unless 50 extras are called, each would have to be paid $10.00 daily. The $5.50 proposal also would eliminate any specifications, such as ages, dress, etc. There also has been some talk of dropping the pay of dress extras from $16.50 to $15.00, but it is understood that no definite action has been taken on this. The dress group some time ago opposed a plan to increase their daily stipend, taking the position such a move might result in the use of fewer dress people resulting in a decrease of earnings.

With the switch in pay brackets and elimination of casual extras from the industry, SAG tops believe that the Guild will be able materially to increase the annual earnings of the regular extras who depend on the industry for a livelihood. Checks now are nearing completion on the extras who worked only a few days in 1940, the Standing Committee having recommended that they be dropped from the available list or be called only when regular extras are not available.

In urging a limitation on $5.50 calls, the SAG is understood to have pointed out that the original plan was to use them only in crowd or mob scenes. They were classified under the old NRA code as atmosphere players, and the Wage-Hour Administration in its survey of the industry so classified them and placed the higher paid extras in a separate classification.

It is reported that the Producers and the SAG have already reached a tentative agreement calling for improved conditions for day players and smaller paid freelance actors.

AGVA Board Meets

The American Guild of Variety Artists board of directors meets today to check effectiveness of the new minimum wage scales, and to discuss its licensing program for agents handling variety actors.

U. S. Supreme Court Refuses To Review Picketing Decish

Washington, April 28. — United States Supreme court today refused to review a California Supreme court decision upholding the closed shop and giving unions almost unrestricted rights in picketing. The case came up on appeal by Howard Automobile Co. salesmen of San Francisco, who were refused an injunction to restrain the American Federation of Labor Salesmen's Union from picketing them in an effort to force them to join the AFofL craft, and to force the Howard company to accept a closed shop contract.

The salesmen had organized an independent union, and had notified the National Labor Relations Board they did not have any grievances with their employers over wages, hours or conditions. The independent group was branded by the AFofL as a 'company union'.

Mull SMPFE Demands

Demands of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors will be discussed today at a conference between Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, and a Society negotiating committee. The Society recently filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board accusing Disney of unfair labor practices.

Sam Clark Moves

Sam Clark, Warners exploitation man, is moving from the studio publicity office to the Warners district sales headquarters, where he will work directly under Henry Herbel. Clark leaves in a few days for the northwest to set exploitation on 'Million Dollar Baby.'

a.m. Dailies

Ann Harding Wins Move—
Ann Harding was granted permission yesterday to take her daughter, Jane, to South America for three months. Court okay was necessary because of a ruling following her divorce from Harry Bannister some time ago.

Atwill's Son Killed—
Lionel Atwill has received notice from the British Air Ministry that his 21-year-old son, John Anthony Atwill, has been reported killed in action with the R.A.F.

Schenck, Moskowitz File Appeal In New York Case

New York, April 28. — Joseph Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz filed an appeal to the U. S. Circuit court of appeal today from the sentence of three years and one year and a day, respectively, of U. S. District Court Judge Grover M. Moscowitz, April 24. The 20th-Fox executives list 10 errors of the court in refusing to dismiss each count of the indictment on which they were found guilty.

Most important of objections was failure of the court to allow defense questioning of government revenue agents. This was 'a violation of the defendants' constitutional rights to obtain testimony from any available source.'

Another error cited was the court's instructions to the jury to take into consideration the failure of either side to call witnesses. This referred to the failure of the defense to call Roland West.

U. S. Court Judge Conger postponed until May 5 application of the government to fine A. C. Blumenthal for his failure to respond to a subpoena issued in the trial. Blumenthal could be fined $100,000, and is moving to quash the subpoena on the grounds he is very ill in Mexico City and could not come to New York. He has submitted affidavits of attending physicians showing that he has a nervous breakdown, and lung and kidney trouble.

SDG, PRODUCERS SESH TONITE

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

to be mailed to the membership Friday (2). These must be returned not later than midnight May 12. The eight receiving the highest vote will be declared elected. The new officers will be elected at the annual meeting May 19.

Retiring directors who are not eligible for re-election because they have served two consecutive years are Frank Capra, John Cromwell, Garson Kanin, George Marshall, Phil Rosen, Frank Strayer, King Vidor and William Wyler. Directors not eligible for election to the board because they served two consecutive years prior to 1941 are John Ford, Rowland V. Lee, Rouben Mamoulian, Lewis Milestone, Leo McCarey and Frank Tuttle.

The eight members who remain on the board another year are Frank Borzage, Victor Fleming, Tay Garnett, Henry Hathaway, Ernst Lubitsch, William A. Seiter, George Stevens and Norman Taurog. Capra declined to stand for re-election last year, but the membership refused to nominate another candidate and insisted on his retaining the post.

The election of new officers will not affect the negotiations with the Producers, since a special negotiating committee headed by George Stevens has been named by the Guild to handle these parleys. The SDG is seeking a minimum wage for directors on low-cost pictures, 90-10% Guild shop, and guaranteed employment terms. The Producer negotiating committee is headed by Y. Frank Freeman.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SH
Vol. 31 No. 40 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, April 30, 1941 5 Cents

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Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

DISTRIBUTORS QUIT MINNESOTA

AGVA URGES THOMSON TO TAKE OVER

The majority of the board of directors of the American Guild of Variety Artists yesterday asked Kenneth Thomson to take over the Los Angeles local of AGVA and administer its affairs until the membership selects an executive secretary. The communication addressed to Thomson and signed by 12 members of the board indicated that Kenneth Howard was being dropped as executive

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

Kent Entourage Heading West for 20th Parley

New York, April 29. — Sidney Kent and a party of 20th-Fox home office executives head for the Coast this weekend for huddles on the 1941-42 production selling under the consent decree. Herman Wobber, sales chief, who left Friday ahead of the others, is now in San Francisco. Accompanying Kent will be Charles McCarthy, William Sussman, William Gehring and William Kupper. Group will also decide on the time and place of the company's annual sales convention. Present intention is to have at least 15 features ready at the start of the 1941-42 campaign.

Bronston in Columbia Deal for 'Eden'

Columbia, through a deal with Samuel Bronston, former United Artists distributor in Europe, will distribute 'Martin Eden', Jack London's story. It is understood that B. P. Schulberg will supervise production of the story, with Bronston as associate producer. Picture will roll in August.

Janet Blair Signed

Columbia yesterday signed Janet Blair, formerly a featured singer with the orchestra of the late Hal Kemp, to a term contract and she will have a role in 'You'll Never Get Rich'.

Burton, Ropes Collab

Val Burton has been assigned at Paramount to work with Bradford Ropes on the screenplay of 'Glamour Boy.'

Chaplin, Tone In

Charles Chaplin American Aired in from NY yesterday morning. Franchot Tone returned on same ship.

SCHENCK OFFERS RESIGNATION FROM 20th

New York, April 29. — Joseph Schenck offered his resignation today as board chairman of 20th-Fox Corporation. He has been off the company's payroll at his own request since shortly before the start of his

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Skouras in Frisco

Charles P. Skouras, head of Fox-West Coast Theatres, planed out late yesterday for San Francisco, to be away until Friday. He was accompanied by Charles A. Buckley, head of circuit's legal department; W. H. Lollier, tax manager, and Tom Page, film statistician.

FILM SELLING SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF NEW LAW

Minneapolis, April 29.—Major film distributors here, covered by the government consent decree, have ceased selling entirely in Minnesota as a result of the enactment of Northwest Allied's anti-consent decree law which contravenes the decree's groups-of-five selling plan by requiring the offering for sale of each company's entire season's output.

Suspension of business is being done pending a study of the situation by home office legal talent. Even if they wanted to sell under the present law, distributors point out, they are not sure that such action would not make them liable to fed-

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

WALSH WILL ASK NLRB FOR DISNEY COMPLAINT

Following a hectic session before the National Labor Relations Board yesterday, William Walsh, acting regional director, stated he would ask the board to issue a complaint against the Walt Disney Studio and to set an early date for hearing the charges of unfair labor practice preferred by the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The conference was attended by Gunther Lessing, Disney attorney; Art Elliott, prexy of the Studio Federation, which labor tops have branded as a company union; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644; Aubrey

★ Continued on page 8 ★

Hines Directs 'Husband'

John Hines has been assigned to direct 'How to Hold Your Husband—Back', next Pete Smith specialty at Metro. E. Maurice Adler is now completing the screen play.

George Beck at Par

Paramount has signed George Beck to write the screenplay for his original story, 'First Decree.'

RKO's $8,500,000 Loan Okay Up Tomorrow

New York, April 29.—Simplification of RKO's corporate setup will be nearly completed next week inasmuch as a bank loan deal involving nearly $8,500,000 is expected to receive parent company approval at the RKO directorate meeting next Thursday. Another wrinkle will be eliminated tomorrow when the Atlas Corporation (Odlum) will lift 17,000 additional Mike Meehan shares of Keith-Albee-Orpheum preferred, as provided in the option made with the Meehan interests last December.

Spot Vince Barnett

Vince Barnett has a top role in John Nesbitt's The Passing Parade subject, 'Your Last Act', at Metro.

LEGIT OPENING

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE

Washington, April 29.—Karen Morley of motion pictures made her eastern stage debut at the National theatre here in 'Somewhere In France', a new play by Carl Zuckmayer and Fritz Kortner. Presentation was by the Theatre Guild. Piece is set to open next week in New York, but the chances are that Miss Morley will be back in Hollywood soon unless she has something else lined up in these parts. She is capable enough, certainly, and no doubt would be

♥ Continued on page 3 ♥

Americans Receive $9,675,000 From Brit. in 6 Mos.

New York, April 29.—At end of first six months under the British frozen coin pact, major American film companies will have received approximately $9,675,000 from distribution of pictures in England. Six month period ends tomorrow. Figure mentioned is considered certain despite lower theatre grosses in some spots during the past 30 days due to increased bombings. Revenue is reported higher or at least equal in most places. Picture house grosses have also benefited because less money is allowed out of the country under new money control regulations.

Graham Baker Given Three RKO Pix

Graham Baker has been assigned three pictures to produce at RKO, assuming assignments that previously had been given to Robert Sisk. Pictures are 'Valley of the Sun', 'Sister Carrie', from Theodore Dreiser's novel, and 'Through the Thin Wall', for Charles Laughton.

Tyroler Joins Metro

William Tyroler, formerly with the San Francisco Opera Company, has joined the Metro music staff under Nat Finston. He will be pianist, arranger and vocal coach for the younger contract players.

Hicks in 'Foxes'

Russell Hicks joins the cast of 'The Little Foxes' which William Wyler is directing for Samuel Goldwyn. Hicks is the third player from films to draw spot in the picture, all the rest being from the stage.

PREVIEWED

THE PEOPLE VS. DR. KILDARE
(MG)

MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY
(Rep)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Paramount unit room has gone non-nicotine.

Helen Parrish visiting the home town, Columbus, Ga.

Harrison Carroll and his wife leave tomorrow for New York vacation.

Constance Bennett and Gilbert Roland to Palm Springs for a week.

Arthur Hornblow and Myrna Loy fly to New York tonight for week's rest.

George Thomas, Sr., yesterday celebrated his 30th wedding anniversary.

George Bagnall planed to Washington yesterday on biz for Alexander Korda.

Ray Corrigan, Monogram's 'Range Buster', off on a tour of one-nighters through Texas.

Clay Morgan, NBC exec, got his first look at pictures-in-the-making at Metro yesterday.

Bill Boyd visiting Warners 'Bad Men of Missouri' set to watch the boys handle the sixguns.

Jack Kelly leaves Paramount publicity department next week to form his own exploitation agency.

Ozzie Nelson and his orchestra leave tonight for an engagement at the Palace hotel, San Francisco.

Manny Harmon's orchestra to play for Ann Lehr's Hollywood Guild party at the Ambassador Saturday night.

Max Archer, Warners glider expert, won special honors at Fourth Annual Western Championship Soaring meet.

Kay Mulvey is doing a series of short stories for the American magazine on interesting Hollywood personalities.

Ida Lupino and Louis Hayward to hideout for a week before reporting for co-starrer, 'Ladies In Retirement', at Columbia.

Veteran Wireless Operators Assn. holds its annual gabfest at Stowell hotel tomorrow night, with Prexy Hal Styles presiding.

'Fibber McGee and Molly' now holds down top spot in the Hooper survey and runner-up to Jack Benny in the Crossley.

William Farnum will be the principal speaker on the 'Mother's Day' program to be observed at the Elks Temple, May 11.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood and Vine is a spot where the old boys stand and watch the stars stepping out to play benefit performances for everybody but the old boys at Hollywood and Vine, who used to play benefit performances when they were up there.

Hollywood Inside

REWRITE of the fight scenes in Warners 'Manpower' is regarded necessary by studio executives because they fear the feud between Edward G. Robinson and George Raft might become dangerous if co-stars were permitted to clash with the violence the script now calls for. Associate Producer Jerry Wald and his collaborative writer, Richard Macaulay, were huddling yesterday on projected script alterations while animosity between Robinson and Raft is reported to have become so heated that on Monday they made physical passes at each other and avoided contact only because of poor aim. Meantime Director Raoul Walsh is handling the shooting schedule in such a way as to keep the two actors away from each other as much as possible, where script calls for them to carry through the jealousy angle regarding Marlene Dietrich. When Raft is working with Miss Dietrich, Robinson is off, and vice versa. Dressing rooms have been moved to opposite sides of the working stage, further to avoid the tongue lashing which is reported to have been going on between Robinson and Raft. To give Robinson new dressing room site required some six hours of work by laborers removing props on that side of the stage. Feud, for a time regarded as having been fomented purely for publicity purposes, but now declared to be the real thing, is asserted to have started during first few days shooting when both Raft and Robinson began to take more and more vehement issue with each other as to the limits of their respective roles as rival telephone linemen and to tell each other about asserted efforts at scene hogging in no uncertain words.

☆ ☆ ☆

MAINTAINING its right to pull a program off the air at any time, NBC yesterday indicated that Lime Cola's 'Kids of the Week' will not be broadcast Sunday from Seattle. Program, to have been launched last Sabbath on 11 stations of the net's Coast blue web, was ruled off when chain execs ruled it was too similar to Alka Seltzer's 'Quiz Kids', also on the blue band. Network officials claim that such action as derailed 'Kids of Week' last Sunday is subject to their discretion and that a show can be yanked in the middle of a broadcast or before it starts. Lime Cola has been offered choice of two substitute programs but agency representing the account, Davis and Pearson, has nixed the idea and insists that legal redress will be sought for breach of contract. Understood that 'Kids' will move to the Don Lee network if NBC refuses to take the show as presently set up.

☆ ☆ ☆

CURRENT issue of Pic magazine has yarn captioned 'Parsons vs. Hopper' accompanied by two pages of art. It's the feud between the two gals started by Louella Parsons that is the subject matter. The art will handle the pic crowd plenty of laughs for it appears as though Lolly was snapped mostly at disadvantageous photographic moments. One quote from article says 'Hedda, on the slender side, is a walking tribute to American beauticians; few people would guess that she and Louella are the same age.' Also tells how Lolly declared war on Hedda after latter scooped her last year on the James Roosevelt divorce story. Says she cut loose for being beaten on the Roosevelt yarn and as a result her paper killed the burn yarn in its second edition. Quite amusing is the treatise.

☆ ☆ ☆

ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES is opening a summer series of special screenings for the Academy membership Thursday night (1), with the showing of six new 'war reporting' shorts from Canada. The showing will be at the Paramount Studio Theatre and will start at 8:30 p.m. Titles of pictures to be screened are 'Everywhere in the World', 'Children from Overseas', 'They Also Serve', 'Fighter Pilot', 'Wings of Youth', and 'Guards of the North.'

☆ ☆ ☆

SCARCITY of young English film players between the ages of 18 and 23 has resulted in the elimination of eight of the 26 bits needing such actors in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' at 20th-Fox. Director Henry King was unable to line up sufficient young men to portray parts as British fliers and other English service men, largely due to the fact that majority of the bona fide English citizens of military age have left the Hollywood scene to serve their country.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE Bill Thomas-Bill Pine production for Paramount release, 'Dive Bomber', has been raised to percentage status following sneak and trade showings.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood at Oakland, rain.
Los Angeles, 12; San Francisco, 9.
Seattle, 3; San Diego, 0.
Sacramento, 11; Portland, 7.

Test for 'Smilin''

Wardrobe tests of Jeanette MacDonald and Ian Hunter started at Metro yesterday for their roles in 'Smilin' Through.' Picture goes before the comeras Monday with Frank Borzage directing and Victor Saville producing.

Col. Recording Strike Remains Status Quo

There were no new developments yesterday in the strike at Columbia Recording Corp. Pickets continued to march in front of the plant, with both the union and company executives admitting that negotiations were at a standstill. The United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers said picketing activity would be centered on Columbia Broadcasting Co. studio at the end of the week.

'Duanes' Washes Up

'The Last of the Duanes' finishes location shooting at Lone Pine today and starts interiors at 20th-Fox studio tomorrow under the direction of James Tinling.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In days of old when crooks were bold, there was no half-way mark.
The villain's heart was bleak and cold, his deeds were dank and dark.
The hero was a paragon of virtue, pure and white,
And all his acts were noble facts and his intentions bright.

But now the villain is a guy who bears a heart of gold,
Although he prowls a bank or two and lays the sheriff cold.
He saves the bonehead hero's ranch in many a shooting fray
And leaves the lovers in a clinch and gallops on his way.

★ ★ ★

Once they were called sunfish—the baseball fans who sat in the bleachers and heaved second-guesses at the manager. The Hollywood Stars, soaring in the Coast League firmament, are equipped with Hollywood production in the second-guess department. They are known as goldfish—the opulent fans who gather daily in the shade of Bob Cobb's Brown Derby and exercise the good old American right to tell it to Sweeney. Bill is doing a fine job of managing these days, which accounts for the sudden growth of the second-guess chorus, conducted by Lou Silver, with plenty of assistant conductors. It is always a healthy sign when the second-guess choristers raise their voices in baseball. When they grow silent, it is time for the club owner to worry.

★ ★ ★

Cliff Nazarro reports his life's ambition—to see a marquee bearing the legend:

Fuzzy Knight
Scarlett Knight
Bank Knight.

★ ★ ★

Don Terry went into motion picture industry as an escape from the tuna business controlled by his pa-in-law. To him the aroma of grease paint was more delectable than the whiff of fishing boats and canneries. Today he is pursuing dramatic art in the Metro film, 'Barnacle Bill', playing the role of a fisherman, up to his ears in tuna, on one of his pa-in-law's boats at Fish Pier.

★ ★ ★

The old fashioned college professor
Was dignified, crusty and gray.
His new fashioned college successor
Steps out in a screwballish way
And lends all his high erudition to back
A story cooked up by a studio flack.

★ ★ ★

Once upon a time an author wrote a novel and somebody turned it into a film story. Now he writes a film story and somebody turns it into a novel.

★ ★ ★

Ginger Rogers is taking a three-month vacation after her latest picture. One month apiece for 'Tcm, Dick and Harry.'

Film Previews

The People vs. Dr. Kildare

(*Drama*)

Metro production. Features Lew Ayres, Lionel Barrymore, Laraine Day, Bonita Granville, with Alma Kruger, Red Skelton, Paul Stanton, Diana Lewis. Supporting players: Walter Kingsford, Nell Craig, Tom Conway, Marie Blake, Eddie Acuff, George H. Reed, Chick Chandler, Frank Orth, Gladys B. Lake. Director, Harold S. Bucquet. Screenplay, Willis Goldbeck and Harry Ruskin. Based on an original story by Lawrence P. Bachmann and Max Brand. Photography, Clyde De Vinna. Musical score, David Snell. Recording director, Douglas Shearer. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Howard Campbell. Set decorations, Edwin B. Willis. Gowns, Kalloch. Film editor, Ralph Winters. Previewed April 29. Running time: 77 mins.

This latest entry in Metro's 'Dr. Kildare' series doesn't quite measure up to the entertainment peak reached by several of the others, and will depend largely on the impetus built up by those predecessors, and the well-established following, to play out satisfactorily. Picture for the most part moves along at a slow gait that makes the 77 minutes running time seem overlong, in spite of a number of sequences that reach an interesting pace.

Bonita Granville, as the guest player in the group, does the character of the ice show skater, establishing the story motivation that brings down legal troubles on the young doctor, his hospital and friends. Lew Ayres (Kildare) performs an emergency operation at the scene of an auto smashup in which Miss Granville is critically injured. When she comes out of danger it is with a paralyzed leg, wrecking her career. Kildare and his associates are haled into court to answer a large damage suit, and after much pro and con legal doings the doctor is cleared when it develops a spinal growth is responsible for the paralysis, and not the operation. Miss Granville is cured and everybody is happy.

Ayres dependably continues the Kildare character, although there are a few script instances where the clarity of purpose usually associated with the fictional medico is allowed to become fogged. Lionel Barrymore, the gruff Dr. Gillespie, ably makes the role stand out. Laraine Day (Mary Lamont) and Miss Granville supply the beautiful femme interest excellently.

Alma Kruger, Red Skelton, Walter Kingsford, Nell Craig, Marie Blake, Eddie Acuff, George H. Reed, Frank Orth and Gladys B. Lake, portraying regular cast characters, lend first rate support. Skelton, Miss Blake, Acuff and Orth take care of the comedy touches. Tom Conway impresses as Kildare's defense attorney, and Paul Stanton as the opposition counsel. Diana Lewis and Chick Chandler are good in smaller spots.

Harold S. Bucquet's direction doesn't reach his usual par for the series, due in part to the fact that the script by Willis Goldbeck and Harry Ruskin also failed to measure up completely. Feature is based on an original by Lawrence P. Bachmann and Max Brand and has changed considerable of the factors found in the published story. Production values are good, as are the photography by Clyde De Vinna and other technical departments.

Mr. District Attorney

(*Melodrama*)

Republic production and release. Features Dennis O'Keefe, Florence Rice. Supporting cast: Peter Lorre, Stanley Ridges, Minor Watson, Charles Arnt, Joan Blair, Charles Halton, Alan Edwards, George Watts, Sarah Edwards, Helen Brown. Directed by William Morgan. Associate producer, Leonard Fields. Screenplay, Karl Brown, Malcolm Stuart Boylan. Based on the Phillips H. Lord radio program, 'Mr. District Attorney'. Photography, Reggie Lanning. Film editor, Edward Mann. Musical director, Cy Feuer. Previewed April 29. Running time: 68 mins.

Republic's 'Mr. District Attorney' is strictly for those who think dramatic entertainment is anything with a gun in it. Speed is lacking, the dialog misses fire and the character of a femme reporter is not true to type, but the picture will probably do all right in the market for which it is intended.

Story finds Dennis O'Keefe, a beardless college boy with pull, getting a deputy's job from Stanley Ridges, the district attorney. There, with the help of Florence Rice, the girl newshawk, he manages to solve an old mystery and round up a gang of political thieves. Minor Watson, a lawyer, heads the gang. Peter Lorre is a public official in hiding because he is mixed up in graft with Watson. A huge sum of money in his possession is hidden in a bank safety deposit box where Charles Arnt, a Milquetoast clerk, filches some of it for his girl friend, Joan Blair. She makes a killing at the races. Authorities have the serial numbers on the currency but they don't know who passed the money after it turns up at the race track. Appearance of the bills proves Lorre is still alive. When he is cornered he murders both Arnt and Miss Blair. Watson gives him money to escape on a boat, but Lorre's wife, humiliated by her enforced poverty, shoots him at the dock. When Watson dashes to the bank to grab the incriminating money in the safety deposit box O'Keefe and Miss Rice chase him madly through the streets in a stolen police car, capture him and send him to prison. O'Keefe and Miss Rice, before this yeoman feat, have been fired from their respective jobs. They get each other and better jobs at the fade.

O'Keefe can't make his part believable and neither can Miss Rice. Both are personable, however, and do get by. Arnt is good as the bank clerk, and the others do their best, but the story throws 'em with its cliches and far from snappy pace. A good bit of chopping could have been done to liven things up. Technical side is adequate.

Republic is planning to make others based on the Lord airer, and some critics will hope for better results, after this practice try.

Montez, Morey Assigned Spots in 'Hawaii'

Maria Montez and Elaine Morey are assigned to featured spots in Universal's 'Moonlight In Hawaii', which starts today, Charles Lamont directing. Johnny Downs and Jane Frazee have romantic toppers. Marjorie Gateson also is added to featured group. Stanley Cortez will photograph 'Hawaii.'

Blumberg Comments On Adequate Pix On U.S. Defense

Service films being made here will give citizens of Latin America a more concrete and adequate picture of the U. S. Army preparations and its modern equipment than they have gained through any other medium, Nate Blumberg, Universal prexy, told his colleagues at the studio production and sales meeting here yesterday.

Comment was part of a report made to studio officials and eastern executives on results of the recent sales convention for Latin American managers. Blumberg based his comment on results of showing of the Abbott and Costello picture, 'Buck Privates', to the South and Central American sales conferees. He said the sales managers, all of whom, except two, were native born Latin Americans, were deeply impressed by the vivid panorama of U. S. military preparations and army training. Sales force also approved plans by studio to follow 'Buck Privates' and the currently working 'In the Navy' with productions about the marine corps, air corps and U. S. coast guard backgrounds.

In confabs here are Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin and W. A. Scully, general sales manager, who came in last Friday. In addition to conferences on production, Cowdin and Blumberg are working out final details on plans to take care of Universal employes who have gone or will go into military service.

Turner, Martin Flying Out for Benefits

Lana Turner and Tony Martin plane out today for Cincinnati to do a benefit personal appearance for the Greek War Relief. They then go to Louisville on a similar mission and remain over there for the Kentucky Derby. Les Peterson, of the Metro publicity department, accompanies.

Rose Brice Dies

Mrs. Rose Brice, mother of Fanny Brice, died last night at the Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

LEGIT OPENING

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

welcomed by New York in the right play, which, unfortunately, 'Somewhere In France' is not.

As a matter of fact, it is not any kind of a play. Rather it might be called several essays in search of a drama; essays on those facets of French character and outlook which brought France disaster as it met war unprepared.

Dudley Digges brings out all of his exceptional talent to bear on the leading role, but it is not enough. Piece was translated from the German by Ruther Langer, and the action takes place in a French inn, called The Last Drop, near Rheims. It starts before the present war and continues to the fall of France; it concerns the Fifth Column, appeasement, etc.

Besides Morley and Digges, cast includes Walter Slezak, Alexander Knox, Wesley Addy, Arlene Francis, Art Smith, Flora Campbell. Worthington Miner staged and scenery is credited to Watson Barratt.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

NBC prexy, Niles Trammell, will be guest at two luncheons while here for the Jack Benny testimonial dinner May 9. He will be greeted by civic and business leaders May 7 at California Club, and next day meets the leaders of the picture industry at Perino's. Don Gilman presides at the two feeds. . . . 'Come to Hollywood', ditty by Rudy Vallee and Dick Mack, is to be used as a campaign song by Hollywood Junior Chamber of Commerce in drive to bring next state convention here. . . . Billy Mills and the frau last night celebrated their 19th anni with a dinner at the airport with Cecil Underwood, producer of 'Fibber McGee and Molly', who flew to Chicago on a quickie deal between broadcasts. . . Sunset Bowling Center will stage the first annual motion picture bowling tournament, May 17 to June 8. Event will comprise three divisions; singles, doubles and five men squads; with entrants limited to members of various studio or industry teams in regulation leagues. Entries close May 10.

Dorothy Comingore de-glamourized herself on Erskine Johnson's broadcast over KFI. Her line should have read: 'I am five feet, two inches tall. I weigh 115 pounds. I have green eyes.' Instead, the actress read: 'I have green hair.'

WARNERS will touch off a national publicity campaign for its 15-year-old singing discovery, Gloria Warren, recently put under contract. Choice of several pictures under consideration will be made this week to launch the canary-actress on her film career. . . . Columnist on a national hookup reported that Groucho Marx would take a chair at Harvard as professor of humor. 'If he'll make it Vassar I'll take it', flipped the comic. . . . After 20 years of golfing Rollie Thomas, KHJ announcer, made a hole-in-one . . . nearly. The pill bounced out of the cup after 146-yard ride from the tee. . . . Mary Brian's engagement to Jon Whitcomb, New York magazine illustrator, was announced yesterday at a tea given by Mrs. Stuart Erwin.

When Chuck Koren went to collect his press agent pay from Ray Middleton yesterday he accidentally smacked his car into the actor's fender. He got the check, minus $16 for damages.

MARY PARKER and Billy Daniel got a swank turnout for their new show at the Cocoanut Grove last night, the western premiere of a dance burlesque of a circus, with Jimmie Brierly singing and six chorines backing up the terp novelty. Among guests were the Mitchell Leisens, Johnny Maschio and Constance Moore, Ralph Blum and Carmel Myers, Linda Darnell and Robert Jolley, Billie Burke, Jim and Mary Rogers, Norma Shearer and Jeff Tessel, Mr. and Mrs. John Loder and Gene Markey.

COAST TO COAST!

"SIS HOPKINS"

TODAY'S GREATEST SHOW

Exhibitors say so!

WESTERN UNION

1941 APR 9 PM 7 14

KMA229 36 NT COLLECT=OKLAHOMACITY OKLA 9
JAMES R GRAINGER= 5103
1776 BROADWAY NYK=

JUST SCREENED YOUR NEW PICTURE SIS HOPKINS TO AN AUDIENCE OF APPROXIMATELY 500 THEATER GOERS IN MY OPIONION NO PICTURE HAS EVER RECEIVED BETTER COMMENT THEY WERE STILL LAUGHING AS THEY WALKED OUT THE DOOR=

F M SWIGER STANDARD THEATERS.

WESTERN UNION

WU J164 34 COLLECT=ATLANTA GA APR 9 415P
JAMES R GRAINGER, PRES=
REPUBLIC PICTURE CORPN=

ATTENDED SPECIAL TRADE SCREENING JUDY CANOVA IN SIS HOPKINS STOP AUDIENCE ROARED WITH LAUGHTER THROUGHOUT ENTIRE PICTURE STOP CANOVA AND COLONNA WERE AT THEIR BEST STOP PICTURE IS TRULY " AN INVITATION TO LAUGHTER"=

COLLETT MUNGER

RHODES THEATRE.

Postal Telegraph

...RA=WP KANSASCITY 10 APR 6
...NGER=
...ICTURES=

ABSOLUTELY SPONTANEOUS RECEPTION SIS HOPKINS TRADE SHOWING UPTOWN THEATRE TODAY REPRESENTATIVE CROSS SECTION AUDIENCE. MOST EXPRESSIONS PRONOUNCE PICTURE SUPERIOR COMEDY MUSICAL. WITH JUDY CANOVA AND JERRY COLONNA RATING HIGHEST PRAISE ALONG WITH MANY COMMENTS PRODUCTION VALUES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS AND PREDICTION THAT AINT HAY TO BECOME TOP SONG HIT=

FRANK E RITTER
MANAGER UPTOWN THEATRE. 436P

WESTERN UNION

WU T270 21 DL EXTRA=INDIANAPOLIS
J R GRAINGER=
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

SAW SIS HOPKINS TODAY. IT'S ENTERTAINMENT PLUS. LAUGHS GALORE AND JUDY CANOVA DOES OUTSTANDING JOB AS SIS. CONGRATULATIONS AND REGARDS=

BILL MCILWAIN MGR
LYRIC THEATRE.

WESTERN UNION

1941 APR 9 PM 6 37

KHA158 25 NT=SALTLAKECITY UTAH 9
JAMES R GRANGER=REPUBLIC PICTURES CORPN
1776 BDWY NYK=

PREVIEW AUDIENCE ACCEPTED JUDY CANOVA SIS HOPKINS WITH TREMENDOUS LAUGHTER SURE REPUBLIC HAS A LAUGH SENSATION IN HOPKINS SHOULD BE TERRIFIC IN THIS TROUBLED WORLD=

RIALTO THEATRE J L LAWRENCE.

WESTERN UNION

...OIT MICH APR 10 1051A
...RAINGER,
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

ATTENDED PREVIEW SIS HOPKINS AT OUR FINE ARTS THEATRE YESTERDAY STOP
PICTURE HAS REAL ENTERTAINMENT VALUES AND BOX OFFICE POSSIBILITIES STOP
CANOVA IS STAR OF FIRST FLIGHT AND WILL PLEASE EVERY TYPE OF AUDIENCE=

CARL BUERMELE
CO-OPERATIVE THEATRES OF MICH INC.

WESTERN UNION

WU J125 28DL= CINCINNATI OHIO APR 9 242P=
J. R. GRAINGER
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

FINE TURNOUT FOR SIS HOPKINS PREVIEW THIS MORNING STOP COMMENTS FROM MIXED AUDIENCE HIGHLY ENTHUSIASTIC AND UNANIMOUS STOP KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK STOP GOOD LUCK TO REPUBLIC=

MANNIE ABRAMS
MANAGER FOREST THEATRE. 337P.

WESTERN UNION

...250 33 NT=SEATTLE WASH 9 1941 APR 9 PM 7 59
JAMES R GRAINGER=
REPUBLIC PICTURES
1776 BROADWAY NYK=

DEAR JIMMY: PREVUED YOUR "SIS HOPKINS" THIS MORNING AT ROOSEVELT THEATRE. WITHOUT A DOUBT THE BEST PICTURE FROM YOUR STUDIO TO DATE. BELIEVE YOU HAVE OUTSTANDING BOX OFFICE ATTRACTION WITH GREAT AUDIENCE APPEAL. CONGRATULATIONS AND REGARDS=

JOHN DANZ.

WESTERN UNION

41 DL 2 EXTRA=MV BOSTON MASS APR 8 330P
JAMES R GRAINGER,
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

SIS HOPKINS SCREENING AT OUR UPTOWN THEATRE BOSTON THIS MORNING ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSUL PREVIEWS WE HAVE HAD HERE. AUDIENCE REACTION EXCELLENT. PICTURE FULL OF ENTERTAINMENT AND GENERAL APPEAL. SHOULD PROVE REAL WINNER FOR REPUBLIC AND EXHIBITORS GENERALLY=

ALDEN PETERSON
DISTRICT MANAGER GILES CIRCUIT.

WESTERN UNION

WU T179 49 DL=EX CLEVELAND OHIO APR 9 105P
JAMES R GRAINGER
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

JUST FINISHED SCREENING "SIS HOPKINS" FOR MIXED AUDIENCE EXHIBITORS FILM BUYERS THEATRE MANAGERS NEWSPAPERMEN REGULAR PATRONS. WISH TO ADVISE THAT ENTHUSIASM AND APPLAUSE WAS TREMENDOUS. CONCENSUS WAS THAT CAST DIRECTION AND PHOTOGRAPHY PLUS EXCELLENT STORY RATED WITH ALLTIME BEST COMEDY MUSICALS YOU AND YOUR ASSOCIATES ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED=

MARTIN PRINTZ
ALHAMBRA THEATRE.

WESTERN UNION

WU T197 40=VA MILWAUKEE WIS APR 9 118P
J R GRAINGER=
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

SIS HOPKINS SPECIAL PREVIEW SHOWING ATTENDED BY EXHIBITORS THROUGHOUT WISCONSIN GREATEST TURNOUT FOR ANY PREVIEW YET THESE HARD BOILED SHOWMEN COULD NOT RESIST MAKING MOST LAUDATORY COMMENTS ON THIS TOP FLIGHT COMEDY MUSICAL THIS PRODUCTION WILL BE SUCCESSFUL EVERYWHERE CONGRATULATIONS=

RUDY KOUTNIK 252P.
VARSITY THEATRE.

WESTERN UNION

SB74 60 NT 1 EXTRA=LOSANGELES CALIF 12
JAMES R GRAINGER=REPUBLIC PICTURES
1776 BROADWAY NYK=
1941 APR 12

HAPPY TO HAVE HAD PRIVILEGE OF PREVIEWING SIS HOPKINS IN THE STUDIOCITY THEATRE STOP CANOVA DOES SWELL JOB FITS ROLL LIKE GLOVE DEFINITELY ESTABLISHES HERSELF AS BOX OFFICE FROM HERE ON OPERATIC NUMBERS BY CANOVA PLEASANT SURPRISE STOP SUPER CRITICAL AUDIENCE ENJOYED EVERY MINUTE OF PICTURE LAUGHS WERE MANY AND SPONTANEOUS CONGRATULATIONS ON BEST REPUBLIC PICTURE RELEASED TO DATE=

LEE W WENTZ MANAGER.

WESTERN UNION

WU T147 42 DL=DENVER COLO APR 14 1055A
J R GAINGER=

CONGRATULATIONS ON SIS HOPKINS. CERTAINLY YOU HAVE BEST PICTURE EVER MADE BY REPUBLIC AND IN MY OPINION THE PICTURE WILL PLAY PREFERRED PLAYING TIME BEST THEATRES. SKREWY COMEDY PARTICULARLY VALUABLE AT THIS TIME. KEEP IT UP JIMMY. THAT IS FINE WORK. REGARDS=

CHAS R GILMOUR.

WESTERN UNION

WU J145 103 2 EXTRA SHOW PGH=CHICAGO ILL APR 9 304P
MR GRAINGER,
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

JUST SAW ONE OF THE BEST PREVIEWS. I SIMPLY HAD TO SEND THIS TELEGRAM. SIS HOPKINS IS THE MOST ENTERTAINING AND AMUSING PICTURE WE HAVE SEEN FOR A LONG TIME. A PACKED HOUSE GIGGLES LAUGHTER AND ROARING APPLAUSE FOR JUDY CONOVA IN THE TITLE ROLE. CHARLES BUTTERWORTH, JERRY COLONNA, SUSAN HAYWARD AND THE WHOLE SUPPORTING CAST DESERVE THE SPONTANEOUS PRAISE OF OUR APPRECIATE AUDIENCE. ALL EXHIBITORS ARE ENTHUSIASTIC AND WANT TO GET THE BALL ROLLING. ¶ IN SHORT SIS HOPKINS IS THE MOST DELIGHTFUL MUSICAL COMEDY AND I FEEL SURE IT WILL BE A HUGE SUCCESS. GOOD LUCK AND BEST WISHES.=

PAUL S HESSE
MANAGER ESQUIRE THEATRE
CHICAGO.

WESTERN UNION

1941 APR 10 AM 12 52

MA672 54 NT 1 EXTRA=MINNEAPOLIS MINN 9
J R GRAINGER=
REPUBLIC PICTURES 1776 BROADWAY NYK=

BELLY LAUGHS STOP HOWLS GUFFAWS SCREAMS COMBINED WONT ADEQUATELY DESCRIBE THE REACTION OF THE MIXED AUDIENCE WHO SAW YOUR PICTURE SIS HOPKINS THIS AM STOP COMMENTS EXCELLENT. CONGRATULATIONS STOP ITS JUST THE KIND OF A PICTURE THIS COUNTRY NEEDS TO TAKE IT OUT OF THE DOLDRUMS, MY HEARTIEST BEST WISHES FOR SRO BUSINESS=

F A WIGGINS MANAGER RIALTO THEATRE.

Postal Telegraph

NA 140 N UR490 41 1 EXTRA DL= MA BUFFALO NY APR 9 536P
J R GRAINGER REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP
1776 BWAY NYC=

TELEGRAPH BILLS
And You Will Find
It Pays to Patronize
THE POSTAL

TODAYS PREVIEW SIS HOPKINS ATTENDED BY THE LARGEST AUDIENCE WE EVER HAD AND MY OPINION IS THAT THE AUDIENCE ENJOYED THIS PICTURE IMMENSLEY FROM START TO FINISH PICTURE HAS LOADS OF LAUGHS AND EXCELLENT MUSIC I CONSIDER PICTURE OUTSTANDING ENTERTAINMENT=

ROBERT DAME MANAGER SHEAS NIAGARA THEATRE.=

WESTERN UNION

WU J112 50 DL=OMAHA NEBR APR 9 123P
J R GRAINGER,
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORPORATION=

PREVIEWED SIS HOPKINS DUNDEE THEATRE AND CONSIDER IT A PERFECT PIECE OF ENTERTAINMENT. THIS OUGHT TO BE A REFRESHING RELIEF FROM THE PROPAGANDA PROBLEM AND WAR PICTURES WHICH HAVE BEEN FLOODING THE INDUSTRY. OUR AUDIENCE REACTION WAS A SPONTANEOUS HIT AND WE CONGRATULATE REPUBLIC ON HAVING A BOX OFFICE SMASH=

R D GOLDBERG THEATRE CIRCUIT
RALPH D GOLDBERG. 314P

WESTERN UNION

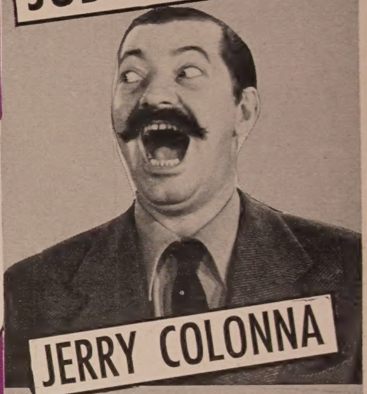
WU T268 61DL= FE DALLAS TEX APR 9 315P
JAMES R GRAINGER=
REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP=

MORE THAN 800 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE TRADE SCREENING OF SIS HOPKINS AT TOWER THEATRE THIS MORNING. AND IF THEIR REACTION TO THIS VERY FINE PICTURE IS ANY CRITERION I CAN ONLY SEE GREAT SUCCESS FOR ITS SHOWING IN EVERY THEATRE IN THE COUNTRY. IT IS TRULY REPUBLIC'S FINEST PICTURE AND EVERYONE IS REALLY TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR SUCH A GREAT JOB=

CHARLIE MEEKER.

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

JUDY CANOVA



JERRY COLONNA

BOB CROSBY
AND HIS BAND WITH THE BOB CATS
CHARLES **BUTTERWORTH**
SUSAN HAYWARD
KATHARINE ALEXANDER
AND AN ALL STAR CAST
JOSEPH SANTLEY, *Director*
SCREEN PLAY BY JACK TOWNLEY, MILT GROSS AND EDWARD ELISCU
ORIGINAL STORY BY F. McGREW WILLIS

Ascap Starts Supreme Court Test Fite On State Song Laws

Washington, April 29. — State laws permitting public performance of copyright music where the original purchase price has been paid will have their constitutionality tested in U. S. Supreme Court. Arguments started yesterday on validity of legislation passed in Nebraska and Florida, ratified in 1937 but later held unconstitutional by Federal courts on ground it infringed rights guaranteed by the Copyright Act.

Counsel for American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers centered their arguments on collective action as the only means owners of copyright music have of obtaining revenue. 'Without such a method the exclusive right of public performance for profit, vested in the copyright owner, becomes an unenforceable and valueless right, existing only in theory and robbed of all commercial value', it was contended.

It was further argued that it would be next to impossible to place on records or sheet music 'the selling price for all uses and purposes' because that would vary according to the use made and the popularity of the tunes.

Paul Radin Motoring East Friday

Paul Radin, who handles film accounts for the Buchanan agency, motors to New York after two-week stay on Friday. Radin conferred with various producers the agency services here, including the United Artists group.

Phyllis Parker Here For Air, Pic Work

Phyllis Parker, onetime writer in the silents and more recently radio scripter in the east, has shifted her base here and will split her time between air and screen writing.

Set Four Symphonies

The Four Symphonies, cowboy vocal group, take the place of the Sons of the Pioneers in the new series of Charles Starrett westerns at Columbia. First is 'The Medico of Painted Springs', rolling May 5.

Vic McLeod Chored

Vic McLeod completed writing on Universal's 'Arizona Cyclone' and has been assigned to write added comedy sequences for 'Ghost Town Buckaroo', starring Johnny Mack Brown and Fuzzy Knight.

Thorpe Troupe Inside

Location shots on 'Barnacle Bill' will be completed tomorrow by Richard Thorpe and he brings the troupe back to Metro studio for three weeks of interiors.

Maxie on 'Tavern'

Maxie Rosenbloom is guest Saturday on Ed Gardner's 'Duffy's Tavern', airing from New York and heard here at 7:30 p.m. over KNX.

Ill in Pix

TERESA BRACHETTO, script clerk to Henry King on 'A Yank In the R.A.F.', at 20th-Fox, underwent an emergency appendectomy at St. Vincent's hospital yesterday.

FILM SELLING SUSPENDED BECAUSE OF NEW LAW

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

eral prosecution and punishment for violating the consent decree sales provisions.

It is expected that the home office attorneys will decide within the next few days on the procedure to be followed. The trade anticipates an attack on the constitutionality of the Minnesota law, carried to the United States Supreme Court if necessary, and an attempt to obtain a temporary injunction to restrain enforcement of the new Minnesota law until its validity can be determined. Action could be instituted by violating the Minnesota law, or under an equity suit.

Penalty imposed for a violation of the new state law is a fine or imprisonment, or both.

20th-Fox previously had announced its intention to suspend its Minneapolis operations and to service adjoining states, now covered by its Minneapolis exchange, from other localities.

Majors operating out of Minneapolis, only exchange center in Minnesota, supply film for several adjoining states, including North Dakota, parts of South Dakota and the northwestern area of Wisconsin. Under the terms of the new Minnesota law, which was signatured last week by Gov. Stassen, despite vigorous protests launched by distributor reps, companies are prohibited from carrying out the terms of the consent decree which provides that packages of not more than five feature pictures may be sold to an exhibitor in one bunch.

HOW AGITATION STARTED

Agitation for a state law contravening the federal pact was started by the Allied group of Minnesota, which protested vigorously against the five-at-a-time picture selling plan. The Allied group also wanted the 20% cancellation privilege, now enjoyed by exhibitors, as against the cancellation privilege afforded under the new setup only on films that might be regarded as detrimental to community interests.

Majors affected by the Minnesota law are 20th-Fox, Warners, Metro, Paramount and RKO Radio. Companies that have not consented to the government decree are Universal, Columbia and United Artists. Republic and Monogram are not signatories to the pact.

Film companies bound by the consent decree are figuring on setting up branch distribution offices possibly at Fargo, in North Dakota; the South Dakota towns will be served out of Omaha, and the northern Wisconsin area from Milwaukee or some other convenient point.

Drastic action by the film distribs is attributed to the fact that to declare the Minnesota law unconstitutional, and conflicting with a federal law, would require some little time and distribution would be entirely tied up unless immediate steps to overcome the situation are taken.

SCHENCK OFFERS RESIGNATION FROM 20th

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

trial on income tax evasion charges. Joe Moskowitz, eastern representative of the company, also has been off the payroll voluntarily.

Formalities of resignation were completed when the letter was delivered to Sidney Kent. Next regular meeting of the board will be held May 15.

Schenck has told friends that if the court of appeal acts favorably on his application for appeal, which was filed yesterday, he probably will return to California and attend to personal business. The length of his voluntary leave of absence from company duties is entirely dependent on the outcome of the appeal motion.

Schenck organized the Twentieth Century Pictures Company with Darryl Zanuck in 1933, with Schenck as president. Firm released its pictures through United Artists until 1935 when both joined with Fox, forming the 20th-Fox Corp. Schenck at that time was named chairman of the board of directors, post he has held continuously since.

Eddie Davis Busy

Eddie Davis, who co-authored the Broadway stage success, 'Hold On To Your Hats', scripted 'Road to Morocco', which will serve Bing Crosby and Bob Hope as a vehicle at Paramount. He will work on the screenplay if he finishes 'You'll Never Get Rich', at Columbia in time.

a.m. Dailies

Oppose Ashley Allowance—

Opposition to continuation of $3,000 monthly allowance granted to Lady Sylvia Ashley, widow of Douglas Fairbanks, was yesterday filed in Probate court by Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and other heirs of the late screen star. Protests arose unexpectedly after Mrs. Fairbanks had filed routine petition for continuation of her widow's allowance, as provided by law.

Anson Weeks Files Suit—

Anson Weeks has filed suit in Superior court, Chicago, for $100,000 for injuries he alleges he suffered in truck-bus collision near Marengo, Iowa, on Feb. 1. Weeks claims his left arm was fractured in collision and has been unable to 'front' his band since.

Kreisler's Condition Better—

Fritz Kreisler, 66, who suffered a fractured skull when hit by a truck Saturday (19), is still unconscious at the Roosevelt hospital, New York, but his condition is reported satisfactory.

Jack Woelz Weds—

Jack Woelz, film editor at 20th-Fox studios, and Vida Halliburton, non-pro, were married Monday in Yuma, Ariz.

Bill Goodwin Acts

Bill Goodwin, radio actor who announces the 'Blondie' airshow, has been set for an acting role in the Columbia picturization of the comic strip character.

Mooney Orig Taken By Sam Katzman For May 15 Start

'Mr. Wise Guy', original screenplay by Martin Mooney dealing with the Whittier reform school, has been purchased by Sam Katzman, and he is scheduling production for May 15 start. Picture will be next of Katzman's 'Dead End Kids' features for Monogram release starring Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall and Bobby Jordan. Start awaits Hall's completion of his current assignment at Universal.

Katzman also has purchased 'The Trail of the Vampire', original by Carl Foreman and Charles Marion, and has signed writers to do the screenplay. Vehicle will be Katzman's next Monogram horror special with Bela Lugosi. Both story sales agented by the Flo Browne office.

Katzman also has purchased 'Sis, Boom, Bah!', musical revue, for presentation on the road before producing it as a picture for Monogram release. Katzman breaks the show in at San Bernardino May 2 and will likely play Ventura, Bakersfield and Santa Barbara before bringing it into Hollywood. Revue had a test booking at the Orpheum, downtown, recently.

Leo Spitz Planing Out For Selznicks Sesh

Leo Spitz, who was to have left for New York yesterday, flies out today on the Stratoliner. Trip is in connection with a possible deal for David O. Selznick and Spitz will hold confabs with Myron Selznick, who has been east the past two weeks handling negotiations for his brother.

Ted Bliss at KNX On Graham 'Yarns'

Ted Bliss, radio actor and former production manager at KHJ, has been made a staff producer at KNX. He draws Frank Graham's 'Nightcap Yarns' as his initial assignment.

Shuffle at KMPC

Department heads at KMPC have been reshuffled by Manager Bob Reynolds. Clete Roberts, former news editor, has been moved up to program director; Lou Huston is in charge of production, and Jeanette Spiegelman has taken over recorded programs and the music library. Walter Davison, formerly at NBC, is sales manager.

'Hardy' Goes Monday

Metro will launch production on the next of its Hardy Family series, untitled, Monday with George Seitz directing Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Ann Rutherford, Fay Holden and Sarah Haden in the title characters. Tom Andre will be assistant director.

Tonight - - Tonight
LA CONGA
presents
Leon Navara's
2nd Tin Pan Alley Night
honoring
FRANK LOESSER
"Composer of Dolores"
Plenty of Fun and Gala
Impromptu Entertainment
By Your Favorite
ASCAP Song Writers
and Celebrities
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AGVA Board Asks Ken Thomson To Take Over Biz

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

secretary of AGVA, although it was reported that his resignation had not been received up to midnight.

The request, signed by the 12 board members, follows:

'We, the undersigned, members of the local board of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists, earnestly request Mr. Ken Thomson to assume the authority vested in him by the National Board and to administer to the best of his ability the affairs of our local union until such time, at the discretion of the board, we may by a vote of the membership appoint an executive secretary. As an emergency measure, due to the inefficiency of the present administration and leadership, we sign this with the full knowledge of the facts, and with the sincere belief that it is for the betterment of our organization.'

The request was signed by M. J. Happney, Frank Mitchell, Helene Heller, Princess Wynemah, Cliff Nazarro, Lin Mayberry, Virginia L. Wiseman, Frank Yaconeli, Lucile Gleason, Jack Frost, Jade Rhodora, James Burke.

Howard came here from New York shortly after the appointment of Hoyt Haddock as national executive secretary. Haddock has since resigned. It was reported several weeks ago that Howard was to be dropped, but the board is understood to have decided to give him a final chance to deliver to its satisfaction. The request to Thomson was accepted by labor tops to indicate the majority of the board felt that Howard had not delivered.

Thomson is executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild and vice-president of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, the parent organization both of the SAG and the AGVA. The national board directed that Thomson maintain supervision over the Coast locals of AGVA. In addition to his other duties, Thomson recently was selected to head the Coast activities of the division of the National Defense Committee in charge of development of better cultural relations between the United States and Latin America.

Naish on Vacash

J. Carrol Naish left today on a short vacation at Lake Arrowhead before starting his role with Bing Crosby, Mary Martin and Brian Donlevy in 'Birth of the Blues', also at Paramount.

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces, to Mrs. William Wellman at St. Vincent's hospital Tuesday (22). Father is film director at Paramount. Mrs. Wellman is former Dorothy Coonan, actress. John Coonan, infant's uncle, is assistant director at Paramount.

SON, weighing nine pounds, six and a half ounces, was born April 24 at Santa Monica hospital to Mrs. Florence Quirk. Mother is a former dialog transcription clerk at 20th-Fox; father was at one time sports writer on Los Angeles dailies.

Files Bill of Particulars In Willie Bioff U. S. Case

Another step in the United States government's plan to send Willie Bioff to trial here June 24 on income tax evasion charges was taken yesterday when Assistant U. S. Attorney William F. Hall filed a bill of particulars charging that Willie received $169,211.38 in 1937-38 and paid taxes of only $634.70. It is claimed the amount was paid in cash, stocks, dividends and rugs, draperies, etc., from certain major studios.

Count one of the indictment itemizes the following income:

'Salary and per diem received from the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes during 1936, $2,448.

'Received from sources to the United States unknown the sum of $20,000 in currency deposited on or about June 1, 1936, in an account in the Bank of America, Hollywood main office, in the name of Laura Nelson.

'Income derived from RKO Studios in or about June or July, 1936, in the form of goods, merchandise and draperies, delivered to William Bioff in the amount of approximately $1,925.63.

'Income derived from RKO Studios in the form of goods, merchandise and furnishings purchased by the said RKO Studios, in or about June, 1936, to and including in or about December, 1936, from Barker Brothers, Los Angeles, California; Graybar Electric Co., Inc., Los Angeles, California; J. M. Feldman Company, Inc., Los Angeles, California; The Tennant Galleries, Inc., Los Angeles, California; Colonial Shops, Los Angeles, California; Harry F. Slater Co., Los Angeles, California, and Hansen Music Company, Beverly Hills, California, in the amount of approximately $2,140.91.

"CHINESE RUGS"

'Income derived from the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, in or about August, 1936, in the form of two Chinese rugs, one Sarouk rug, two fur rugs, two Sarakas rugs, two fringe rugs, purchased by the said International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes from the Setna Carpet Company in the sum of approximately $1,334.47.

'Income received as interest from Oak Park Trust & Savings Bank, Oak Park, Illinois, during the year 1936, from Savings Account No. 52251, in the amount of approximately $4.24.' This made a total for the year of $27,853.25.

Count two of the indictment lists Bioff's income for 1937 as follows:

'Income from salary and per diem paid by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes to William Bioff during 1937, $3,000.

'Income from dividends paid to William Bioff during 1937 from 500 shares of Consolidated Oil Corporation stock, 500 shares of Continental Can Company stock and 1,000 shares of 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation stock, $100.

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons or corporations unknown to the United States at this time, on or about June 23, 1937, in the amount of $100,000.

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons and corporations unknown to the United States at this time, on or about Sept. 18, 1937, in the form of Hollywood Turf Club stock, in the amount of approximately $10,000.

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons and corporations unknown to the United States at this time, on or about Oct. 21, 1937, in the form of 500 shares of Consolidated Oil Corporation stock in the amount of approximately $5,462.50.

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons and corporations to the United States unknown at this time, on or about Oct. 21, 1937, in the form of 500 shares of Continental Can Company stock in the amount of approximately $24,404.50.

CITES OIL STOCK

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons and corporations to the United States unknown at this time, on or about Nov. 18, 1937, in the form of 500 shares of Consolidated Oil Corporation stock in the amount of approximately $4,875.

'Income received from Joseph M. Schenck and other persons and corporations to the United States unknown at this time, on or about Nov. 30, 1937, in the form of 1,000 shares of 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation stock in the amount of approximately $22,000'. This made a total for the two years of $169,211.38.

Bioff is now at liberty on bail, and is residing at his Valley ranch in Canoga Park. He returned here after completing a six months' jail sentence in Chicago for pandering. While the impression has been given out that Willie is no longer active in IATSE affairs, representatives of the International spent some time in conference with him recently during the Wage-Hour hearings here.

Jeanne Kelly Lent 20th for 'Rio'

Jeanne Kelly has been borrowed from Universal by 20th-Fox for the femme spot in 'Charlie Chan In Rio', which rolls May 8. Deal set through the Flo Browne agency.

Walters Given 'Sin'

Luana Walters has been signed by University Productions to play the femme lead in 'No Greater Sin', through Conlon-Armstrong agency. Picture is slated to start shooting Thursday at Fine Arts studio.

Castle Loanout Upped

Nick Castle, who was borrowed from 20th-Fox to direct dance ensembles for Universal's Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell starrer, 'In the Navy', has had loanout extended for two more pictures.

Haydel's 'Basement'

Richard Haydel, 12-year-old pianist recently put under term contract at Metro, will play a spot in 'The Bargain Basement' as his first assignment.

Pair for 'O'Hara'

Dick Purcell and Joe King have been signed at Warners through the Leo Morrison office for roles in 'Bullets For O'Hara.'

Zanuck, Others Exam Set Before Trial In Upham Suit

New York, April 29.—Darryl Zanuck, Walter Wanger, Islin Auster, Edward Chodorov, Lucien Hubbard, Frances Manson and Archie Mayo will be examined before trial in California in early May in connection with the suit of Thomas Carlton Upham against Warner Bros. Examination was ordered by U. S. District Judge Hulbert at the request of Warner Bros. of all witnesses. Upham charges plagiarism of his play, 'Lost Boy', in the film 'Mayor of Hell'.

Warner Bros. will seek to prove the picture was based on 'Junior Republic', an original by Auster with the screenplay written by Chodorov.

Adelheim Sues UA On 'Song' Charge

New York, April 29. — Serge Adelheim, assignee of Beresovsky, today filed suit for $5,000 against United Artists in Supreme court. Adelheim claims song titled 'Be Still, My Love, Be Still', was used in 'We Live Again', without authorization. Adelheim has a similar action pending against 20th-Fox, making the same charge concerning 'British Agent.'

Welles Planes East For 'Kane' Opening

Orson Welles and Herbert Drake planed for New York last night, to be there for the opening of 'Citizen Kane' at the Palace on May 1. They may return by way of Chicago for the opening May 6 and will definitely be back here for the El Capitan opening May 8.

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Walsh Asking NLRB Complaint Against Disney Studio

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, and George E. Bodle, counsel of the SCG.

Lessing denied the Federation is a company union, and filed a lengthy statement with the board in which he claimed AFofL leaders had threatened to turn the studio into a 'dust bowl' or 'a hospital filled with workers beaten in a union war'. Elliott also denied the company union accusation, stating the Federation was independent and had an entirely new set of officers. He was supported by Attorney Howard Painter. The threat was hurled that if the company ceased to bargain with the Federation it would call a strike. The AFofL promptly countered with the threat that if the Federation didn't call a walkout it would.

Walsh reviewed the evidence step by step, finally stating he was satisfied from the proof offered that the Federation 'was a company dominated union.' He asked the company and Federation if they were willing to disband the group, and when both replied in the negative, he stated there was no other alternative but for him to send the case to Washington with the recommendation that a complaint be issued. He had previously pointed out the evidence showed the original organizational meetings were held on company property on company time, and that the membership was solicited by company officers.

AF of L leaders called a meeting for today to discuss the situation and arrange future plans for submission to the membership of the SCG. While the NLRB has indicated it will ask Washington to expedite the case, some of the AF of L leaders are reported opposed to any further delay.

In pointing out that there was substantial evidence showing the Federation was 'a company dominated union', Walsh stated, 'and much of the responsibility for this must be laid at the door of Gunther Lessing.' The latter has handled the negotiations which led up to the present strike threat, but Walt Disney recently retained Walter Spreckels, former NLRB regional director, as labor consultant. Spreckels did not appear at the conference today since the case was filed while he was still with the board. He was busy on the outside, however, trying to straighten out the snarl and prevent a tieup of production at the studio.

Demands of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors for a contract and wage adjustments at the Disney studio will be discussed today at a conference between studio executives and Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact. It is understood the company has promised to give the Society an answer prior to the meeting of its executive board tomorrow night.

Dan Keefe Rejoins Walter Wanger

Dan Keefe has rejoined Walter Wanger as production manager. Keefe was with Wanger for two years in that capacity, retiring last year because of illness. After recovering his health he went to Paramount for one picture.

Newshounds War on Studio Publicity Group Over Previews

Top Hollywood correspondents yesterday declared war on the Studio Publicity Directors Committee, when the latter group failed to give a definite answer to the writers' demand that pictures be previewed here before they are screened in New York and other eastern cities. The committee sent word through its chairman, John Joseph, that steps would be taken to remedy the situation.

The writers took the position that this was the same answer they had been getting for weeks, but that in the meantime the same old practice was being followed of previewing productions in the east and then showing them here. The correspondents then agreed that they would take steps themselves to remedy the situation, but declined to state just what those steps would be.

Several plans were said to be under consideration. One of these was a direct appeal to Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers' Association, over the head of the Jock Lawrence group. Another was to catch sneak previews, which in the past have been passed up in order to cooperate with the studios by giving them an opportunity to dress up a picture before it was previewed. Several other moves also were under consideration, the writers agreeing unanimously that they had waited long enough for the committee to take steps.

The writers are understood to have the go ahead signal from their publishers, who take the position that the correspondents are only trying to do the right thing in handling their jobs. It is probable that any move to catch sneak previews will result in the situation being taken out of the hands of the committee and being handled by the producers themselves.

Story Buys

Merrick-Alexander Productions has purchased 'Secrets of a Co-ed', by Carl King, as its next feature for release through Select Pictures. Film is scheduled to get under way in two weeks as soon as cast and director can be lined up.

Paramount yesterday purchased 'The Silver Queen', story by Forrest Halsey and William Allen Johnston, for an Ellen Drew starrer. Harry Sherman will produce the picture as a top budget film.

George R. Batcheller, production head of Producers Releasing Corp., has purchased 'The Warden's Daughter', an original by Martin Mooney, and has scheduled picture to start July 7.

Bolton Starts Selznick Jaunt to Mexico

Whitney Bolton leaves for Guadalajara tonight to bring back the five Reyes brothers, novelty musical act signed by David O. Selznick. Bolton will also go to Mexico City to get the world rights to three Mexican songs for Selznick. He will be gone 10 days, returning to head Selznick's publicity department.

Gable Works June 2

Metro has scheduled 'Honky Tonk', co-starring Clark Gable and Lana Turner, for production start June 2. Jack Conway will direct and Pandro Berman produces. Picture follows a two-week vacation for Gable after he completes his current 'Unholy Partners.'

'Rookie' Screenplayed

Karen DeWolf, Francis Martin and Tom McKnight have finished the final screenplay on Columbia's 'I Love a Rookie', which Robert Sparks will produce.

Harling's 'Adventure'

W. Franke Harling has been resigned by Columbia to do the musical score on 'Adventure in Washington', which Charles R. Rogers is producing.

AAAA Execs Incensed Over Rose's Army Circuit Setup

New York, April 29.—Officials of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America are incensed because Billy Rose has made arrangements for name 'Medicine Shows' to play the army camp circuits for free without consulting the performer unions.

Rose worked directly with playwright Robert E. Sherwood, member of the Government's Joint Army and Navy Committee on Recreation, and through Sherwood with Washington.

First intimation the performer unionists had of the plan was what they read in the newspapers.

AAAA executives explain they aren't anxious to stop entertainment for the army, but that conditions will have to meet their requirements.

Griffith Taking Crew Out to Bahamas

Edward H. Griffith and a company of 70 leave tomorrow for the Bahamas to film Paramount's 'Dildo Cay.' Virginia Van Upp accompanies the group, continuing work on the script. She will also gander 'Out of the Frying Pan', New York legiter, which will be her next Paramount writing assignment.

Kay Leslie Spotted

Kay Leslie is set for the femme lead in 'Texas Marshal', Col. Tim McCoy western which Sigmund Neufeld is producing for Producers Releasing Corp. Others cast include Art Davis and His Rhythm Riders, Karl Hackett, Edward Peil, Sr., Charles King, Dave O'Brien, Budd Buster, John Elliott, Wilson Edwards, Byron Vance.

Langford Leads 'Revels'

Frances Langford gets femme lead in Universal's 'Radio Revels of 1941', starting May 7. Deal set by Dolan and Doane, Inc.

Stooges 'Hanged' Goes

Columbia's 'Well I'll Be Hanged', comedy for the Three Stooges, rolls today under production supervision of Jules White.

Canova's 'Puddin' Head' Rolls at Republic; Five Songs Ready

Director Joseph Santley yesterday launched 'Puddin' Head', Judy Canova starrer, at Republic. Weather held the company on the studio lot, instead of going on scheduled valley location.

Five songs have been turned in for Miss Canova: 'Puddin' Head', by Jule Styne, Eddie Cherkose and Sol Meyer; 'Junior', 'A Ghost Routine', 'You're Tellin' I' and 'Manhattan Holiday', all by Styne and Cherkose.

Nazis Ape Hollywood With NY Preems

New York, April 29.—Nazi propagandists in America will ape Hollywood and its simultaneous premieres by opening their newest film effort in six theatres at the same time. Picture, 'Zeig in Western' (Victory in the West) is a newsreel compilation made by the German Army Information Service showing Nazi troops overrunning Western Europe. Film opens Friday in two houses in Manhattan, one in Brooklyn, two in New Jersey and one in Chicago.

Two $1,000,000 Suits Offed Against Par

New York, April 29.—Two claims each for $1,000,000 against the Paramount-Publix estate, filed by the DeForest Phonofilm corporation and General Talking Pictures Corp., were expunged today by U. S. District Court Judge Cox. Claims were filed in September, 1934, and charged infringement by Paramount of plaintiff's motion picture patents.

Extras Issue Bulletin

The Extras Advisory Council last night decided to issue a weekly bulletin to keep extras advised of the progress of their fight for a vote in the Screen Actors Guild. Chairman Harry Mayo appointed John Rice as head of a committee to arrange plans for the publication. Others on the committee are: Zola Gray, Harold Johnson and Lew Carter. Johnson and Carter also were appointed to fill vacancies on the Council. The Council adopted as its slogan, 'We Want a Vote'.

SDG, Producers Meet

Committees representing the Producers and the Screen Directors Guild spent several hours last night discussing the Guild's demands for minimum wage scales, 90-10 Guild shop, and guaranteed terms of employment. It is understood the company executives agreed to consider the requested contract revisions, to submit counter-proposals, and then arrange another meeting of the groups.

Novis in Detroit

Donald Novis planed yesterday to Detroit, where he opens engagement at Club Royale on May 2.

Strays From Home

Bernard Feins, of Warner Bros. theatre publicity, has sold an original story, 'Mary Had a Little', to Universal. It will probably be used as a vehicle for Hugh Herbert. Opus was turned down by Warners.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 41 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, May 1, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

RETROACTIVE PAY GETS GO BY

FREE TALENT AGAIN HIT BY SAG

The Screen Actors Guild has cracked down on Harriet Parsons and other producers who have been turning out short subjects with free talent, it was disclosed yesterday in letters received by companies that have been releasing these pictures. The studios were advised that in the future minimum Guild wages will have to be paid and other provisions of the Producer-SAG Basic Agreement lived

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Actors' Pay Protected Under Cal. Law

Sacramento, April 30.—The Assembly today approved legislation which will protect actors and other artists from fly-by-night theatrical promoters. The bill by Franklin J. Potter of Los Angeles requires promoters to deposit in trust cash or readily salable securities to cover any period for which a single payment of wages is made. Actors Equity Association now requires bond be posted to guarantee salaries of members, but Potter's measure would protect any performer regardless of union affiliation.

Barbara Britton Bow

Barbara Britton makes her film bow at Paramount in the Harry Sherman production, 'Secret of the Wastelands', as femme lead with Bill Boyd. Long Beach girl, 18, was signed to contract few weeks ago.

Stern on Col Shorts

Columbia has signed Bill Stern, NBC sports director and announcer, as commentator for the series of 12 sports reels to be made in New York studio for the 1941-42 program.

Kane Produces 'Touch'

'The Golden Touch', novel by Stephen Longstreet which Kenneth Macgowan was to have produced at 20th-Fox yesterday was assigned to Robert T. Kane.

Frazee at Universal

Jane Frazee reports to Universal today for 'Moonlight In Hawaii', after finishing up yesterday in Republic's 'Angels With Broken Wings'.

'DICTATOR' HOLDS STRONG IN ENG. DESPITE WAR

War has not hurt the Charlie Chaplin picture, 'The Great Dictator', in England. Picture since its release in the warring country has grossed around $1,500,000 for the United Artists producer and is expected to do at least another $500,000 to $750,000 more. Also in another war torn country, China, three United Artists pictures released in past 10 weeks have done more biz than entire product released last year by the company. Pictures are 'The Great Dictator', 'Thief of Bagdad' and 'Rebecca'.

WAGE-HOUR DIVISION STAYS CLASSIFICATIONS

With the Wage-Hour Division in Washington preparing to hand down an opinion on its final classification of film workers, it was learned from authoritative sources that the Administration does not intend to go behind the date of its final classifications. This means that the question of retroactive pay would not be touched upon and would be left up to the individual unions and workers.

It is understood that the final classifications will be announced, and that a routine inspection of the studios will be made within the next six

★ Continued on page 14 ★

THOMSON TAKES CHARGE OF LA'S AGVA LOCAL

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, yesterday assumed control of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists. He immediately placed Charles Drubin, a SAG staff employe, in charge of the AGVA office as his personal representative.

While no official announcement was made, it was learned that Kenneth Howard had been dropped as AGVA executive secretary.

When notified of Thomson's action, Howard stated:

'The action of Mr. Thomson was

♥ Continued on page 3 ♥

Palmera's Short

Mayta Palmera has been signed at Warners to do the featured dancing spot in a new Melody Master short, 'Humberto Herrera and His Brazilian Orchestra.' Filming starts tomorrow with Jean Negulesco directing.

June Lenses 'Soldier'

Ray June has been assigned as first cameraman on 'The Chocolate Soldier' at Metro.

Mae West, J. Barrymore Teamed in Flicker For Criterion

Mae West and John Barrymore have been teamed to co-star in 'Not Tonight, Josephine' for first of series of pictures to be made by Criterion Films with William Shapiro producing. Deal was closed yesterday by Shapiro and the William Morris agencies representing the two principal actors. Edmund Lowe, Jr., did the script on the picture which will go into production around end of the month. Release is now being negotiated with one of the major distribution organizations.

Hume Tied at MG

Metro has handed Cyril Hume a term writing contract.

DISNEY TO CLOSE SHOP IF STRIKE IS CALLED

Walt Disney in a wire to the National Labor Relations Board yesterday stated that if a strike is called at his studio and 'any violence whatsoever occurs' he will close the plant until an election of employes is held to select a bargaining representative. He urged a speedy hearing on the Screen Cartoonists Guild complaint, adding that he felt obligated to refuse the Guild recognition until the board had rendered its decision.

The wire sent to individual mem-

◆ Continued on page 13 ◆

LEISEN SIGNS TWO DEALS

Two deals yesterday were set for Mitchell Leisen which prescribe his activities for the next two years. At Paramount he signed a producer-director contract calling for two productions per year for 1941-42 and 1942-43, with the privilege of one outside picture each year. At Columbia he was set for a one-picture

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Comingore Gets Top Spot in Baker Pic

Dorothy Comingore has been assigned the femme lead in Graham Baker's first production at RKO under the new deal, 'Valley of the Sun'. Also into one of the top spots goes James Craig, currently in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster'. George Marshall will direct the adaptation of the Clarence Budington Kelland story about Arizona.

Contract for Pal

A contract covering wages and conditions for employes of George Pal Productions was being drafted yesterday by George E. Bodle, counsel for the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The agreement will be submitted to Attorney Homer I. Mitchell today for final okay and will then be put into effect. The pact calls for substantial wage tilts for all workers.

Freeland at 20th

Thornton Freeland checks in at 20th-Fox today, where he will direct 'Marry the Boss's Daughter'. Picture will be first production on the Westwood lot for Lou Ostrow.

Danker Breezes East

Danny Danker stratolines to New York today for biz parleys at J. Walter Thompson home office.

PREVIEWED

MAJOR BARBARA
(UA)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Alice May and Marsha Hunt airing east.

Jule Stein and George Fisher Chicago airers.

Jack Saper is production supervisor on Warners 'Manpower'.

Bob Greene, formerly of Toledo, has joined the KFWB announcing staff.

Arnold Weisberger, Dolores Del Rio and Fay Wray TWA'ing today to NY.

Graham Baker is now occupying Gene Towne's old quarters on the RKO lot.

William Castle will do dialog direction on Columbia's 'Ladies In Retirement'.

June Clyde given term deal as commercial 'dramatizer' on Chase & Sanborn airer.

Allan Jones and Irene Hervey leave today for a two-week vacation at Palm Springs.

Paul Short winged in yesterday from Dallas to line up Variety Club dates for Atlantic City gathering.

Lee (Lasses) White for fifth time has had to cancel trip to Dallas because of intruding engagements.

Jack Briggs, stepping into 'The Gay Falcon' at Columbia, has appeared in three films within month.

Warners Studio Club will hold its third annual informal spring dinner dance Monday, May 5, at the Florentine Gardens.

Ginger Rogers yesterday hosted birthday party on set of RKO's 'Tom, Dick and Harry' for her secretary, Jacques Parsons.

Samuel J. Briskin, Mike Levee, Wm. Quigley and Marshall Duffield aired via American last night to attend Derby at Louisville.

Ray Milland and his wife arrive tomorrow on the President Hoover from New York. He reports at Paramount for 'Reap the Wild Wind'.

Irene Dunne, Dr. Francis Griffin, Elizabeth Arden and Iris Ballard were Stratoliner party to Gotham last night. Arthur Hornblow also aboard.

George Rosenberg, who has been with Columbia Management for the past year and a half, is going over to Myron Selznick's radio department.

Florence George (Mrs. Everett Crosby) leaves for New York next week to set arrangements for a national tour with Salvatore Baccaloni, Metropolitan Opera basso. Pair will stage vignettes from operas.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood and Vine is actually growing up. The boys are beginning to argue about the Stars instead of the Giants.

Hollywood Inside

APPEARANCE in the studios of the 'Hollywood Merry Go Round', a pamphlet signed by 'The Watchman' has caused quite a furore among executives of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, as well as the 10,000 member-workers. IATSE tops and stooges have made every effort to learn the identity of the sponsors, but so far have been unsuccessful. One issue devoted considerable space to the asserted visits of Attorney Joseph A. Padway to the San Fernando ranch of Willie Bioff. The current issue dealt with the $100,000 loan of Willie, while others told of Pat Casey going east to contact tops in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, activities of Steve B. Newman, etc. It is understood the next issue will deal with the bill of particulars filed by the government in the income tax evasion charge against Bioff. Incidentally, publication of that bill of particulars has caused some of the IATSE regulars to rise up in arms. They are now openly declaring they were sold down the river, and many of the leaders are in favor of turning thumbs down on having the IA International handle any negotiations deals for them.

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A NEW and admittedly novel method of peddling motion picture story material was introduced by Elliott Fisher last night in his home studio at 6118 Selma. Before an audience composed of talent representatives from Paramount, Darmour and other studios, Elliott presented 'Drums of Despair' in radio fashion, with sound effects, a cast of 14 and a group of singers in costume. Elliott believes his new method will give a studio an opportunity to see just what they are buying, instead of reading through six to eight pages of dry script and then taking a chance of getting a bargain. Representatives of General Foods and other national air sponsors were on hand to witness the presentation and agreed with studio representatives that Elliott's new sales idea had great possibilities.

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CLIFFORD CLINTON, head of the vice crusading group in Los Angeles, has demanded a showing of 'Paper Bullets', which the Kozinsky Brothers will finish Saturday at Talisman. Clinton bases his request for the screening on the belief that one of the main characters in the film closely resembles him. Story has a Los Angeles background and deals with a vice crusader who builds himself up, through hot radio programs, to a point where he can run for Governor of California. Martin Mooney, who wrote radio blasts in opposition to those of Clinton during the Dockweiler-Fitts election campaign battle last year, dished up the yarn. Vice crusader in the film is operator of a cheap hotel.

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FEUDS having served as a springboard to high radio Crossleys and eventual cinematic lure, J. Walter Thompson agency execs are trying to hop up a scrap between Edgar Bergen's Charlie McCarthy and Lou Costello on the Chase & Sanborn javaree. But it's no go with Costello, who insists on his own spot with his straight-man, Bud Abbott, on the Sunday show. Attempts to write in a feud have been consistently snubbed by Costello, although both the agency and sponsor are hot for the idea. Comics are committed to 13 weeks on the show. It was the feud between Bergen's dummy and W. C. Fields that blossomed into a feature picture.

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RKO beat both Warners and 20th-Fox in the releasing deal for at least two pictures to be made by Samuel Goldwyn within a year's time by agreeing to guarantee the producer return of his negative costs on the production. This deal is similar to one given Walt Disney on all three of his features that RKO is handling, including the first 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.' Understood that RKO will get around 24½% for distribution domestically and 27% foreign on the Goldwyn product, as a result of the deal which was negotiated with George Schaefer by Leo Spitz on behalf of Goldwyn.

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PLANS for speeding up negotiations with the Producers on a new basic contract will be discussed tonight at a special membership meeting of the Screen Writers Guild at the Roosevelt hotel. The Producer-SWG pact expired last month, and the Guilders have frowned on any suggestion calling for an interim agreement pending completion of negotiations. Prexy Sheridan Gibney will preside.

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UNIVERSAL is still having title trouble with the latest Abbott and Costello comedy which also co-stars Dick Powell. Latest solution to the problem of getting three names equally prominent ahead of the title is the dropping of all quotation marks. Officially, as of yesterday at any rate, title reads: BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO and DICK POWELL IN THE NAVY.

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WARNERS camera department reports a new record for work turned out during a week's period when it printed 22,300 photographs for the week ended April 26. Heavy demands from magazines and newspapers for stills on several current productions was responsible for increased work load clearing through the department.

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PARAMOUNT studio is obligated to make two newsreel shots each month designed to call attention to the new Government Savings Bonds and Stamps which are being put out to help finance the Defense Program. Lou Harris is in charge of preparing the scripts for committee approval.

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TWENTIETH-FOX plans to sneak 'Blood and Sand' in Mexico to get a Latin-American reaction to the picture before its release date, May 23. Picture runs two hours and five minutes, instead of the one hour and a half originally planned.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A mist came down in Hollywood, but some would call it rain,
Some guys who view our tropic sun with truculent disdain.
But cowboys in their spurs and chaps and Easter-eggish shirts
Can walk along and croon a song and calmly answer 'Nertz'.
A buckaroo comes striding past our office habitat.
And totes a silk umbrella to protect his 10-quart hat.

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Old William Penn, who stands on top of the City Hall in Philadelphia with his ten-quart beaver sombrero, probably has a lot of fun watching the cowboys galloping Hollywood's outfield, topped with similar skimmers. Old William never treked west of the Pennsylvania mountains but the boots-and-saddles boys who ventured beyond the Mississippi into the far prairies are still connected with Philadelphia by an economic link. That is where their ten-quart hats are made.

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Norman Taurog went on a vegetable diet, on account of his doctor told him to. So he went to New York on a vacation and ate vegetables for four weeks and rode back on the train eating vegetables. So when he got back home he asked:

'What's for dinner?'

So you know the answer.

Speaking of diets, Richard Himber is always speaking about going on one, and continues to speak about it.

A roughneck, though born in a hovel,
May soar in the cloudlets above.
It once was 'The Man With the Shovel',
And now it is 'Accent On Love'.

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Dorothy Lamour is figuring on a vacation when she finishes 'Aloma of the South Seas' and probably will spend it in Honolulu, to get away from it all.

Alexis Smith pitches a shutout game in her first speaking part in pictures. Alexis is the only femme in 'Dive Bomber.'

With all that high power flackery going on, 'Manpower' may be changed to 'Horsepower.'

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Anyway, the Mediterranean situation is well in hand. Bing Crosby and Bob Hope are going on the 'Road to Morocco.'

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Milton Berle informs us that he has one more week in 'Sun Valley', after which he will get himself defrosted.

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Out yonder in the valley where the fields stretch far away,
You'd think the folks would build their homes with room to breathe and play,
To take a wise advantage of the spaces far and wide—
Instead, they build on dinky lots that nestle side by side.
With rows of crowded houses rubbing elbows as they meet,
They might as well be living on a teeming city street.

Preview

★

Major Barbara

(*Comedy Drama*)

United Artists release of a Gabriel Pascal production. Cast: Wendy Hiller, Rex Harrison, Robert Morley, Robert Newton, Emlyn Williams, Sybil Thorndike, Deborah Kerr, David Tree, Penelope Dudley-Ward, Marie Lohr, Walter Hudd, Marie Ault, Donald Calthrop, Miles Malleson. Produced and directed by Gabriel Pascal. Scenario and dialog by George Bernard Shaw. Music, William Walton. Production designed by Vincent Korda. Photography, Ronald Neame. Previewed April 30. Running time (without epilog by Bernard Shaw) 115 mins.; (with epilog) 122 mins.

'Major Barbara', one of George Bernard Shaw's old plays (1905) which the Irish playwright, in an epilog to the film, says he is sending to America just as we are sending Britain our old destroyers, is produced with meticulous regard for the letter as well as the spirit of that trenchant discussion of salvation. It had to be so produced because Shaw himself wrote the screen translation and the dialog, as well as dictating the making of it, so that there was no chance of its going off the rails.

For the cultivated trade, surely, it offers delightful and thoughtful diversion and may be expected to follow closely the precedential business set in the class houses by Shaw's 'Pygmalion', released in 1938. As a prestige offering it will grace the United Artists program for the season. Quality of the performances, paced by Wendy Hiller, Rex Harrison, Robert Morley, Robert Newton, rates exceptionally high and reflects careful casting and individual response right down to the smallest bit. What the picture will do as it gets away from the metropolitan first runs is problematical. In substance and treatment 'Major Barbara' is addressed to audiences having capacity for intellectual enjoyment. Full relish of its Shavian humor and irony is dependent to considerable extent upon at least a reading familiarity with the British character and the London types depicted, particularly the Cockney. The Cockney dialect gets pretty idiomatic and slurred at times, and by that same token all the more hilariously amusing to those who are familiar with it.

The play has to do with the state of soul, and the conflicting viewpoints — personal, moral, national and philosophical—of a millionaire munitions maker; his daughter, a Salvation Army major (whence the title), and her suitor, a young scholar in Greek, who get themselves involved with other more or less free roving souls of upper and nether class Britons, all popping off vehement ideas on personal privilege, war, religion and codes of conduct, together with a modicum of romantic love. All this is of course arranged and stressed according to the Shaw

■ Continued on page 14 ■

THOMSON TAKES CHARGE OF LA'S AGVA LOCAL

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

no surprise. For some time minority interests in both AGVA and the AAAA's have tried to grab control of the local. Three times this minority tried to oust me but could not get a majority vote of the board, much less the membership. Finding themselves unable to oust me legally, they conceived this so-called petition, signed by non-board members and members who have not attended board meetings in three months. I am willing to leave the results of my efforts to aid AGVA in the hands of the active board members and the membership, for whom all of my efforts have been devoted since I was appointed executive secretary.'

In taking over the local, Thomson stated:

'Those in the best position to judge, the members of the local AGVA board, have decided that a reorganization is necessary. At their request, I am functioning, in effect as a trustee working under authority of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, the national AGVA board and the local AGVA board.'

In a resolution adopted today at a joint meeting of the AGVA national executive committee and the executive committee of the AAAA in New York, authority was again vested in Thomson, as previously delegated Dec. 31, 1940, to handle affairs of variety actors in the Los Angeles area. Thomson agreed to move in yesterday, after a majority of the local AGVA board had requested that he take charge and reorganize the personnel in an effort to eliminate 'inefficiency of the present administration and leadership'.

Thomson is expected to take personal charge of the negotiations now in progress with agents on a proposed licensing program, similar to the current pact between the SAG and the Artists Managers Guild. He also will make a check on the recent wage increases put into effect by the local AGVA. No further changes in office personnel are contemplated until Thomson has had an opportunity to study the ability of the various individuals.

Hefty Biz

20th-Fox lot is so crowded for office space that six writers are working at their homes.

Harari at Republic On 'Ice Capades' Pic

Robert Harari has been signed at Republic to collaborate with Jack Townley and Milt Gross on 'Ice Capades of 1941', on which Robert North will be associate producer. Picture is the last in Republic's De Luxe classification for release during the current season.

Ann Doran Assigned To Derr Picture

Ann Doran will do the femme lead opposite Eric Linden in 'Criminals Within', E. B. Derr production for Producers Releasing Corp., which starts shooting tomorrow under the direction of Joseph Lewis.

20th 'Nurse' Lensing

'Private Nurse' rolls today at 20th-Fox with Brenda Joyce, Jane Darwell and Robert Lowery in the top roles. David Burton directs. Virgil Miller will handle the camera. Sam Engel did the original screenplay. Sol M. Wurtzel produces.

Frazier In Today

Del Frazier reports in at Warners today from Seattle. Frazier has been up the coast completing the first of studio's 1941-42 Sports Parade shorts, 'Salmon Fishing', in color.

Leo Taube East

Leo Taube, manager of George Shafer's Hollywood Playhouse, flew east last night to gander Broadway play crop.

Studio Blurb Heads Plan Motion Picture Day Tuesday (6)

The Studio Publicity Directors Committee, under the chairmanship of John Joseph, is arranging plans for the first Motion Picture Day in the history of the Advertising Club of Los Angeles, to be held Tuesday (6) at the Biltmore hotel. The industry will be represented by Committee members, company executives and stars.

At its meeting yesterday the Directors Committee also discussed plans for the combined conventions of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to be held in Los Angeles June 9 to 12. John LeRoy Johnston, publicity director for Walter Wanger, was named sub-chairman in charge of plans for the forthcoming Variety Clubs of America convention.

Robert Taplinger, sub-chairman of the trailer division of the Motion Picture Production Defense Committee, reported on the work now being done in Hollywood in connection with the Treasury Department Defense bond issue. The Treasury Department's Motion Picture Division is headed by Howard Dietz. One of plans now under consideration calls for production of a trailer showing the cooperation of the various film unions in the drive to put over the bond issue. The union trailer proposal, recommended by Herbert Sorrell and J. K. Wallace, will be taken up as soon as Frank Whitbeck returns.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

CLARA BOW will come out of the seclusion of her Nevada ranch to attend seventh annual Helldorado at Las Vegas May 15-19 and act as judge in the contest for queen. . . . Orchestras of Ray Noble, Phil Harris, John Scott Trotter and Johnny Richards will play a benefit dance in Glendale Civic auditorium May 15 for a radio engineer, now hospitalized. Also slated to appear are the Andrews Sisters, Merry Macs and Connie Boswell. . . . Bruce Payne, one-time civil engineer and now a radio actor on CBS shows, has turned engineer again and developed for KNX a demonstrator to show those taking the studio tour how sound is picked up by a radio mike and transmitted to the tower for broadcasting. . . . Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball gave dinner party for their guests at Leone's last night. . . Director Joseph Santley closes shooting on 'Puddin' Head' at Republic at 3 p.m. this afternoon so he can attend wedding of his son, Joseph Sawyer Santley, Examiner reporter, to Alice Paula Sterling. Ceremony takes place at the Good Shepherd church in Beverly Hills.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—
Joan Bennett, dining at the Mocambo, wearing an extremely smart pale blue, high-necked slim-lined organdy dance frock, which featured cap sleeves. She wore diamond feather ear-clips, a diamond bracelet topped by a diamond rose, and a diamond necklace terminating with a diamond bowknot. Her wrap was of silver fox.

PHIL REGAN will sing 'Stay Away From the U. S. A.' at the Red, White and Blue charity party at the Ambassador hotel Sunday. New number was cleffed by Irving Mills, Jule Styne and Eddie Cherkose. . . Jerry Sackheim, 20th-Fox writer, went fishing Sunday and sat down in a clump of poison oak while waiting for a bite. . . . Interesting title evolution is that of 20th-Fox's 'The Man With the Shovel', now altered to 'Accent on Love.' . . . Paramount put the taboo on Brad King entering any of the rougher events at the Saugus-Newhall Rodeo last Sunday but said nothing about not entering the cowboy race. So the new addition to Harry Sherman's Hopalong Cassidy featured group booted his newly-broken mustang, Yucca, in to win handily and got himself a nice cup. . . . RKO Studio Club Golf Tournament will dish out the prizes at Lakewood Club in Long Beach next Sunday. . . . Bill Thompson, dialect comic on 'Fibber McGee and Molly' program, makes the trip to Holland City, Mich., with Herbert Marshall for the annual Tulip Festival May 17.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
Represents . . .
ABBOTT & COSTELLO
"Buck Privates"
Under contract
UNIVERSAL

Chase, Sanborn Pitches At San Diego (11) On Rare Vacash

Chase & Sanborn program makes one of its few moves away from the home base here May 11 by pitching origination at the Naval Training Station in San Diego. Broadcast marks start of the fifth year for Edgar Bergen with the java outfit. Attending the airer at the border town will be 5,000 marines based there.

Bergen and his troupe take their summer layoff through July and August.

LEISEN SIGNS TWO DEALS

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

package deal which includes Marlene Dietrich as star and a shooting script by James Edward Grant under title, 'Miss Madden Is Willing'. Feldman-Blum office made both arrangements.

Package picture at Columbia will be first to go into work, first week in June. Leisen is planning a vacation after completing his current film at Paramount, 'Hold Back the Dawn'. His new contract with Paramount becomes effective after expiration of current pact early next year. Details on both studio commitments have been brewing for over a month.

Marlene Dietrich will be available for the Columbia date after completion of 'Manpower' at Warners.

Sponsors Met Opera

Texaco will again sponsor the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts over NBC's blue network. Deal has been signed for season of operas to begin in December.

Guests Jack Benny

Jack Benny will be interviewed by Don Wilson as an insert on Graham McNamee's 'Behind the Mike' program over NBC from New York Sunday.

a.m. Dailies

Marlene Gets Rebate—
Marlene Dietrich and husband, Rudolph Sieber, won a rebate of $23,952 from the U. S. Treasury Department when government officials admitted actress had overpaid that sum in income taxes. At the same time Treasury men also dropped claims that couple had underpaid their 1936 and 1937 income taxes by $71,000.

Earl Carroll—The Winner—
Earl Carroll was granted judgment of $970 in his suit against R. L. Grosh & Son, scenic studio, and latter was awarded $927.84 in a cross-suit against the showman, leaving Carroll with $42.16 clear.

Falkenberg Sues Hotel—
Jinx Falkenberg has filed suit for $50,000 damages against the Royal Hawaiian hotel in Honolulu for injuries which resulted from a fall there two years ago while she was doing publicity poses.

Harmon Nelson In Army—
Harmon Nelson, Jr., former husband of Bette Davis, was inducted into the army in New York yesterday.

FREE TALENT FOR SHORTS HIT BY ACTORS GUILD

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

up to unless the shorts are produced under strictly newsreel circumstances.

The letter received by Columbia executives stated:

'The Screen Actors Guild has for some time countenanced the appearance of stars and featured players in short subjects such as yours on the theory that actors are agreeable to doing such work without pay for the publicity value that they receive.

'However, so many companies have started the production of similar reels and so many complications have arisen concerning the use of Guild members in such reels that the Screen Actors Guild must hereby notify you that in the future it will have to enforce its contract more strictly in connection with these pictures. That is to say, you will be required to pay at least the minimum scale provided for in the Basic Contract for anyone whom you use, and all conditions relative to the employment contained in the contract shall apply with the following exceptions:

'1. You may photograph non-Guild member personalities without regard to the contract.

'2. You may photograph non-Guild professional people without regard to the contract.

'3. You may photograph without compensation stars and featured players under newsreel circumstances as distinguished from production circumstances.'

The latter is understood to call for mere casual shots, without dress or makeup and without story continuity, similar to those often seen in newsreel shots. The letters stated the producers might complete any pictures now in production, but that the use of free talent was out in the future.

It is understood that similar letters were sent to Pathe, Republic, Cinema Celebrities and Sunshine Productions, all of whom have been releasing such short subjects. Sunshine, however, recently signed a SAG agreement. Ralph Staub, Hedda Hopper and others have produced shorts such as those turned out by Harriet Parsons, who recently has been releasing through Republic.

Thomson as Emcee

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, will be m.c. on the 'This Is America' program being aired by film industry guilds and unions over KFWB at 8:30 tonight. Billy Mills orchestra will furnish the music, and Arch Oboler will present his new play 'Profits Unlimited'. Carol Parker, Gail Page and Lurine Tuttle also will appear on the show, sponsored by unionists to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Saville Makes Hurried Trip to Gotham

Victor Saville left yesterday for New York, expecting to fly back by Monday when Metro's 'Smilin' Through' will roll. Jeanette MacDonald and Ian Hunter spent the day on wardrobe tests. Frank Sullivan has been made film editor for the picture. Patrick O'Moore, New York legit actor who has appeared in British pictures, makes his Hollywood bow in the film in a featured role.

Taurog at Studio

Director Norman Taurog arrived from New York yesterday on the Chief and reports to Metro today for conference on his next assignment, not yet set.

Simpson Spotted

Russell Simpson is in featured spot on 'The Last of the Duanes' at 20th-Fox on assignment set by Paul Kohner.

Coast League Baseball Results

Oakland, 7; Hollywood, 5.
San Diego, 7; Seattle, 3.
Los Angeles-San Francisco, rain.
Sacramento-Portland, rain.

Griffith Goes To NY For Gotham Scenes Of 'Dildo Cay'

Postponing departure for the Bahamas location of his Paramount production, 'Dildo Cay', Producer-Director Edward H. Griffith leaves tomorrow night and will stop off at New York to get scenes of Manhattan backgrounds with Madeleine Carroll and Stirling Hayden.

First group in the 'Dildo Cay' company trains from here today directly for the Florida keys, where on Salt Cay, a small island, Griffith will spend 25 days shooting in Technicolor. Between now and May 11 there will be seven personnel movements by train and plane to Miami, and between (11) and (17) 11 more trips by crew and cast to Salt Cay. Later company of 40 will move to Harbor Island, close to Nassau, where cast will be augmented to 75. Entire location trip is said by Paramount to be the most expensive undertaken for any sound picture.

Doris Schroeder Set On Rep 'Trail'

Republic writer assignments include Doris Schroeder to do a treatment on 'Oregon Trail', first of the Don Barry westerns for 1941-42, and Ann Chapin working on the screenplay of 'Under Fiesta Stars', a Gene Autry starrer.

Wen Niles Chored

Wen Niles will do the narration on 'Here Comes the Cavalry', Warners Technicolor preparedness short.

Downbeat

Bill Schwartz, KFWB writer-producer, needs but 30 minutes of flying to get his private pilot's license but heavy run of shows on the station has kept him on the ground.

Sophie Tucker Wows Frisco; Biggest Draw In Past 10 Years

San Francisco, April 30.—Sophie Tucker is hottest night spot attraction San Francisco has had in the past 10 years. Opening Tuesday night at the Bal Tabarin, La Belle Tucker on first show did 75 minute song repertoire and could not make the break before doing encores of couple of her old standby numbers.

Tom Gerun had turnaway for the premiere shows of more than 2,000 people with indications La Belle will play to capacity throughout the four weeks here. She has Ted Shapiro at the piano, with Garry Cunningham 'ork providing dance renditions.

Quite a group of Hollywood folk were in attendance at the premiere, making the trip by plane, with Mrs. Ted Lewis bringing up contingent of Tucker fans from Hollywood on special United Air Lines plane.

Close of engagement here will bring La Belle to Hollywood for two-week vacation before resumption of her tour.

King's 'R.A.F.' Locales At Lockheed Plant

Henry King will take the 20th-Fox company of 'A Yank In the R.A.F.' to the Lockheed aircraft plant today for three days' work. This will be the first time any local studio has used the plant for background shots. Permission was obtained through company executives and with agreement by Wing Commander James Addams, head of the British Air Commission here.

Dowling Troupe Leaves

Eddie Dowling, Julie Hayden and other members of 'Time of Your Life' troupe trained out yesterday via Union Pacific for one nighter at Salt Lake. From there the company goes to Denver and Kansas City.

Soaper Guesters

Merle Oberon and Dennis Morgan have the leads in the LifeBO broadcast May 9 of 'Affectionately Yours.' On tomorrow's soaper is 'The Outlaw', with Jane Russell and Jack Buetel.

Santell On Stump

Al Santell will address the advanced cinema class at U.S.C. tonight on the topic, 'Directing Motion Pictures.'

Himber at Par (DT) 15th

Richard Himber's band, current at the Palladium, opens at the Paramount May 15.

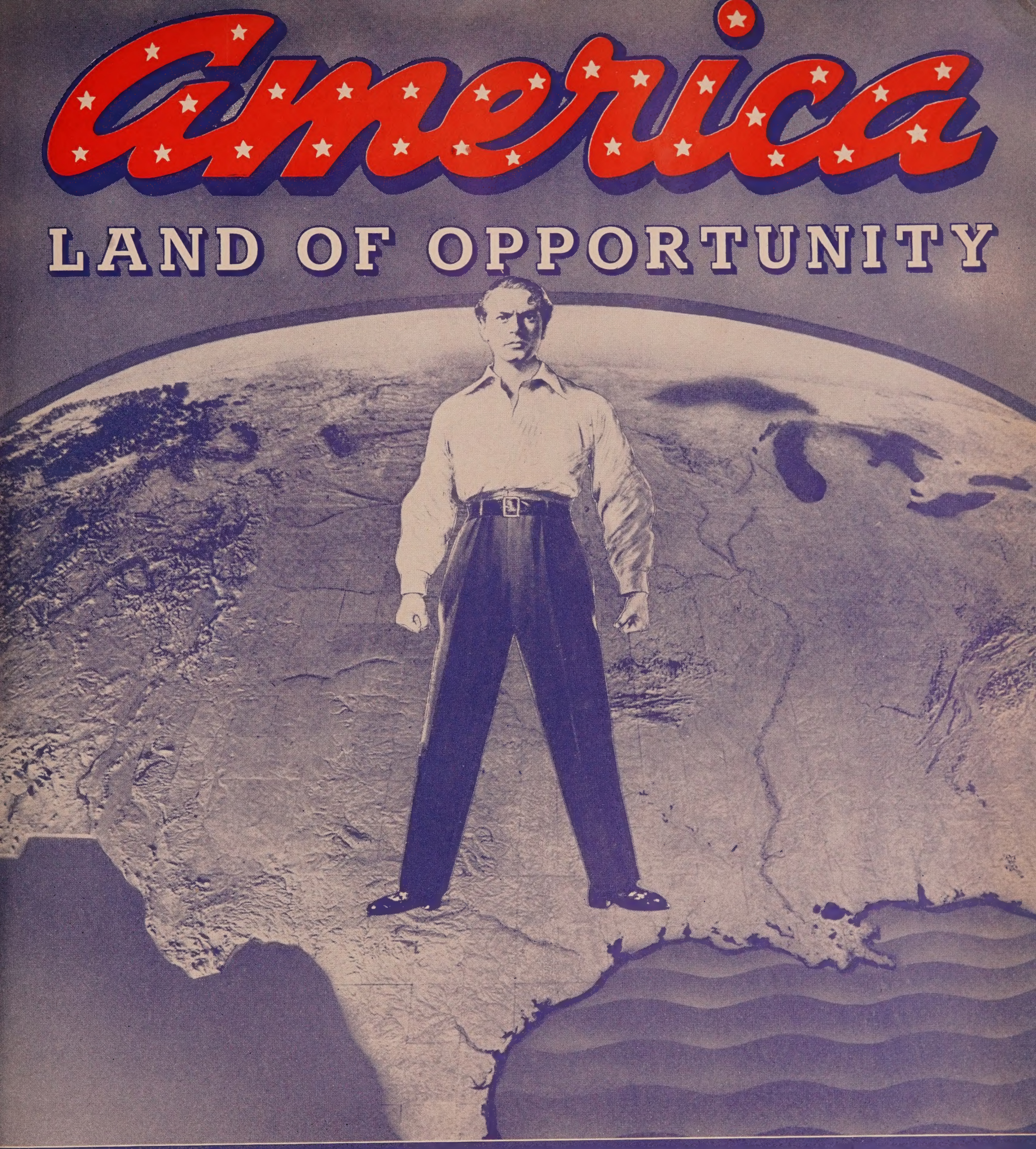
Title Changes

Producers Releasing Corp.'s 'Missing Army Hostess' now titled 'Criminals Within'.

Universal's 'Rhapsody In Stripes' now titled 'Big House Blues'.

'Obituary', Columbia, to 'The Richest Man In Town'.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants


America
LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

SUPERB CRAFTSMAN of the theater, then of radio, Orson Welles has *earned* the acclaim of millions. Now, he is the best-known showman of this new generation."

—JOHN CHAPMAN, New York Daily News
and Chicago Tribune

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Everywhere NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINE and RADIO VOICES SAID:
GO
WES
ORSON WELLES
to HOLLYWOOD

T
HOLLYWOOD

BUT THE GATES WERE

Closed!

"How could a major motion picture company hand over such a sum of money to a young, untried producer without knowing exactly what kind of a story he was going to make?"

"Orson Welles has engaged a secretary in New York to mail him com strips every day."

'It was not a good effort for RKO or

ness to give a young fellow who had never seen the inside of a studio, who had never directed or acted in a picture nor had anything whatever to do with picture production, the leeway in a contract that was given Mr. Welles . . . So far they have never uncovered a genius capable of writing, directing, acting and producing a picture; contributing all those necessary picture ingredients at the same time. Everyone else in the picture business knew it—it can't be done. . ."

ng had an outline of the story given to me, I would say (understand this is only a personal opinion) that this production is one the producer would be smart to wrap up in mothballs and file far away in a dark closet, perhaps for future reference, but never for distribution."

"Orson Welles is 25 years old tomorrow and comes into an inheritance. Uncle Sam gets most of it for taxes. Well, the boy wonder needn't worry too much since he almost inherited RKO in salary checks without making a single picture there."

"Now the wise boys are saying Orson Welles double-crossed them because he's actually going into production in two weeks, and the wise ones bet money he'd never make a picture. So, good, bad or indifferent, Little Orson Annie will still take the rap."

"Ha! They're saying Orson Welles has increased his production schedule. Instead of not making three pics for RKO, he'll not make five!"

"Orson Welles, celebrating his 25th birthday, made a resolution to produce that picture if it takes him another 25 years."

"Orson Welles, the boy wonder who was expected to revolutionize the whole movie-making map, is still around town and still waiting for the right story."

'RKO has a lot of money at stake which must be accounted for to the stockholders. The judgment of its executives can be questioned if, as a result of signing an unproven man as writer, producer, director and actor, to make a picture without supervision, the investment has to be written off."

"Orson Welles, man of tomorrow! Mr. Welles, resentful of quips about his stationary, non-progress in picture making, points with pride to the fact that the wig he'll wear in his first production is finished already—and he's been in Hollywood only one year."

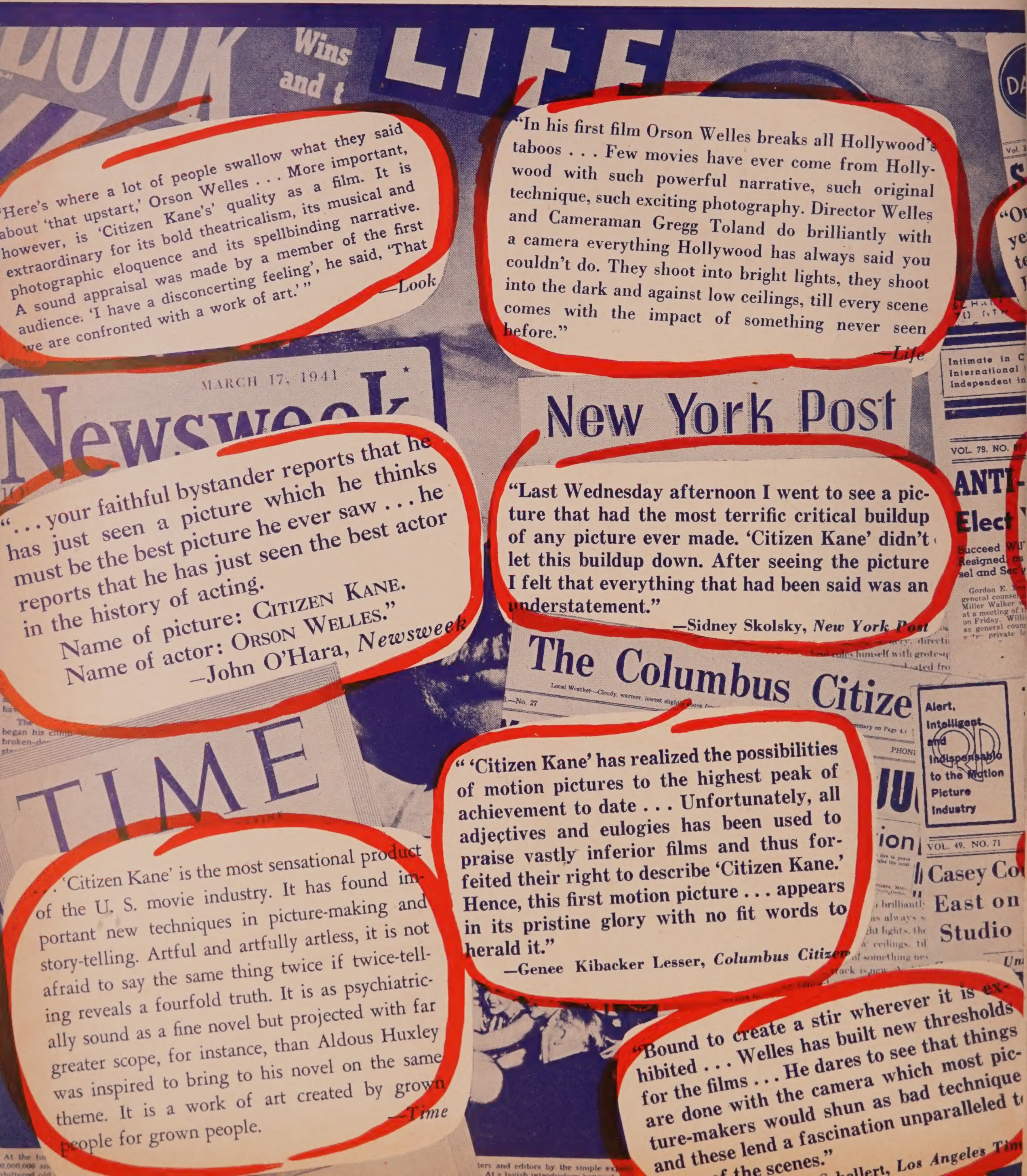
"Orson Welles confers with himself in a three-way mirror, as actor, director and producer. The actor wants something, producer says budget won't stand it, director sees it another way. So it goes, with Little Orson Annie fighting himself."

"Orson Welles was chic in a silver fox bear trimmed with old RKO scripts."

"Do you remember way back when a chap from the Mercury Theatre named Orson Welles, was going to make a picture?"

" 'Tis said Orson Welles was so sophisticated that even at the age of 2 he had cuffs on his diapers."

CAME THE PREVIEW...
THE VERDICT



'Here's where a lot of people swallow what they said about 'that upstart,' Orson Welles . . . More important, however, is 'Citizen Kane's' quality as a film. It is extraordinary for its bold theatricalism, its musical and photographic eloquence and its spellbinding narrative. A sound appraisal was made by a member of the first audience. 'I have a disconcerting feeling', he said, 'That we are confronted with a work of art.' "

—*Look*

"In his first film Orson Welles breaks all Hollywood's taboos . . . Few movies have ever come from Hollywood with such powerful narrative, such original technique, such exciting photography. Director Welles and Cameraman Gregg Toland do brilliantly with a camera everything Hollywood has always said you couldn't do. They shoot into bright lights, they shoot into the dark and against low ceilings, till every scene comes with the impact of something never seen before."

—*Life*

"... your faithful bystander reports that he has just seen a picture which he thinks must be the best picture he ever saw ... he reports that he has just seen the best actor in the history of acting.

Name of picture: CITIZEN KANE.

Name of actor: ORSON WELLES."

—John O'Hara, *Newsweek*

"Last Wednesday afternoon I went to see a picture that had the most terrific critical buildup of any picture ever made. 'Citizen Kane' didn't let this buildup down. After seeing the picture I felt that everything that had been said was an understatement."

—Sidney Skolsky, *New York Post*

. 'Citizen Kane' is the most sensational product of the U. S. movie industry. It has found important new techniques in picture-making and story-telling. Artful and artfully artless, it is not afraid to say the same thing twice if twice-telling reveals a fourfold truth. It is as psychiatrically sound as a fine novel but projected with far greater scope, for instance, than Aldous Huxley was inspired to bring to his novel on the same theme. It is a work of art created by grown people for grown people.

—*Time*

" 'Citizen Kane' has realized the possibilities of motion pictures to the highest peak of achievement to date . . . Unfortunately, all adjectives and eulogies has been used to praise vastly inferior films and thus forfeited their right to describe 'Citizen Kane.' Hence, this first motion picture . . . appears in its pristine glory with no fit words to herald it."

—Genee Kibacker Lesser, *Columbus Citizen*

"Bound to create a stir wherever it is exhibited . . . Welles has built new thresholds for the films . . . He dares to see that things are done with the camera which most picture-makers would shun as bad technique and these lend a fascination unparalleled t

f the scenes."

hallert, *Los Angeles Tim*

It's Terrific!

DAILY VARIETY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
THE Film DAILY
The Daily Newspaper Of Motion Pictures Twenty-Two Years Old
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW
RAOUL WALSH
SAM WOOD SIGNS PAR DEAL TOO
Accept '41-'42 Selling Setup

of the most talked about pictures in s . . . It has heat, vitality . . . great entainment substance, powerful drama . . . has the merit, the capacity, to do sensaonal business."

—*Hollywood Variety*

" 'Citizen Kane' is a great motion picture. Great in that it was produced by a man who had never had any motion picture experience; great because he cast it with people who had never faced a camera in a motion picture production before; great in the manner of its story-telling, in both the writing of that story and its unfolding before a camera; great in that its photographic accomplishments are the highlights of motion picture photography to date, and finally great, because technically, it is a few steps ahead of anything that has been made in pictures before."

—*Hollywood Reporter*

"A 22-carat artistic achievement, highly exploitable, is screen event of the first magnitude . . . Marked by impressive departures in technique, an absorbing dramatic story, an array of brilliant characterizations, opulent production values, outstanding photography, and by the deserved personal triumph of Orson Welles."

—*Film Daily*

"Here is vibrant screen fare . . . has a fascination that will hold . . . A 'super effort' . . . To theatre men we say, 'see this picture'! To those who play it there is the plain duty to themselves to give it every ounce of showmanship they possess in exploiting its extraordinary box office potentialities."

—Chick Lewis, *Showmen's Trade Review*

"An intensely interesting, technically unique and novel production . . . Performances are of the finest."

—*Motion Picture Daily*

"Orson Welles made a dent in the slick, shiny surfaces of Hollywood yesterday, a dent so deep that only a new form can keep it from looking a little shoddy in the future. For he showed up his competitors at a press preview of his 'Citizen Kane.' . . . He has done a prodigious job exceedingly well . . . The picture is unique. What's more important, it's vastly entertaining."

—Virginia Wrigh

"Hollywood, April 10—The picture that never would b made is what Hollywood called Orson Welles' 'Citizen Kane,' but 600 critics voiced almost unanimous compliments at its preview last night. In addition to acting its chief role, Welles wrote and directed the piece and produced it. Hollywood said no man could do all that."

THANK YOU, Orson Welles!

CITIZEN KANE

IS A VERY FINE PRODUCTION, THE RESULT OF GREAT INITIATIVE AND COURAGE, ESPECIALLY UNDER THE MOST TRYING OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

The essence of show business is to present the new, the novel and the unusual to the public.

You were not given the chance to present your ideas, but were severely criticized for daring even to have an idea!

You were condemned before being tried!

Your triumph is one of the great accomplishments in motion picture history, and proof that America is still the land of opportunity, where there will always be room for those with dreams and courage to bring them to reality.

R K O
RADIO
PICTURES

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER, President

THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT IS NOISED ABOUT CONCERNING
MEN AND THINGS IS OFTEN THE TRUTH."

Universal Has 41 Scribes Working On Yarns

Universal yesterday set four new writers to work on three scripts, bringing total of scribes working on the lot to 41. In addition, writer department activity had six other writers who have been on other pictures going on to new assignments.

Newcomers are Howard Snyder and Hugh Wedlock, Jr., to the screenplay of 'San Antonio Rose'; Richard Collins to screenplay of 'Mob Town'; Sherman Lowe doing a treatment on 'Silver Bullet'. New assignments include Sam Perrin to the treatment of 'Mary Had a Little', original by Bernard Feins; Brenda Weisberg treating 'Tough As They Come'; Arthur Jones and Dorcas Cochran polishing the script for 'Radio City Revels of 1942'; Victor McLeod doing a comedy polish for 'Ghost Town Buckaroo', and Felix Jackson doing a treatment on 'Always On Call'.

'Bill' Goes to Port

Director Richard Thorpe is again shooting exteriors on Metro's 'Barnacle Bill' at San Pedro harbor after having been forced into studio for a day by rough waters.

Ill in Pix

H. BRUCE 'LUCKY' HUMBERSTONE suffered a broken nose, cuts and contusions about the head yesterday when his car skidded in the rain and cracked up in Coldwater Canyon. He was operated upon by Dr. Herman Semenov at Cedars of Lebanon hospital. Work on 20th-Fox's 'Sun Valley Serenade' will continue under direction of Mal St. Clair pending Humberstone's recovery.

RALF HAROLDE received a broken nose yesterday in a picture skirmish with Nat Pendleton while doing a scene for Universal's 'Big House Blues'. Marks the second casualty to players while roughhousing it with Pendleton, actor having knocked out a tooth from the mouth of Duke York last week.

DARRYL HICKMAN, child actor, home in bed with chickenpox. Lad has been ill for past four days and was forced out of 'Bargain Basement', current Marx Brothers picture at Metro, by sickness.

FRANCIS NEAL is at home with strep throat while RKO shoots around actor for several days on 'Lady Scarface'.

Don't Forget....
You Have a Date....
National Convention of
The Variety Clubs
of America
Traymore Hotel
Atlantic City, N. J.
May 15th, 16th & 17th

DISNEY TO CLOSE SHOP IF STRIKE IS CALLED

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

bers of the NLRB in Washington follows:

'I respectfully request your board to authorize a hearing in this case as speedily as possible in order that the question of representation can be determined without delay. The Screen Cartoonists Guild, American Federation of Labor, is demanding immediate recognition by this company as sole collective bargaining agent, although the Federation of Screen Cartoonists is the board's certified bargaining agent.

'I feel legally and morally obligated to refuse such recognition until your board has rendered its decision in the pending case, and an NLRB election has been held by secret ballot in which my employes can choose their own collective bargaining agent. The Guild is now threatening a strike and secondary boycott and has declared itself unwilling to wait for the board's decision.

'PICKET LINE'

in New York, authority was again ves any violence whatsoever occurs I will be forced to close my plant awaiting the outcome of the board's decision, thereby holding up work on pictures now in production. May I again urge the board to order an immediate hearing.'

SCG officials and AFofL tops said they too would welcome a speedy hearing on the pending petition. They added, however, that an election would not even be necessary if the board sustains their allegation that the Federation is a 'company-dominated union'. If the board should so find it would issue an order for the Federation to disband and for Disney to cease dealing with it, such as was done in the Screen Playwrights case.

AFofL tops planned to meet over the weekend to discuss the Disney situation and to plan any future moves in their drive to unionize the studio. The SCG claims to represent a majority of the workers, and William Walsh, acting regional director of the NLRB, stated following a hearing that the evidence conclusively indicated the Federation was a 'company-dominated union'. He has forwarded the case to Washington with a recommendation that a complaint be issued charging the Disney company with unfair labor practices.

Disney, SMPFE Deal

A tentative deal has been set between Walt Disney Studio and the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors. Under the agreement, to be announced tonight at a meeting of the Society executive board, the company agrees to recognize the Society as collective bargaining representative for the film cutters, with the proviso that wage adjustments will be negotiated at meetings between representatives of the two groups.

'Navy Blues' Musical Numbers Lensing

Seymour Felix puts the musical and dancing numbers for Warners 'Navy Blues' before the cameras today after two weeks of rehearsals. Numbers will use 34 Hawaiian dancers and 40 sailors, plus cast principals Ann Sheridan, Martha Raye and the 'Navy Blues Sextet.'

Frances Farmer Going Into Par's 'Living'

Frances Farmer is assigned by Paramount to play a top role in 'Among the Living', following costar role with John Barrymore in 'World Premiere'. Susan Hayward will have the other femme role, and Stuart Heisler will direct the Sol C. Siegel production.

Fleischer, Weyl Set

Stanley Fleischer has been assigned to handie the art direction on 'Bullets For O'Hara' at Warners, and Carl Weyl will do a similar assignment on 'King's Row'. William K. Howard starts direction today on 'Bullets' with Joan Perry, Roger Pryor and Anthony Quinn in the leads.

Preem for 'This'

'In a House Like This', comedy by Lewis Beach, originally played on Broadway, gets its California premiere at the Troupers theatre May 12. Producers are Oliver Hinsdell and Harold Helvenston.

What, a Youngster?

Metro has cast Adeline de Walt Reynolds, 80, in a character role in 'The Yearling.'

Planted

Universal

William Davidson, J. Anthony Hughes, Phil Warren, Charles Sherlock, Lyle Latell, BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO and DICK POWELL IN THE NAVY.

Guy Kingsford, Duke York, Eddie Dunn, Frank Wayne, 'Sea Raiders'.

Kernan Cripps, Bud Jamison, James Fox, Jimmy O'Gatty, Billy Wayne, Grace Lenard, Peter Sosso, Nora Cecil, 'Big House Blues'.

20th-Fox

Margaret Brayton, 'Dance Hall'.

Ernie Alexander, Fred Toons, 'Sun Valley Serenade'.

Stuart Robertson, Lester Matthews, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Warners

Kenneth Harlan, Frank Mayo, 'Bullets For O'Hara'.

Garland Smith, 'Navy Blues'.

Murray Alper, 'Manpower'.

RKO, SOEG Parley

Negotiations between RKO and the Screen Office Employes Guild were resumed last night, with committees representing the two groups meeting at the studio to finish reviewing the proposed contract. Sid Rogell and Attorney Sidney L. Lipsitch represented RKO, with Prexy Glenn Pratt and Attorney George Bodle heading the Guild delegation.

Schenck, Moskowitz Win Freedom On Appeals

New York, April 30.—Joseph M. Schenck and Joe Moskowitz today won their freedom during appeal period following an eloquent plea by former Judge Joseph Proskauer who argued for an hour and a half before Judge Grover Moscowitz, who last week sentenced 20th-Fox chairman and his eastern representative on Federal income tax evasion charges.

They will remain at liberty during time that the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeal is deciding whether conviction is to be upheld or reversed.

Proskauer, taking over legal defense for Schenck, said in court that there were six errors in Judge Moscowitz's charge to the jury which should result in a reversal of the conviction.

U. S. Attorney Mathias Correa attempted to oppose bail for the executives, but court, while stating it felt justice had been done and men were considered guilty, agreed to bail. Schenck and Moskowitz must post bond of $20,000. Former bail was $1,500.

Court ordered matters expedited and counsel agreed to have the record ready for the Circuit court by May 22. Both sides agreed that it is improbable the Circuit court will hear the case before October or November.

Proskauer's arguments, based on charge of court covering 1937 income tax returns, in which Judge Moscowitz stated that overpayment of tax does not excuse criminal attempt, were to the effect that this is incorrect law. Proskauer also took issue with the court charge that deductions cannot be estimated, stating that he deducts business and pleasure expenses by estimate. Proskauer further charged incorrect procedure in failure of court to define 'legitimate sale' and leaving it to the jury to ponder over legal interpretation of legitimacy, failure of the court to tell the jury that if stock sold to Roland West and William Goetz was worthless then Schenck could have deducted the entire amount; failure of court to tell the jury it could absolve defendants on character testimony alone and failure to stress importance of that testimony. Lastly, Proskauer charged that the court convicted both men when, at midnight, he charged jury to take into consideration failure of either side to call available witnesses, since this followed on heels of Correa's smashing at defense for failure to call West and Lou Anger.

Proskauer will work together with Harold Corbin and latter's office on the case, but will present argument to the Circuit court himself.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(20th-Fox)

'Private Nurse'
Dir.: David Burton
Asst.: Hal Herman

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Uncensored Film Yanked in Philly On Nazi Angle

Philadelphia, April 30. — Mrs. Edna Carroll, chairman of the State Board of Motion Picture Censors, yanked two officials of the Kyffhauser Bund on the carpet last week for showing an uncensored film before an audience that hissed views of the Statue of Liberty and cheered the Nazis.

Bund, an organization of German war veterans, was accused of violating state censorship regulations by showing uncensored films of the Nazi conquest of Norway. Officials Peter Krecklmann, manager of the North German Lloyd office here, and Carl P. Berger declared that the films were newsreels and, as such didn't require censors' approval.

Mrs. Carroll warned that all foreign films are censorable and declared that future violations of the state laws would be rigorously prosecuted even if the showings are confined to private gatherings.

Alien squad detectives reported the hissing of Statue of Liberty scenes. Mrs. Carroll is remembered for banning the March of Time's Nazi propaganda clip, 'Baptism of Fire' from 'Ramparts We Watch', with Board later okaying picture after objectionable material was scissored.

Mono Central Eastern Div. Wins Drive

Monogram playdate drive, just finished, was won by the central eastern group consisting of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington with the highest average percentage total. Pacific Coast group of San Francisco, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland held second place and third spot was coralled by the southern group of New Orleans, Memphis, Atlanta and Charlotte.

'Feeling' Set Here

'That Uncertain Feeling', distributed by United Artists, has been booked for first run here at the day-date State and Chinese for week of May 7. It will be paired with 'Ride On Vaquero' (20th). Tentative booking for the two houses week of May 14 is 'Great American Broadcast' (20th) and 'Washington Melodrama' (M-G).

Small Rolls Pic

Edward Small launches his 'International Lady', formerly titled 'G-Men vs. Scotland Yard', today. Ilona Massey has star title role with George Brent, and Tim Whelan directs. Hal Mohr has the lens assignment.

Spot Marcia Ralston

Marcia Ralston will do the femme lead in 'Sea Raiders', serial, as her first assignment under her new contract at Universal.

Story Buys

Columbia yesterday purchased 'Matti O'Hara Comes Home', a story by Fanya Foss and Bernie Giles. Richard Halliday of the Frank Vincent office set the deal.

'Girls Town', original story by Rex Hale, has been purchased by George R. Batcheller, production head of Producers Releasing Corp.

WAGE-HOUR DIVISION STAYS CLASSIFICATIONS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

months to determine if the companies are complying. Unless specific cases of evasion are discovered, it is reported no move will be made by the Administration to enforce payment of back pay since the Wage-Hour Law became effective.

Such action, however, would not preclude the unions or individual workers from collecting retroactive pay through economic pressure or legal action. Unless the various unions could get together, however, and pressure the companies into paying off, the unions would have to bring suit on behalf of their memberships or the workers would have to file individual court actions.

It is understood the Wage-Hour Division takes the position that with the Producers and union clamoring for classifications of the workers during the past year or so, it would not be becoming for the government to arbitrarily penalize either side, since it was the fault of neither that the government was unable to clear up the situation until the present time. Then, too, it is understood the Division feels that by merely handing down the classifications it would not be taking away any of the rights of the workers to seek retroactive pay where they fell within the proper classifications.

Several of the companies are understood to have set aside contingent funds in anticipation of a move by the workers to collect back pay when the final classifications are announced. Some of them passed out notices that adjustments in pay would be made later if the Wage-Hour classifications called for it.

Hundreds of the workers are said to have already 'spent' their back pay, and there is certain to be a rush to collect when the classifications are announced.

The final classifications are expected to be handed down next week by General Philip Fleming, Wage-Hour Administrator. Recommendations on disputed classifications have already been submitted by Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings branch, who conducted the film hearings here.

Preview

■ Continued from page 3 ■

pattern of delightful humor and tonic irony.

Wendy Hiller brings the poise of the socialite and the zeal of the Salvation Army recruit from an earl's house, as her role calls for, into rich blended performance. Through the paternal part played with great humor by Robert Morley, the playwright freely speaks his mind and his provocative challenges. Rex Harrison as the Greek scholar and impetuous wooer of the Army lass contributes a dominant part. Robert Newton's ruthless Cockney, who has a strange remnant of pride and who gradually succumbs to 'Barbara's campaign of salvation, is one of the most vivid and skillfully drawn characters ever projected in an English picture. Fine also are Emlyn Williams, Sybil Thorndike, Deborah Kerr, Penelope Dudley-Ward, Marie Lohr, Marie Ault, Donald Calthrop.

Because of the nature of its discussions and the present state of nations, the film will have an enhanced interest and intensity for American audiences. Shaw has adroitly fitted new lines into his old play to beget a special timeliness, although his plays generally manage to preserve unimpaired depth and timelessness across the years. The state of present warfare is not suggested or implied, except through the symbolic pictorial elements of the munitions factory in full speed production. The picture, however, actually was made in the Denham studios near London under full blast and interruptions of the bomber assaults and the requirements of defense taken care of by the actors between scenes.

Gabriel Pascal directs with a smooth flow of action to beguile the attention while the often long speeches are being uttered, and the fine characterizations provide counter attraction in many places where the play threatens to get too talky. Production is smart and well mounted. Vincent Korda does a distinguished job of production design.

Shaw's five-minute epilog after dramatic scenes finish is a characteristic talk to the American public in which he pleads for a unity of interest by the American and English people in the present world crisis.

Thomson Greets Mex. General with Pledge For More Goodwill

Kenneth Thomson in welcoming General Maximino Avilo Camacho to Hollywood yesterday told him that the talent and other resources of the picture industry have been pledged to the cause of Western Hemisphere unity. General Camacho will be guest of honor at a luncheon at Paramount today.

The Motion Picture Society of the Americas, of which Thomson is executive secretary, is a liaison agency designated by Nelson Rockefeller, coordinator of commercial and cultural relations between the American Republics under the Council of National Defense. The Society works directly with John Hay Whitney, chairman of the Motion Picture Division of the Rockefeller organization.

Film industry leaders who serve as directors of the Society are Edward Arnold, Sheridan Gibney, Frank Capra, Y. Frank Freeman, Sam Briskin, Samuel Goldwyn, Louis B. Mayer, George Schaefer, David O. Selznick, Walter Wanger and Cliff Work. The Society has established offices at 9730 Wilshire Blvd.

Cast for Roach-er

Tom Brown, Marjorie Woodworth, ZaSu Pitts and Slim Summerville have been set as cast basis for the first of Hal Roach's Streamline Features, 'Niagara Falls', shaping to hit cameras early in June. Gordon Douglas will direct from the original script by Paul Gerard Smith, Eugene Conrad and Homer McCoy.

New York University Establishing Pic Writing Course

New York, April 30.—New York University, which has been offering a screen writing course for the last two years, will establish a motion picture department, said to be the first in the east.

Opening next September, the curriculum will offer courses in writing and production and will consist of a four-year combination of liberal arts and specialized film subjects leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Robert Gessner, member of the English department who has been teaching screen writing, will head the picture department.

Thornton Sargent Out For Greek Benefits

Thornton Sargent, in charge of Fox West Coast first runs here, planed out last night for Cincinnati and Louisville, where Greek War Relief benefits will be staged Friday and Saturday nights, respectively. Don Ameche, who will appear at both affairs, pulled out Tuesday. Planing east last night with Sargent were Tony Martin, Lana Turner and Patricia Morison. Sargent then goes on into New York, to be away about three weeks.

Tex. Interstate Circuit Modernizes Houses

An extensive equipment modernization program has been launched by Interstate Circuit of Texas. Nine theatres are affected. They include the Worth, Hollywood, Tivoli and Riverside, in Fort Worth; Metropolitan and Village, Houston; Dal-Sec, Dallas; Paramount, Abilene, and Queen, Brownsville. All will be equipped with RCA Photophone. Another Photophone equipment goes into the Mission theatre at Solvang, Calif.

Dress Up Benny, Francis

Jack Benny and Kay Francis check in at 20th-Fox tomorrow for wardrobe and makeup tests for 'Charley's Aunt'. Picture rolls May 20 under direction of Archie Mayo. Mayo also will direct tomorrow's tests.

Craig in 'Blind'

Katherine Craig is femme lead opposite Richard Arlen in Bill Pine-Bill Thomas production for Paramount, 'Flying Blind'. Actress, whose real name was Kay Feltus, is the wife of Robert Preston.

Obituary

ROSE BRICE RITES

Funeral services for Mrs. Rose Brice, 73, mother of Fanny Brice, will be conducted today at the Malinow and Simons mortuary by Rabbi Mayer Winkler of the Community Synagogue. Mrs. Brice died Tuesday (29) at Cedars of Lebanon hospital of heart ailment. In addition to Miss Brice another daughter, Caroline, and son, Lew, survive.

CONRAD RITES

Funeral services for Eddie Conrad, actor, who died Sunday of a heart attack, will be held Thursday at 12 noon, at Groman's mortuary, 830 West Washington blvd.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF T

Vol. 31 No. 42 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, May 2, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offic

UNIONS DEMANDING BACK PAY

SWG TALKS STRIKE VOTE

The Screen Writers Guild meeting at the Roosevelt hotel last night expressed dissatisfaction with the progress of Producer negotiations, and adopted a resolution to sound out the membership on the advisability of calling a writer strike if their demands 'are not reasonably met'. The two groups are scheduled to go into conference today to see if they can get together on a basic agreement

■ Continued on page 14 ■

Hugh Harman Forms Cartoon Outfit

Hugh Harman is leaving his cartoon producer's berth at Metro to enter into the production of feature-length cartoons in Technicolor. Story for the first is now being prepared and will be announced shortly after final details on the release are completed. Harman, formerly president of Harman-Ising in partnership with Rudolph Ising before they went to Metro, has formed a new corporation for his activities under the name of Hugh Harman Productions, Inc., with himself as producer-director on the pictures. W. Earl Shafer is one of corporation directors and attorney.

Ken Murray Topper For U's 'Revels'

Universal yesterday signed Ken Murray to play the lead opposite Frances Langford in 'Radio Revels of 1942.' Skinnay Ennis and his band; Hanley Stafford, Senor Lee, comic on the Burns and Allen air show, and Susanne Miller, entertainer at the Pirates Den, have also been signed.

John Balaban East

John Balaban, Paramount theatre partner, trains for Chicago today after a month's vacation here.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting Corp.....	142
Major studio calls..........	1,046
Artists Casting Bureau....	60
FK Studio Service..........	40
Tinsman Casting Agency	5
Total	1,293

REPUBLIC LULL DUE TO HEAVY SKED FILLUP

Only three pictures currently are shooting at Republic because the studio is so far ahead on preparation of its product for the 1940-41 season. This month, or at least the next two or three weeks of it, will find the lull continuing, with things scheduled to pick up in June for a

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Roxy's 37½c Divvy

New York, May 1.—Directors of Roxy Theatre, Inc., today declared a quarterly dividend of 37½c per share on preferred stock, payable May 31, to stockholders of record May 17.

PLAN MEETING OF LOCAL HEADS TO START ACTION

Studio unions meeting in group conferences yesterday were demanding that collection of approximately $3,000,000 in retroactive pay under the Wage-Hour Law be made a part of negotiations with the Producers. The workers took the position that individual court suits by the unions or employes themselves would drag out over a period of years, while quick action could be secured by including the back pay question in their wage demands.

It was reported last night Harold V. Smith, business representative of International Sound Technicians Lo-

♣ Continued on page 3 ♣

Ascap Music Back on Mutual Net May 10; 3% Blanket Deal

Don Lee network's 32 stations will be playing the music of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers by May 10 unless all signs fail. Lewis Allen Weiss, headman of the chain and member of the Mutual-Ascap negotiating committee, declared yesterday that he was enthusiastically in favor of the proposed plan of payment for the performance of Ascap music and was confident that a majority of the Mutual net's 178 stations would wire their ap-

★ Continued on page 4 ★

Linkletter Bases Here

Art Linkletter, radio narrator, has moved down from Frisco to make his permanent home here. He will commute by air to the Bay city for his three commercial programs.

Ray McCarey Assigned

Ray McCarey has been assigned under his new term contract at 20th-Fox to direct '21 Men and a Girl', musical, as a Harry Joe Brown production.

NAMES LINED UP TO BOOST BENNY

Top radio and stage comedians will pay tribute to Jack Benny's 10 years in radio by airing their sentiments from New York on NBC's special half hour broadcast May 9 just before the testimonial dinner to the top air comedian in Biltmore Bowl gets under way. Miking their salute

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Sorrell in Sacto

Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, is in Sacramento for conferences with legislators on pending anti-labor measures. He will return to his desk here Monday (5).

U.S. Points Unconstitutionality Of Minnesota Film Law

New York, May 1.—The Department of Justice believes the Minnesota anti-government consent decree law, as enacted last week, is unconstitutional on two points. These are that it violates both the interstate commerce and the 'due process' laws. The latter refers to a constitutional amendment not allowing a man to be deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law, and in compelling producer-distributors to sell an entire program and grant exhibitors a 20% cancellation.

Government feels that the new

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

PAR'S PROFIT SET AT $2,475,000

New York, May 1.—Paramount today estimated at $2,475,000 its earnings for the first quarter ended April 5, after all charges and including $650,000, company's net interest in combining undistributed earnings of partially owned, non-consolidated subsidiaries. This compares with $1,606,000 in the corresponding quarter of last year, and is equivalent to 89c on common stock, compared with 53c for the first quarter of 1940. During the quarter the corporation acquired 6,700 shares of first preferred stock at a discount of approximately $8,400; also 770 shares of second preferred were converted into 693 shares of common.

Edward Arnold Subs Mitchell's 'Devil'

Edward Arnold will take over the Thomas Mitchell role of Daniel Webster in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' at RKO and production on the picture is slated to get underway as soon as Arnold completes his current role in 'Nothing But the Truth' at Paramount. Around 10 days of retakes will be necessary on 'Devil' to cover the work done by Mitchell before he was seriously injured while working in the film.

Hobart Bosworth Signed To Warners Contract

Warners yesterday signed Hobart Bosworth to a term contract and assigned him to a supporting role in 'One Foot in Heaven.' Bosworth, now 74 years old, retired in 1921, but returned to do a few roles until 1930. Picture rolls May 22.

PREVIEWED

MEET BOSTON BLACKIE
(Col)

HER FIRST BEAU
(Col)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Ed Hitz, NBC sales exec, gets in Monday from NY.

Leonard Smith is assigned to lens Metro's new 'Tarzan'.

Judy Garland hosted luncheon party Wednesday at Carolina Pines.

Ottola Nesmith added to featured players in Warners 'The Flight Patrol'.

Patti Moore in from New York to start rehearsals for Slapsy Maxie's new show.

'Affectionately Yours' will be given its press preview by Warners Monday night.

Margaret Ettinger planed to Las Vegas on business yesterday. She will return today.

Margaret Hayes has been assigned the second femme lead in 'Sullivan's Travels' at Paramount.

Raul Diez de Medina, first secretary of the Bolivian legation, visiting Errol Flynn at Warners.

Monogram holds a press preview of 'King of the Zombies' at Talisman studio Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

Donald MacBride will do another of his detective inspector roles in 'Heaven Can Wait' at Columbia.

Bronislau Kaper and Earl Brent are conducting the orchestra for pre-recording on Metro's 'Barnacle Bill' numbers.

Director James Tinling last night brought his 'Last of the Duanes' 20th-Fox company back from Lone Pine location to complete interiors at the studio.

Georgia Lee Settle, 16-year-old girl from Ohio, will make her film debut in 'Henry Aldrich For President' at Paramount.

Conchita Cintron, Mexican bullfighter, is visiting here, and last night was hosted at dinner by Lester Ziffren and his wife.

George Seaton has finished script for 'Charley's Aunt' at 20th, and has been assigned to 'Coney Island', both on William Perlberg's slate.

Jimmy Durante set for appearance at theatre-nitery, Stairway To the Stars, at Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, through Lou Irwin.

James A. FitzPatrick left yesterday for Yosemite where he will spend two days shooting Technicolor scenes for his next Traveltalk for Metro.

Benny the Gouge sez—Male skimmers have broader brims this year, the Gene Autry influence, and the boys at Hollywood and Vine hope it stops there. It is tough enough on the insteps now, without wearing high-heeled boots.

Hollywood Inside

HOLLYWOOD correspondents started an all out drive against Jock Lawrence Studio Publicity Directors Committee last night by descending on Huntington Park to catch a sneak preview of Columbia's 'Adventure in Washington' at Warners theatre. More than a dozen Hollywood columnists and news writers stepped up to the boxoffice and planked down the price of admission like any ordinary theatre patron. It was not until the show was over and the crowd began to move out that Columbia executives got wise that their picture was being previewed by more than a dozen writers representing publications throughout the country. Harry Cohn and Charles Rogers were mingling with the crowd to get their reaction to the picture when they spotted writer after writer filing through the doors. The correspondents refused to state how they learned the preview was scheduled but insisted there would be 'honest reviews, with no cheating.' The writers stated they have tried in every way possible to iron out the situation with the Jock Lawrence group, but had received nothing but empty promises. They said that in justification of their publication they decided it was necessary to cover all pictures possible although they would much prefer to reach an amicable agreement with the Producers. 'Adventure in Washington' was directed by Alfred E. Green and presents Herbert Marshall and Virginia Bruce, with Gene Reynolds, Samuel S. Hinds, Ralph Morgan, Vaughn Glaser, Charles Smith and Dickie Jones. It was reported that the Jock Lawrence committee was in session shortly before the correspondents decided to 'catch the sneak', but Chairman John Joseph could not be reached for a statement.

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HAYS office in handling the preview situation has made it very difficult for non-members to show their pictures to the press. Every time the indies call the Hays office and inform it they want to show a picture to the press in studio or outside, are informed that no available showing dates can be had for two or three weeks in advance. When the indie studios contact exhibs direct and get a date for the showing, especially with the circuit houses, latter are reminded by the Hays office that there is agreement for no previews in the area. Result is that though indies want to show their pictures to the press in advance they have been compelled to release the films in various parts of the country ahead of showing them first to the Hollywood newspaper contingent, which they would prefer to do for value of advance publicity they might get on good pictures. One of the indie organizations which claims it has been stymied in previewing pictures is understood to be heading toward the Post Office Building to talk to one of Uncle Sam's representatives as to legality of the tight reins that the Hays office minions are trying to hold over non-organization producers.

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NEW peace pact between Mutual Broadcasting System and Ascap is expected materially to benefit returns on four 20th-Fox musicals which have recently been released or are about to be. Inability to use tunes from these pictures over the airlanes has handicapped exploitation of tuners, and 20th-Fox has been using everything from trick trailers to loudspeakers on trucks to plug the musical numbers. Results were regarded as none too forte, and returns on both 'Down Argentine Way' and 'That Night In Rio' are regarded as having been below what they would have been with wider air plugging. For 'Rio' company believes it can still pick up a good deal because it's still in first run in many spots. Peace pact also is expected to benefit 'The Great American Broadcast', recently completed, and 'Sun Valley Serenade', now being made. Mutual Broadcasting is believed to be more receptive to songs from these four and other films because motion picture song writers, presumably, have worked more diligently during the Ascap-BMI battle than have tunesmiths who lost major section of their market when works no longer were usable on the air.

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DESPITE a fire that destroyed a portion of the company's phonograph record warehouse, RCA Manufacturing Co. will not suffer any loss of time on picture or phonograph recording or record manufacturing, it was stated yesterday by a company's spokesman. No loss in the productive capacity of the plant was sustained by the blaze which swept the adjoining warehouse building, and all employes are working on schedule. Total damage to warehouse will run about $100,000.

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STAR of a recently released picture is due for a surprise when he finds out he is helping pay the salary of a free lance press agent who is handling some outside exploitation on the film. Star has thought all along that flack was hired by the studio to take care of some special work when p.a. was really put on the payroll by the player's agent, who plans to charge off the salary from the picture's profits, which means star's returns on the film will be nicked proportionately.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR crafts have endorsed Proposition A and Charter Amendment Three, which will enable the City to construct a $1,000,000 passenger terminal and administration building at the Los Angeles Municipal airport. The estimated yearly income from the project is $163,728.

☆ ☆ ☆

FRED PELTON, Producer labor contact, stated yesterday that the shortage of studio labor still exists. He said workers were reaping a harvest in overtime, and indicated that if the shortage increases it may become necessary for certain of the crafts to open their ranks to new members.

☆ ☆ ☆

'SIS HOPKINS', Republic's Judy Canova starrer, in its second week of release, has been booked into 150 key cities. Studio hopes to top all records with the picture, estimating that it will play 10,000 accounts. 'Dark Command', which holds Republic's record, played 9,000 accounts.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A poet penned a deathless ode
about his lady's hair.
Her golden tresses stirred his soul
as she was passing there,
Light as a wisp of gossamer, so
sunny-like and fair.

But as he scanned his noble ode
with throbs of sheer delight,
Her hair was like a raven's wing
when next she hove in sight,
For picture scripts may change a
gal's complexion overnight.

★ ★ ★

'King Rubber' has nothing to do with checks. It landed in the Warners studio and didn't bounce back.

★ ★ ★

Fable—Once upon a time there was a Hollywood gal who never danced with Cesar Romero.

★ ★ ★

Celluloid field day—Mae West and John Barrymore ad libbing seven reels.

Career of Barney Gallant, of the Broadway Gallants, is about to be filmed by Mark Hellinger, fetching up an old memory. When Barney was in court one day, for something or other, he told an astonished magistrate: 'I am free, white and 21, and definitely on the make.' The judge had no comeback.

Shoemakers are turning out a lot of glass slippers these days, but only a film studio can turn out a Cinderella.

★ ★ ★

When an actor is out on the street
And biz is exceedingly quiet,
He is craving for something to eat,
And a beefsteak would cause
him to riot,
But when he has joined the elite
He immediately goes on a diet.

★ ★ ★

Hal Roach is going forward in his Streamline Features and backward in his themes. First story is 'Niagara Falls', the aim and end of all honeymoons when grandma was a bride.

Pacific Ocean never will be overcrowded, but the marquees will get that way if Universal keeps adding names to that Navy picture.

A star in the sky has one discoverer, an astronomer who draws a bead with his telescope, makes a bullseye and lets it go at that. In Hollywood a star is never discovered until she makes good. Then she discovers approximately 10,000 discoverers.

'You'll Never Get Rich' calls for eight dance numbers by Fred Astaire, who'll never get fat that way.

Sometimes the Producers buy an old title and change the plot. And sometimes they buy an old plot and change the title.

★ ★ ★

When rumors rise
In distant skies
Of warfare's dismal blues,
The wolfish ears
Of profiteers
Are first to hear the news.

Film Previews

Her First Beau

(*Comedy Drama*)

Columbia production. Stars Jane Withers and Jackie Cooper. Features Edith Fellows, Josephine Hutchinson, William Tracy, Martha O'Driscoll, Edgar Buchanan, Una O'Connor, Jonathan Hale, Kenneth Howell, Addison Richards. Director, Theodore Reed. Producer, B. B. Kahane. Screenplay, Gladys Lehman and Karen DeWolf. Story, Florence Ryerson and Colin Clements. Photography, George Meehan. Film editor, Charles Nelson. Art director, Lionel Banks. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Assistant director, Abby Berlin. Sound engineer, Lodge Cunningham. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, May 1. Running time: 77 mins.

'Her First Beau' is undoubtedly the most beguiling, heart-warming and humanly interesting story given Jane Withers in a long time. Full of neighborly touches, the story holds its best appeal because of its very familiarity and is so well played, written and directed that it seems to be a slice taken right out of the lives of the folks next door. Its two stars, Miss Withers and Jackie Cooper; the director, Theodore Reed; the producer, B. B. Kahane, and all of the cast register solidly with their work, making this Columbia feature one that will well-nigh please any and all audiences.

The story's engrossing theme deals with two families in a medium-sized town, one with a daughter just 15, and the other with a son, just 16. There is the big party and a girl's first sophisticated evening dress, greeted with awed jeers by her playmates and ridiculing scorn by a suave youth she is trying to captivate. There is the suspense of a forbidden night flight over a dangerous lake by her chum next door in his untried sail plane. And many other ingratiating interpretations of teen-aged humor and pathos, skillfully polished by the script writing of Gladys Lehman and Karen DeWolf from the story by Florence Ryerson and Colin Clements.

Miss Withers dons long dresses and grown-up hair-do with all the hopeful significance this act has for girls. Her performance strikes home in every phase. Jackie Cooper is easy and natural as the boy next door and completely complements Miss Withers' work with an equally important assignment.

Edith Fellows is the perfect little romantist. Josephine Hutchinson is the ideal, understanding mother of Miss Withers. William Tracy, Martha O'Driscoll and Kenneth Howell are a swell bunch of young, slang-slinging would-be sophisticates. Edgar Buchanan and Una O'Connor, as handyman and maid, respectively, are excellent. Jonathan Hale and Addison Richards, the fathers, capably hold their own among the youthful group.

Theodore Reed captures fully the mood and flavor of juvenile doings in his direction and carefully prevents over-exuberance in the young cast members. B. B. Cahane's production is soundly valued in all departments. George Meehan's photography and other assignments in the technical ends are first-rate.

Roland Drew's 'Blues'

Roland Drew yesterday was cast in Warners 'Navy Blues', his second role in two days. He went into 'Bullets for O'Hara' on Tuesday.

Meet Boston Blackie

(*Melodrama*)

Columbia production. Features Chester Morris and Rochelle Hudson. Supporting cast: Richard Lane, Charles Wagenheim, Constance Worth, Jack O'Malley, George Magrill, Michael Rand. Directed by Robert Florey. Assistant director, Milton Carter. Story and screenplay by Jay Dratler, based on character created by Jack Boyle. Photography, Franz F. Planer. Film editor, James Sweeney. Previewed May 1. Running time: 61 mins.

Jack Boyle's fictional character, 'Boston Blackie', transplanted to the screen as an amiable, two-fisted gentleman jewel thief, will likely prove acceptable among the not too discriminating clientele that dotes on the chase, the gun fight and the happy finale. It packs a few thrills, has been neatly mounted and well acted.

Chester Morris fills the bill nicely in the title role. He's a personable U. S. version of 'Raffles', though his safe-cracking proclivities are only referred to in the past tense in this stanza. In the first of what is reported to be scheduled as a series, 'Blackie' becomes embroiled in an espionage murder-mystery. Rochelle Hudson handles assignment as Morris' partner in adventure capably and has been given attractive treatment by Cameraman Franz F. Planer.

Some of the early sequences are too talky, but Jay Dratler's yarn swings into high as action progresses with Robert Florey piloting deftly to overcome the slow spots.

Arriving in America after a long absence, 'Blackie' and his Man Friday, played by Charles Wagenheim, are greeted by Inspector Faraday who has a few questions to ask about a jewel robbery. Meantime 'Blackie' has already made acquaintance of mystery woman Marilyn Howard (Constance Worth), finds a murdered man in his stateroom aboard ship, and is obliged to break his word to the inspector and escape in an effort to prove his innocence.

Pursued alternately by the inspector and a couple of knife-throwing conspirators, 'Blackie' also becomes a suspect in the killing of mystery woman Marilyn Howard. Much of the action takes place in amusement fairgrounds on sandy shores of Coney Island, where a 'Mechanical Man' act figures as the key to the riddle. Evil-doers are nabbed with a stolen U. S. bomb sight in their possession, and 'Blackie' is left free to resume his adventures.

Suspense is well sustained throughout the auto and Coney Island pursuit sequences. Constance Worth, as the femme counter-espionage agent, registers photographically, but is dispatched early in line with story requirements. Richard Lane, as the inspector with a soft spot for 'Blackie'; Charles Wagenheim, as the yegg's assistant; Michael Rand, as the enemy spy ringleader, provide adequate support in subordinate roles.

Comedy relief, where attempted, shoots wide of the mark, and added attention could profitably be devoted to this department if 'Boston Blackie' as a series is to become firmly entrenched.

Nesbitt's New Termer

John Nesbitt is on new term contract as commentator at Metro, to continue his series of short subjects.

Fox-West Coast Files Writs in Arbiter Setup Here

Fox West Coast Theatres has intervened in two of the three independent exhibitor suits filed for arbitration with the Los Angeles branch of the American Arbitration Association. Although circuit is not named as a defendant in any of the actions so far instituted, the clearance asked in at least two of the cases infringe on F-WC operations, and it is in order to protect these interests that the intervention has been filed.

In the complaint of O. W. Lewis, of the Mission Playhouse at San Gabriel, who seeks a reclassification of clearance in that area, Fox West Coast, because of its Pasadena and Alhambra operations, feels that it is vitally affected. Lewis asks that San Gabriel be designated to play 28 days after Pasadena, but this is objected to by F-WC, as the Pasadena first run box office price is 50c, whereas the Mission is operated at a 28c top. House presently plays 21 days after Alhambra first run closing. Lewis wants to play product directly after Pasadena (28 days) but is not inclined to boost his box office tariff, although he has that privilege, and at 35c would be enabled to play films at 28 days.

In the complaint of A. L. Sanborn and James Rennie, covering the El Monte theatre in El Monte, complainant wants a 14-day clearance over Pasadena at 30c. He has the right to go to 35c, which would automatically enable him to get the 14-day clearance.

UNIONS DEMAND BACK PAY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

cal 695 and chairman of the Business Representatives Committee of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes Studio Unions, was drafting a call for heads of the various unions to meet to discuss united action. Union tops stated that while the final classifications had not been announced by the Wage-Hour Division in Washington, reports indicated the Division would not go behind its classifications, leaving it to the workers to collect through economic action or by instituting court suits.

Several union leaders said the only way the workers would be able to collect back pay would be through united action of all the unions when they opened negotiations with the Producers on contract revisions. They stated that several studios had passed out slips promising to make wage adjustments where the pay was affected by the Wage-Hour classifications, but added that none of the companies were going to pass out any money unless they were forced to do so.

It was reported from Washington that the Wage-Hour Division would follow the same procedure as in other industries, fixing the classifications as of a certain date and not applying any penalties unless there were specific cases of evasion by the employers. It was pointed out that the Producers had been requesting for two years that the classifications be fixed.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

FIRST block of Baby Defense bonds at the Universal post office were bought yesterday by Baby Sandy. Deal, for the maximum amount of $3,750, was made by the tot's father, Roy Henville. Henry MacRae and his secretary, Ella O'Neill, were first in line at the Beverly Hills post office, beating out Sol M. Wurtzel, who couldn't come in person but asked privilege in a letter of being initial buyer. . . . General Maximino Avila Camacho, brother of Mexico's President, and his staff were guests of Y. Frank Freeman and other Paramount studio executives yesterday for luncheon. . . . Betty Fields leaves today on a motor trip through California, returning (18) for her next assignment at Paramount. . . . Mrs. Leo Spitz, who has been here since last December, leaves for New York tonight to spend the summer.

George Glass is performing a super human task in garnering belated publicity and handling drive on ticket sales for premiere of 'Major Barbara' at the Four Star on Tuesday night.

GLENN MILLER opens tonight at the Palladium with a 'Night of Nights' program and the biggest list of reservations since the dance hall started. On the list are Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Judy Garland, Dave Rose, Rudy Vallee, Betty Grable, George Raft, Dorothy Lamour, Connie Boswell, the Andrews Sisters and the Merry Macs. . . . Ken Murray will be emcee for the 'Movie Stars Racing Jamboree' at Gilmore Stadium Sunday afternoon. Proceeds go to Mount Sinai Free Clinic and the Theatre Authority. Milton Berle and Abbott and Costello will also be at the mike. Al Rogell, A. Edward Sutherland, Lew Landers, LeRoy Prinz, Vernon Keays, Joseph McDonough and others are staging the show. Box-holders include Harry M. Warner, Leo McCarey, Pat O'Brien, Fred Astaire, Tod Browning, Charles Chaplin, Cary Grant, Jeanette MacDonald, Hal B. Wallis, Jack Benny and others.

Susanna Foster and Dolly Loehr, singer and pianist respectively, will entertain at the Motion Picture Day luncheon to be given by the Los Angeles Advertising Club at the Biltmore Tuesday.

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO will receive special citations from the Hollywood Post No. 43 of the American Legion for their work in helping to build morale in the country's training camps. Presentation will be made tonight by Judge Clarence L. Kincaid in the ring at the Hollywood Legion Stadium just before final boxing event. . . . Corporal James Stewart of the U. S. Army, and erstwhile actor at Metro, yesterday appeared with a big parcel of officers and other dignitaries at the Biltmore Bowl to speak his modest piece in praise and appreciation of efforts being made by the United Service Organizations for National Defense to make the soldier more comfortable and happy during his year of service. He spoke as an enlisted man.

Erich Pommer Will Resume Production On RKO's 'Uncle'

Erich Pommer, who has been recovering at home from a heart attack, will again assume the production reins on 'Unexpected Uncle' at RKO. When Pommer was first stricken, production guidance had been turned over to Tay Garnett to carry out, in addition to directing, if Pommer failed to recover in time to handle film.

Dorothy Comingore will do the femme lead and studio is understood to be negotiating with either Charles Coburn or Walter Huston to do the 'Uncle' role originally slated for Thomas Mitchell before his accident. Miss Comingore will do the picture before 'Valley of the Sun', which is held up while George Marshall completes his director assignment at Columbia on 'The Texans Ride'.

Edmond O'Brien, now in 'Parachute Battalion', will do the male lead opposite Miss Comingore in 'Uncle' and other cast assignments are Philip Reed, Edmund Gwenn and Jane Wyatt.

Ackerman Out Sunday On Ocean Vacash

Harry Ackerman, producer of Screen Guild airshow, leaves Sunday for New Orleans and a Caribbean cruise before reporting to Young & Rubicam in New York to assume charge of all major shows during the summer. He returns here in August to ready Screen Guild for another season. Understood renewal of the program by Gulf Oil is virtually assured. Ackerman is accompanied on the cruise by his wife, professionally Mary Shipp, radio actress.

Taylor Rolls 'Rangers'

'Rawhide Rangers', next Johnny Mack Brown western at Universal, rolls today, with Ray Taylor directing. In addition to Brown the cast includes Fuzzy Knight, Nell O'Day, Kathryn Adams, Roy Harris, Harry Cording, Bob Kortman and Ed Cassidy.

Marvin Due Shortly

Dick Marvin, radio head of William Esty agency, is due out in two weeks for a look-in on the LifeBO show. Option time rolls around June 6.

Coast League Baseball Results

Oakland, 5; Hollywood, 4.
Seattle, 7; San Diego, 2.
San Francisco, 11; Los Angeles, 5.
Portland, 2; Sacramento 1.

Shadrack Boys
ARE HERE AGAIN
at
Pirates' Den
335 N. La Brea WY-9245
NO COVER CHARGE

Ascap Music Back on Mutual Net May 10; 3% Blanket Deal

★ Continued from page 1 ★

proval within 48 hours. Such a ratio would automatically ratify the new Ascap contract.

In a telephone conference call yesterday across the country, with all station owners or managers on the line for half an hour, W. E. MacFarlane, Mutual president, outlined terms of the licensing contract worked out with the Society. This was followed up with a mailing of the complete agreement to all member stations. They have been asked either to okay or reject the new deal and make their recommendations on the blanket form or per program basis of payment. Weiss said he was certain the plan would be roundly approved and that all stations would favor the blanket payment proposal due to the extensive bookkeeping required for payment by the program.

New licensing deal worked out by Mutual with Ascap calls for 3% of the net billing, as against 5% on the last contract. Percentage applies on the first four years of the nine-year pact, with the payoff to be increased to 3½% on the last five years. Weiss said this settlement figure would entail a saving of 40% to Mutual members over what formerly was paid. Spokesmen for Ascap declare that the volume of monies received would be greater, considering that payment will be made at the source. Also figuring in the increased income, according to Ascapers, will be payment by the networks, heretofore not participating in the music payoff.

Proposal by Weiss in the negotiations on sustaining fee for stations is incorporated in the licensing instrument. It calls for one time the network's hour rate per month.

It was indicated yesterday that 'outside pressure' was being exerted on some of the chain's stations to stall off actual signing until after the National Assn. of Broadcasters convention in St. Louis, starting (12).

Weiss characterized the new Ascap deal as fair and equitable, insuring an equal distribution over the industry in ratio to its income.

REPUBLIC LULL DUE TO HEAVY SKED FILLUP

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

fast finish of the season by August.

Upswing in production will assume large proportions when it comes, because Republic wants to get a head start on its 1941-42 program of 32 features, 30 westerns and four serials. This total of 66 pictures is the largest ever planned in Republic's history.

So far 45 features have been finished for this season, of which 23 are westerns. There are 13 more to be completed for delivery before Aug. 11. Of these, 'Puddin' Head', with Judy Canova; 'Nevada City', with Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes, and 'Jungle Girl', the last serial of the year, are currently shooting.

Those to be finished for this year include 'Under Fiesta Stars', 'Old Faithful' and 'Down Mexico Way', for Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette; 'Outcasts of Poker Flat', for Rogers and Hayes; 'Milkman's Matinee', from the radio program of that name; 'Kansas Cyclone', for Don Barry; 'Gauchos of Eldorado', for the Three Mesquiteers; 'Ice-capades of 1941', 'From Rags To Riches', 'Doctors Don't Tell' and 'Ten Nights In a Barroom'. 'Ice-capades' will be a de luxe feature, as is 'Puddin Head'. 'Down Mexico Way' will be last of the studio's premiere features this season for Autry.

Fish Gets Salt Lake

Salt Lake City area has been added to the territory of Ben Fish, western district manager for United Artists. Heretofore, Fish has supervised exchange operations only in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Lewis Arrives May 10

W. B. Lewis, CBS vice prez in charge of programs, is due here (10) for parleys with Charles Vanda on summer replacements for programs on hiatus.

Heavy Technique

Warners has six technical directors at work on a half-dozen pictures. These include Byron Kennerly, Royal Air Force flyer, on 'The Flight Patrol'; Lieut. R. L. Newman, U. S. Navy, on 'Dive Bomber'; Captain Chester Carlyle, U. S. Army, 'Sergeant York'; Ernest Richter, 'Underground'; Verne Elliott on 'Manpower' and Pearl May Kerns on 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

NAMES LINED UP TO BOOST BENNY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

from the other seaboard will be Amos 'n' Andy, Eddie Cantor and Ole Olson. Also programmed are Alois Havrilla and Ed Thorgerson, who were announcers on Benny's first program.

Insert of The Quiz Kids will be made from Gary, Ind., and controls are then switched to Benny's home in Beverly Hills for a bit of hossplay between Benny and Rochester, the latter laying out his duds and helping him dress for the big night.

Radio execs of Young & Rubicam agency coming from New York for the Benny dinner are Chet LaRoche, prexy; Tom Harrington, radio head, and Bill Thomas, press chief. Charles Mortimer, advertising exec, will represent Benny's Jell-O sponsor, General Foods.

Goulding Gets 'Nymph'

Edmund Goulding draws the directorial job on Warners 'The Constant Nymph.' Picture rolls June 2. Kay Van Riper is finishing the screen adaptation of the Margaret Kennedy story.

LOVELY WESTWOOD HOME
2-story Monterey. 4 family bedrooms, 3 baths up, servant's quarters down. Separate screened barbecue house.
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Hugh Robertson Named RKO Director; Sam Goldwyn Pact OK'd

New York, May 1.—Hugh Robertson, of Rockefeller Centre, Inc., was elected a director in place of John Parsons, resigned, at the regular RKO directorate meeting today. Kenneth Umbreit was elected secretary.

The Samuel Goldwyn pact as a producer was okayed, it was reported. Meeting otherwise was confined to routine matters. It is understood that the $8,500,000 loan sought by the company was not acted on because the deal for the acquisition of the Mike Meehan Keith-Albee-Orpheum shares has not been completed.

Parents Aid La Brea in Kiddie Show Setup

Fox LaBrea theatre here is experimenting with a new type of Kiddie shows on Saturdays, with the affairs sponsored by the motion picture chairmen of the Wilshire Council of Parents and Teachers, and by the Los Angeles Elementary Teacher clubs. There are nine elementary schools in the Wilshire district that are cooperating. Specially-planned programs are being presented, comprising a single feature and a selection of short subjects. Program is confined to two hours, starting at 2 o'clock and the youngsters promised home by 4 p.m.

Chas. Skouras Group Returns Today

Charles P. Skouras and party are due back today from San Francisco where they went on theatre realty matters. Accompanying the Fox-West Coast prexy north were Charles A. Buckley, head of circuit's legal department; W. H. (Bud) Lollier, tax and real estate manager, and Tom Page, film statistician. Bill Lyris, manager of the F-WC candy department.

Shop for Hope Sub

Summer replacement for Bob Hope and his Pepsodent crew is still being sought by Lord & Thomas. Dramatic show is under consideration but no deal yet. Hope winds up the season with June 17 broadcast.

a.m. Dailies

Eddy In Court—
Nelson Eddy yesterday appeared in Superior court to defend himself against $8,723 damage suit filed by Helen Lynd, actress, who charges injuries in an auto accident last August were caused by collision with Eddy's car, driven by actor's stepson, Sidney Franklin, Jr. Nelson Eddy was named because his car was involved.

MODERN COUNTRY HOME
Mediterranean. 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Amusement room and bar beautifully decorated. 3 large sun decks. ¾ acre. Permanent ocean view. $3000 will handle. Owner
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Sam Katzman Has 6 Scribes Working On Five Scripts

Sam Katzman has increased his current assignments to a total of six writers working on five scripts with the addition of Harvey Gates to write an original story for Bela Lugosi. He also expects to sign another writer shortly to prepare the screenplay on the musical, 'Sis, Boom, Bah', which he recently purchased.

Other writers working on yarns for release through Monogram are Martin Mooney on 'Mr. Wise Guy', Helen and Al Martin on 'Bowery Blitzkrieg', and George Marion and Carl Foreman on 'Trail of the Vampire'.

Dahlen Sees Somerset On Extra Setup

Ed Dahlen, who for several weeks has been picketing Central Casting Corp., stated yesterday that he had an appointment for 4 p.m. today with Pat Somerset, assistant executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild to discuss seniority rights of extras. Dahlen is demanding that 'old time extra players' be given preference in job distribution.

Obituary

HOWARD JOHNSON

Howard Johnson, 53, veteran songwriter who contributed the lyrics of some of the outstanding tunes of 25 years ago, died suddenly yesterday in New York. His greatest success was 'M-O-T-H-E-R', although his lyrics for the musical comedy, 'Tangerine', which starred Frank Crumit and Julia Sanderson, won him wide acclaim. He wrote many tunes that were popular in the last war and listed among his other hits 'Moon Comes Over the Mountain', 'Georgia', 'Hello Aloha', 'Ireland Must Be Heaven' and scores of others. During the early days of musicals he spent a year at Metro writing ditties. His widow survives. Burial will be in Torrington, Conn.

MILLARD HOYLE

Millard Hoyle, 58, owner and publisher of the Hollister (Calif.) Daily Free Lance and Weekly Advance, died yesterday from heart attack at Havana, Cuba, while on trip with California newspapermen. He was a native of Dallas Tex., and formerly was circulation manager of Hearst's American Weekly. He was considered an authority on California state history and had written several books. His widow, two sons and five daughters survive. The body will be brought to Hollister for interment.

E. S. Porter Rites

Edwin Stanton Porter, scenarist-author of the first full length motion picture, 'The Great Train Robbery', died yesterday in New York. Funeral services are being conducted today at Somerset, Pa. He organized the old Famous Players Company with Adolph Zukor, and had lived in retirement in New York for several years.

B. F. Blinn Rites

Funeral services under Masonic rites will be held today at 3 p.m. at Pierce Bros. chapel, 720 W. Washington Blvd., for Benjamin Franklin Blinn, 69, motion picture character actor, who died Monday.

STUDY FRENCH EDICT

New York, May 1.—Foreign managers of major companies huddled at the Hays office today and took steps to obtain a clearer conception of a new edict by the Vichy government in the occupied area of France. Preliminary report is that the Vichy government is taking over any debts owed to foreign companies in that area, with the ruling supposedly effective today. Jock Whitney was supposed to outline a program on solidification of hemispheric solidarity but failed to make an appearance.

U.S. Points Unconstitutionality Of Minnesota Film Law

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

law is confiscatory. The department has been consulted unofficially by the majors on what to do about it, but feels that outside of the jurisdictional question it is a distributor problem.

Should the majors bring a suit to test the validity of the law the government will join the action, probably in the capacity of amicus curiae (friend of the court). In order to meet the present problem the department is prepared to go into Federal court and modify the decree to enable distributors to comply with the Minnesota law.

Government will modify the decree to take care of any state law along the same lines. So far it has received numerous complaints from exhibitors that major companies are violating the decree by theatre expansion. However, the United States is hampered by Sec. 2 of the decree which says it cannot attack threatened expansion, and would have to prove that theatre acquisitions were not necessary for the protection of present interests of the majors. The department is considering what to do about the complaints, but has not yet made up its mind.

The government is not laying down on the job of prosecuting little suits because of a desire to lay off the film industry due to the national crisis. The picture industry is important, but not essential to defense, and pending suits will be pushed.

Showdown Gets Gals More Coin With Chorus Work

Femme dancers and chorines in the Screen Actors Guild are demanding and getting $11 per day straight for studio calls, regardless of whether they are guaranteed a week's work. The former practice was to pay them $11 per day for solo calls, and to put them on salary at $50 to $55 when they were employed for a week.

The first showdown came at Columbia, when dancing girls and chorines on the Fred Astaire picture, 'You'll Never Get Rich', demanded $11 a day. The girls stopped work long enough to explain the difficulties of their routine, etc. Studio executives agreed, and the girls were guaranteed $11 per.

The next move came at Metro, where the girls were working on a Bus Berkeley musical. They pointed out the dancers were required to do a ballet routine, tap, etc., and argued the job was worth $11 straight, regardless of how long they were employed. A SAG checker joined the parley, and again the girls won. It finally was agreed they would be paid $11 per day, regardless of how long they were employed.

Nayfack to Gotham

Nicholas Nayfack, Metro producer, planed to New York yesterday on a business trip. He returns by air Monday.

Superb Cuisine
No Cover Charge
Grace Hayes Lodge
PETER LIND HAYES
• HIS ORCHESTRA •
• MARY HEALY •

Story Buys

Warners yesterday bought the film rights to 'The Night Before Christmas', legiter by Laura and S. J. Perelman. Edward G. Robinson will be starred.

Par Reties Quartet

Options on four players were lifted at Paramount yesterday. Those getting renewals were Don Castle, Dolly Loehr, Eleanor Stewart and Keith Richards.

Arbitration Committee Gets Kick On Nebraska Setup

Denver, May 1.—W. J. and J. L. McDonald, operating the Nile theatre at Mitchell, Neb., have filed with the American Arbitration Association a petition asking that the present 30-day clearance enjoyed by Bluffs, Egyptian and Oto theatres at Scottsbluff, Neb., be reduced, and that the Nile be given clearance over the Delmar at Morrill, Neb., and the Grove and Riviera, Gering, Neb. Theatres named in the complaint are owned by the Midwest Amusement and Realty Co. of Scottsbluff, and are operated through the Gibraltar Enterprises of Denver. Distribs named in the complaint are Paramount, Warner Bros., and 20th-Fox.

Hearing is set for May 5 on another Denver case, also involving clearance. E. K. Menagh of the Star, Ft. Lupton, Colo., is asking a better break in booking in competition with the Rex at Brighton, five miles distant. Latter house is owned by C. U. Yaeger.

John A. Carroll, former district attorney as well as a candidate for the Republican governor nomination in the last primary, has been named as arbitrator in the Ft. Lupton case.

Stellern Returning

John A. Stellern, Southern California manager of the Wage-Hour Division, is scheduled to return to his headquarters here about May 15. He was in Seattle yesterday in connection with the fresh fruit industry. It was announced at his office that no complaints have been received from union in the film industry since the classifications were announced.

Roy Peacock Here

Roy C. Peacock, who has been with B. F. Shearer & Co. in Seattle for past 21 years, has been transferred to the Los Angeles supply house exchange as branch manager. He replaces Frank Harris, who is on an indefinite leave of absence, due to Mrs. Harris' illness.

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JOE PASTERNAK

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and Boys and Girls

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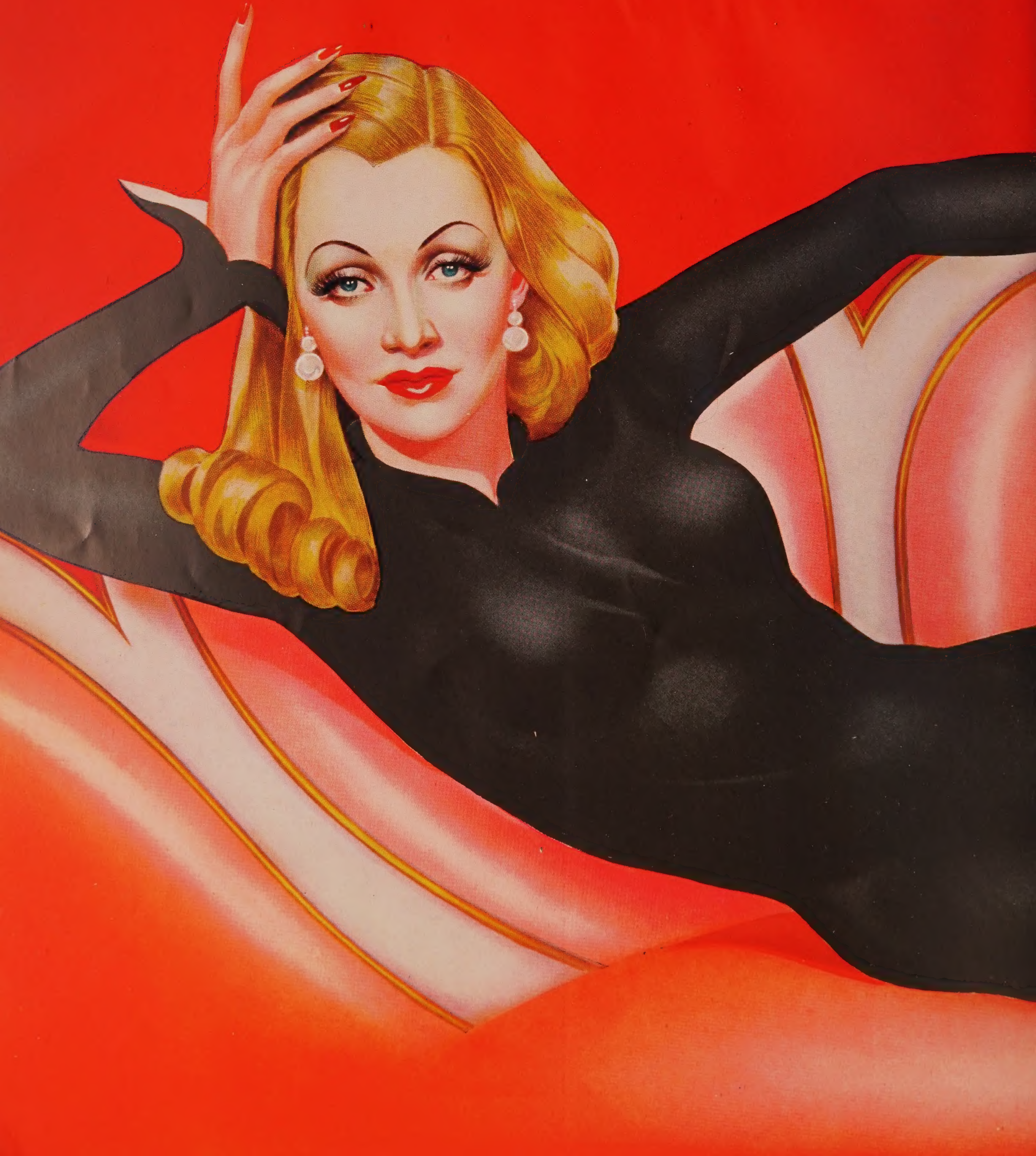
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Thank You

RENE CLAIR

The FLAME OF NEW ORLEANS

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE



Marlene
DIETRICH
in

The FLAME OF NEW ORLEANS

A RENE CLAIR PRODUCTION
with
BRUCE CABOT
ROLAND YOUNG
MISCHA AUER
ANDY DEVINE
Melville Cooper **Eddie Quillan**
Laura Hope Crews **Frank Jenks**
Directed by **RENE CLAIR**
Produced by **JOE PASTERNAK**

Written by Norman Krasna
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

MARLENE
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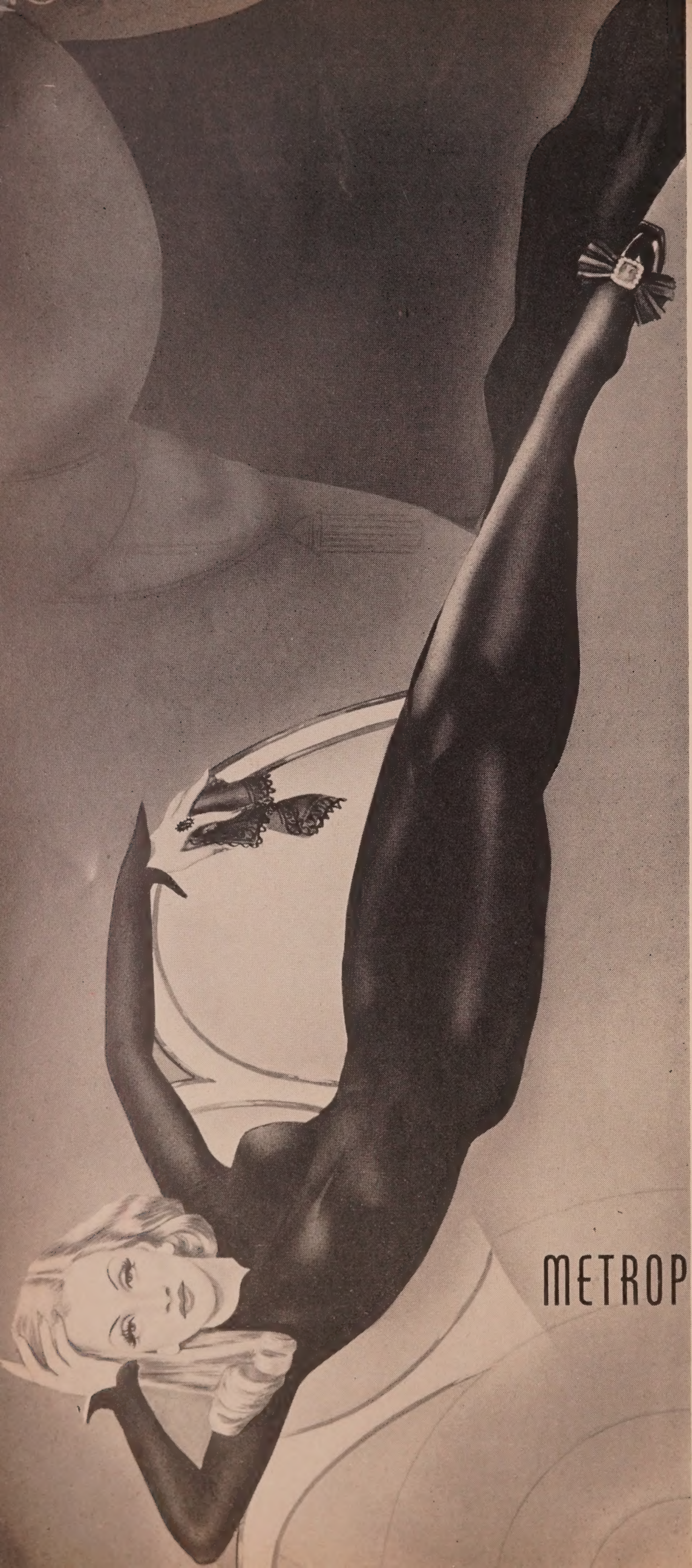

The FLAME OF NEW ORLEANS

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Special Weeks Set In Skouras Biz Campaign

Special weeks, with $5,000 in prizes hung up as awards, have been designated by Charles P. Skouras, field marshal of the third Spyros Skouras showmanship drive, for the weeks of May 18-24 and June 22-28. Melon will be divided over the two periods, with the bonus money carved out of the $31,000 showmanship prizes hung up for the contest.

Each special week will have a first prize winner at $800; second prize of $700; third prize, $500; fourth, $300, and fifth, $200.

Thornton Sargent, supervising the Fox West Coast first run theatres here, jumped into second place at the close of the second week of the drive, displacing Homer Gill of Kern county and Lou Christ of the Arizona territory. First place continued to be held by John Hamrick's district of Seattle. Tom Soriero, manager of the United Artists theatre here, continued to head the Class B houses for second week in a row.

Col. Recording Strikers Announce Pickets

Columbia Recording Corp. strikers announced yesterday that chorines in costume, longshoremen, and workers from a dozen crafts in both the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the American Federation of Labor will march in the picket lines in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Saturday night. In the meantime negotiations still were at a standstill, neither the company nor the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers making any move to resume the parleys. The plant has been closed since April 11, when the company refused to raise the minimum wage scale from 55 cents per hour to 75 cents.

Hays In Chi Hospital

Chicago, May 1.—Will H. Hays, prexy of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, is expected to remain in St. Luke's hospital another week for a general checkup, it was announced today. When he leaves the hospital, Hays will head for the Coast to select a successor to Joseph I. Breen, who resigned recently as film censor for the Hays office.

Ill in Pix

RONALD REAGAN was overcome yesterday in the cockpit of a plane during a scene at Warners for 'The Flight Patrol'. Smoke fumes, released to indicate that his ship was on fire, swept into the plane and caused the trouble. He was treated at the studio hospital and taken home, where he is expected to rest today and possibly tomorrow before resuming work.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Tillie the Toiler'	Columbia	Robert Sparks	Sidney Salkow	April 28
'The Yearling'	Metro	Sidney Franklin	Victor Fleming	April 28
'Secret of the Wastelands'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Derwin Abrahams	May 2
'Criminals Within'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	E. B. Derr	Joseph Lewis	May 1
'Puddin' Head'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Joseph Santley	April 29
'The Gay Falcon'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Irving Reis	May 2
'Dressed To Kill'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Eugene Forde	April 28
'A Yank In the R.A.F.'	20th-Fox	Lou Edelman	Henry King	April 28
'The Last of the Duanes'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	James Tinling	April 28
'Private Nurse'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	David Burton	May 1
'International Lady'	UA	Edward Small	Tim Whelan	May 1
'The Little Foxes'	UA	Samuel Goldwyn	William Wyler	April 28
'Moonlight In Hawaii'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	April 30
'Rawhide Rangers'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ray Taylor	May 2
'Bullets For O'Hara'	Warners	William Jacobs	William K. Howard	May 1

9 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'The Texans Ride'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	George Marshall	May 5
'Wanderers of the West'	Monogram	Robert Tansey	Unassigned	May 5
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	May 5
'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	May 5
'Charlie Chan In Rio'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Harry Lachman	May 8
'I, James Lewis'	Universal	Frank Lloyd	Frank Lloyd	May 5
'Flying Cadets'	Universal	Paul Malvern	Unassigned	May 7
'Radio Revels of 1942'	Universal	Joseph G. Sanford	Harold Young	May 8
'King Rubber'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	Ben Stoloff	May 8

19 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	Preparing
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Unassigned	Preparing
'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'Mr. Wise Guy'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	May 15
'Army Hostess'	Monogram	William Lackey	Unassigned	May 25
'Dildo Cay'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 17
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Unassigned	May 26
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	May 27
'Gambling Daughters'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	T. H. Richmond	Unassigned	May 15
'Billy the Kid Western'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sam Newfield	May 15
'Desperate Cargo'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	John T. Coyle	Unassigned	May 25
'Wild Geese Calling'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	Unassigned	May 12
'Charley's Aunt'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Archie Mayo	May 12
'Twenty-one Men and a Girl'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	Ray McCarey	May 12
'Remember the Day'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Unassigned	May 26
'How Green Was My Valley'	20th-Fox	Unassigned	John Ford	June 9
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 10
'Almost An Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 19

Red Berger Dropped By Actors Guild

John (Red) Berger, formerly in charge of the extra division of the Screen Actors Guild, has been dropped by that organization. It was announced that the Department of Works Relations, Complaints and Statistics had been abolished by the personnel committee, and the duties distributed among other executives. Bob Ellsworth will handle most of the work. Berger was a veteran employe of the Guild, having served as a studio checker before being brought inside. It is understood that a couple of major studios are angling with him to act as a Guild contact man to check sets, and to give extra budgets the once over with the idea of eliminating claims, adjustments, etc.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'Betty Co-ed' now titled 'Sweetheart of the Campus'.

Andrews Ends 'Mayor'

Robert Andrews finished a treatment of 'The Mayor of 44th Street', for Cliff Reid, slated for production at RKO late this month.

Final Mono Regional In N. Orleans (3-4)

Last of a series of Monogram regional meetings will be held in New Orleans next Saturday and Sunday (3-4) at the Roosevelt hotel there. Company exchange men and franchise holders from the far south will participate. Sessions will be presided over by Steve Broidy, general sales manager. Reps from Charlotte, Memphis, Atlanta, New Orleans and Dallas will attend.

ATTENTION!!
Louis Alter, Harold Arlen, Peter DeRose, Vernon Duke, Duke Ellington, Morton Gould, Ferde Grofe, Sigmund Romberg, Dana Suesse, Harry Warren
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IN OLD MEXICO
HANDICAP STARS MEET in CINCO de MAYO STAKES
Another thrilling Steeplechase
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12 RACES • 5 FEATURES • FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Writers Threaten Pic Strike; Sesh Today on Pact

■ Continued from page 1 ■

covering wages, conditions, etc., for scriveners.

After the meeting the SWG executive board gave out the statement:

'At a membership meeting of the Screen Writers Guild last night the members expressed great dissatisfaction with the progress of the Guild negotiations with the Producers and passed a resolution to the effect that they considered the present writer demands as being extremely modest and reasonable, and that a further meeting of the membership of the Guild be called to discuss the advisability of taking a strike vote in the event the demands are not reasonably met by the Producers.'

The meeting started off with a discussion of the arbitration of screenplay credits. It was pointed out that the Producers had requested the SWG to continue to arbitrate credits with the machinery already set up during the interim between negotiations and the time the contract is inked. John Howard Lawson stated he thought the issue of credits was unimportant in comparison with the negotiations, adding that it was a headache the Producers didn't want, but that they would like to keep the Guild discussing it.

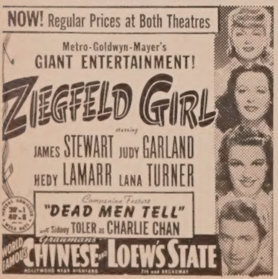
Talk of drastic action to force the issue with Producers was started by Boris Ingster. He said the SWG was the foundation on which all the other Guilds had secured contracts and working conditions, adding, 'and today we have nothing but the promise of Producers to bargain with us, which right the National Labor Relations Act gives us. And, today that is all we have, a promise to bargain. It has now come to the point where let's give our bargaining committee a weapon — the right to strike'.

'LOOK WHAT THEY GOT'

Others quickly approved, several stating that a strike would last only about three days before Producers would give in, even if it was found necessary to strike. Several scriveners pointed out that the actors didn't have to strike, but only had to threaten to do so in order to get a contract. One writer remarked, 'Yes, and look what they got'.

Fred Niblo, Jr., objected to the strike question injected into the negotiations unless it was understood that the high-priced writers intended to support the little fellows. He said he realized the Guild was not taking a strike vote last night, but said it was the first step, and that the second and third steps would mean that 'we will be out on strike'. He said that before a strike is called he knew the membership would be interested to know what the $2,500 per week scrivener is going to do about it. He asked whether they were going to 'support the little guys like the actors supported the extras'.

Prexy Sheridan Gibney and half a dozen other high-salaried scriveners stated that they felt certain writers in the higher salaried brackets would support the strike, if it became necessary to call one, morally, financially and otherwise. It was reported that SWG shop stewards will be instructed to counteract any attack on the SWG resolution on studio lots by explaining that no strike vote was taken last night, but that the motion merely provided for sounding out the membership on the advisability of walking out if Producers refused to meet the demands.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GIANT ENTERTAINMENT!
ZIEGFELD GIRL
starring
JAMES STEWART JUDY GARLAND
HEDY LAMARR LANA TURNER
Companion Feature
"DEAD MEN TELL"
with Sidney TOLER as CHARLIE CHAN
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND — 7th and BROADWAY

AGVA REORG STARTED BY KEN THOMSON

Reorganization of the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists was started yesterday, when Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, agreed to loan AGVA for one month the services of Lee Travers. He will act as executive secretary in place of Kenneth Howard who was dropped by the AGVA board. Travers has been in charge of checking independent studios for the SAG.

Eddie Davis, who has been doing certain office work at AGVA, was taken off the payroll, but will remain as a member of the board of directors. It was indicated that no other changes are contemplated at this time, Florine Bale remaining as office manager.

It was stated yesterday that while Kenneth Thomson had been requested by the board to act in a supervisory capacity, control of the local will remain in the hands of the board of directors. It also was said that the removal of Howard as well as the request for Thomson to supervise the reorganization had been approved by a majority of the board. When the reorganization has been completed, the board said a general membership meeting will be called to select a permanent executive secretary.

J. M. Schenck Returning To 20th Soon After Resigning Chairmanship

20th-Fox board of directors, at its meeting in New York yesterday, accepted the resignation of Joseph M. Schenck as chairman and member of the board.

Edwin P. Kilroe, who has been associated with the company for years, was elected a director to succeed Schenck. No action was taken to elect a successor as chairman of the board.

20th-Fox issued the following statement: 'The published reports that Joseph M. Schenck has entirely severed his connection with 20th-Fox are in error. Mr. Schenck tendered his resignation to the board of directors as a director of the company and as chairman of the board. His resignation was accepted by the board of directors at its meeting today. When Mr. Schenck returns to Hollywood, he will resume his production activities for the company.'

Schenck, Sidney R. Kent, 20th-Fox prexy, and other company officials are expected to arrive here from New York early next week.

Ceballos' Duet

Larry Ceballos is directing dance sequences on two pictures at Universal. His latest assignment is on 'Moonlight in Hawaii' and he is also working on 'Big House Blues.'

Shorts Boom

Short subjects department is in production boom at Metro, with 23 pictures being readied for release and 15 more slated to start within next few weeks. Nine are in the editing stage; five ready for commentation; two before the cameras; two set for production within the next week and several awaiting release dates.

Darmour Signs Dannay, Lee To New Pact For Four Flickers

Larry Darmour has signed a new deal with Frederick Dannay and Manfred B. Lee, authors of the Ellery Queen novels and radio show, for four pictures to be released by Columbia next season. Scribes now are here writing the fourth on the current program's films directly for the screen.

Darmour has scheduled the third, 'The Devil to Pay', to roll (8) with Ralph Bellamy and Margaret Lindsay in the top roles. James Hogan has checked in at the studio to prepare for his directorial chore.

Nazarro Lipplessly

Cliff Nazarro goes into Warners 'Dive Bomber' today, after which he will do a featured role in Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich.' In the Columbia picture Nazarro will do his first straight part, dropping the double talk.

Harry Carey's 'Living'

Harry Carey joins the cast toppers in 'Among the Living' at Paramount. Picture rolls Monday with Stuart Heisler directing, Albert Dekker, Susan Hayward and Frances Farmer as the other leads.

TREES—CHARM—PRIVACY

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Paramount 'Wings' Pre-Release Runs Set

Paramount will launch 'I Wanted Wings' in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, Portland and Seattle (15) for pre-release runs prior to general distribution of the picture beginning (30). Exploitation campaign, with the cooperation of the Army air fields up and down the Coast, has been worked out for special ballyhoo.

Army is lending its support to the day-date Pacific coast openings as part of its plan to generate interest among the forthcoming graduates of high schools and colleges next month in the air service. Recruits with two years of college and the necessary physical requirements are eligible as pilots, while high school graduates are acceptable for ground crew service.

Local campaign on the picture will be handled by Cliff Lewis for Paramount. John De Valle left yesterday to do the plugging in San Francisco and Oakland, while Ralph Ravenscroft planes out today for Portland and Seattle to clear the exploitation in that area.

SMPFE REJECTS PLAN FROM DISNEY

A counter proposal of Walt Disney Studio to immediately sign a contract with the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors, and later adjust wages either through negotiations or as a grievance, was rejected last night by the Society executive board. In announcing that the offer was not satisfactory, the board indicated the Society will insist on a regular contract covering wages, hours and working conditions.

The counter proposal was submitted by Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, at a conference with John W. Lehners, Society business representative. Lehners agreed to transmit the offer to the board, but the latter is understood to have taken the position that the question of a contract with Disney has been hanging fire for two years and that there was no necessity for deferring wage adjustments any longer.

Charges of unfair labor practices filed against the company by the Society are now pending before the National Labor Relations Board. Similar charges also have been filed by the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which is demanding recognition as collective bargaining representative for approximately 700 employes at Disney. Negotiations between the SCG and Spreckels are expected to be resumed the first of next week when Herbert Sorrell returns from Sacramento.

Soo Yong Assigned

Soo Yong has been signed by Harry Sherman for a featured role in 'Secret of the Wastelands', Hopalong Cassidy picture for Paramount release.

Broadway Favorites
SLIM and SLAM
First Coast Appearance!
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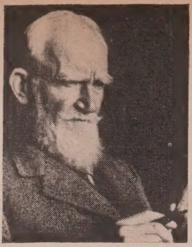

G. BERNARD SHAW

WENDY HILLER

GABRIEL PASCAL

THE *Incomparable* THREE

who gave you "PYGMALION" now bring to the Screen another of Shaw's great plays!

GABRIEL PASCAL

presents

WENDY HILLER

REX HARRISON · ROBERT MORLEY

in

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S

"MAJOR BARBARA"

co-starring ROBERT NEWTON

with EMLYN WILLIAMS *and* Sybil Thorndyke

Produced and Directed by GABRIEL PASCAL

SALVATION
RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

It offers delightful and thoughtful diversion and may be expected to follow closely the precedential business set in the class houses by 'Pygmalion' . . . quality of the performances, paced by Wendy Hiller, Rex Harrison, Robert Morley, Robert Newton, rates exceptionally high.

Daily Variety

'Major Barbara', brilliant example of Shavian satire. Delightful comedy, superlative cast. Delightfully intelligent entertainment.

Hollywood Reporter

Gabriel Pascal, who with Miss Hiller and Mr. Shaw gave us 'Pygmalion' has again produced and directed a picture with beautiful precision and polish. Perhaps no other producer of films today exhibits such sophistication. The Shaw script and dialogue is ruthlessly brilliant.

Dorothy Manners
L. A. Examiner

Pascal and Shaw as a combination demonstrates the impressiveness of their adult art.

Edwin Schallert
L. A. Times

'Major Barbara' is even better than 'Pygmalion'. It should be a boxoffice sensation. The Shaw-Pascal-Hiller triumvirate will never be able to top this one.

Jessie Henderson
Baltimore Sun

'Major Barbara' is as delightful and witty as if it had been made in Utopia.

Virginia Wright
L. A. News

Add superb performances and brilliant direction to Shaw's keen wit, and 'Major Barbara' emerges not only as a great motion picture, but as an important film event.

Paul Harrison
N.E.A. Service

In 'Major Barbara' Shaw re-defines himself as a bomb proof Island in a crazy world.

Duncan Underhill
N. Y. World Telegram

A distinguished successor to 'Pygmalion'.

Douglas Churchill
Redbook Magazine

Brilliantly directed and produced by Gabriel Pascal, producer of 'Pygmalion', this presentation of George Bernard Shaw's famous play comes to the screen as a moving and compelling drama. Shaw at his best. Each member of the cast gives a powerful performance. An outstanding production.

Julius A. Lewis
Showman's Trade Review

'Major Barbara' is a major attraction, superb from beginning to end and should rival the boxoffice records of 'Pygmalion'.

Waren Stokes
Jay Emanuel Publications

Pascal - Shaw - Hiller combination scores again. Shavian wit and satire delights; production and cast high class.

Ralph Wilk
Film Daily

You should see 'Major Barbara'.

Hollywood Citizen-News
James Francis Crow

GALA WORLD PREMIERE NEXT TUESDAY—8:30 P. M.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 43 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, May 5, 1941 5 Cents

NETS WILL FIGHT FCC RULING

ASCAP HURLS SABOTAGE CHARGE

New York, May 4.—Charges of sabotaging efforts of the Mutual network stations and American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers to conclude a new contract have been hurled at Neville Miller, president of National Assn. of Broadcasters, by Gene Buck, Society's prexy. Miller is alleged to have wired Mutual members of NAB to hold off action on the new licensing agreement, ap-

● Continued on page 8 ●

John Brahm Termed As 20th Director

John Brahm has been signed to term director's contract at 20th-Fox, and his first assignment is 'Wild Geese Calling', starting (12). Brahm previously had been at Columbia for four years, his most recent picture there being 'Escape to Glory'. This contract brings to 20 the number of directors working at 20th, 15 of them on term deals, a record for the Westwood lot.

TELEVISION GOING COMERSH JULY 1

Washington, May 4.—Curb reins go off television plants July 1 with standardization on the basis of permitting the use of any one of the competing synchronization systems, effective immediately under the new regulations adopted by the Federal Communications Commission Friday.

Despite the surprising lack of enthusiasm for unlimited commercialization and the warnings that the war situation will present many obstacles, the Commission unanimously took

■ Continued on page 4 ■

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	64
Major studio calls	654
Artists Casting Bureau	66
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	20
Total	804

PREPAREDNESS FOR ALL

PICTURE folk naturally are interested in National Defense. With that interest manifested verbally, charitably and altruistically it might be a good idea for them to interest themselves economically as well.

Currently, the United States Government is selling Defense Bonds. They can be had at post offices and banks. They run in denominations from $5 to $1,000. They're a safe investment. The coin derived is needed for the safety of this country.

☆ ☆ ☆

ONE who realized that fact is Phil Goldstone. Goldstone went out and bought a large number of these bonds. He did not buy them for himself alone. He bought them as gifts to his employes. To each office employe he gave $100 in bonds. To every other employe he has had for one year or more—and he has hundreds—he is giving a Defense Bond. The amount

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

PRODUCERS, SWG IN SESSION THURSDAY

A new attempt to set a deal between the Producers and the Screen Writers Guild will be made Thursday (8) when representatives of the two groups meet at 7 p.m. in the board room at the Producers' Association. Dore Schary, a member of the SWG negotiating committee, checked out of Washington yesterday and is ex-

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Burt Kelly With Par

Burt Kelly, who recently bowed out as a producer at Universal, has been signed at Paramount as an associate producer in the Sol C. Siegel unit.

Ties Florence Bates

Florence Bates has been signed to term acting contract at Metro.

U. S. COURT ACTION ON $3,000,000 JACKPOT SEEN

Federal court action to tap the $3,000,000 retroactive pay jackpot is contemplated in behalf of the 10,000 studio members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, it was indicated Saturday at a meeting of business representatives of the various crafts. Most of the union tops were in favor of concerted action, but it was agreed the business representatives would discuss the situation with their executive boards and get together again later.

The business representatives took the position that the Producers committed themselves to the payment of retroactive wages when they passed out memorandums stating pay ad-

☙ Continued on page 8 ☙

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, May 4.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Amapola	Marks
Intermezzo	Schubert
My Sister and I	BMI
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
Walkin' By the River	BMI
Do I Worry	Melody Lane
Wise Old Owl	BMI
Dolores	Paramount
South of North Carolina	Porgie

CRACKDOWN SEEN AS CHAOTIC

Washington, May 4. — Basic, all-out battles between the radio industry and governmental reformers, with Congress likely tearing loose on the long-discussed special investigation of the Federal Communications Commission, appears inevitable as a result of the revolutionary regulatory policies promulgated suddenly last Saturday. Complete overhauling of the broadcasting business will follow if

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

J. M. Schenck Party In For 20th Confabs

Joseph M. Schenck, Sidney R. Kent and Charles McCarthy planed in from New York yesterday for studio production confabs. Joseph M. Moskowitz leaves New York today for the Coast to join sessions and take a rest. He and Schenck are expected to remain here five or six weeks.

Saville's Duet

Victor Saville is concentrating on production of Metro's musical, 'Smilin' Through', scheduled to hit sound stages this week, and 'The Chocolate Soldier', slated to roll around June 1.

Sorrell At Desk

Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, returns to his desk today from Sacramento where he has been discussing anti-labor legislation with members of the State Assembly.

Ryskind Dialogs 'Aunt'

Morrie Ryskind is writing comedy dialog for 'Charley's Aunt', William Perlberg's first production at 20th-Fox, set to hit cameras (12).

PREVIEWED

ROOKIES ON PARADE
(Rep)

A WOMAN'S FACE
(MG)

REVIEWED

PHANTOM COWBOY
(Rep)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Matt Allen spent weekend in San Francisco.

Art Smith unit manager on Metro's Tarzan pic.

Walter Abel vacationing 10 days in San Francisco.

Al DeGaetano film editor on 20th-Fox's 'Private Nurse'.

Robert Weldon's six months' option lifted at 20th-Fox.

Clayton Lynch back from vacash at Vancouver and Reno.

Gene Towne and Patricia Ellis planed to New York Friday.

Charles Levin unit manager on Metro's 'New York Heartbeat'.

Lynne Carver back in Hollywood after week in New York on biz.

Charles R. Marion is scripting 'Trail of the Vampire' for Sam Katzman.

Kay Kyser will do his Luckies broadcast (14) at the San Diego Marine base.

William Frawley goes on the Kraft show next Thursday in guest spot. Set by Leo Morrison, Inc.

Frank Sullivan assigned as film editor on 'Smilin' Through', Jeanette MacDonald-Brian Aherne starrer.

Davis J. Walsh, L. A. Examiner sports columnist, is writing untitled football yarn for Dolan and Doane.

Ted Tetrick heading for Colorado to film Technicolor short on bobcat roping. He's Clark Gable's hunting pal.

Danny Danker is in New York conferring with Leslie Atlass, CBS exec, on a second show for Wrigley from here.

Frank Whitbeck is in Ocala, Fla., to film Romance of Celluloid dealing with making of Metro's 'The Yearling'.

Eleanor Taylor, juve radio star, gets a top spot in John Nesbitt's Passing Parade, 'Your Last Act', at Metro.

Don Gilman addresses convention of Coast Electrical Assn. at Coronado (23) on 'Electrical Industry and Radio'.

C. A. Galloway, Warners branch manager here, pulled out over weekend for Santa Barbara to participate in annual overland ride of Rancheros Visitadores.

Lee Tracy and wife in town Saturday (3) after trip through Canal on President Monroe. Continue on boat to San Francisco, returning to Hollywood in a week.

Benny the Gouge sez—Speaking of baseball, as who ain't around the Derby, you can hear a Three-I League any time three agents get together.

Hollywood Inside

LIFE is no bed of roses these days for press agents working on pictures with national defense background. Censorship restrictions are rigid and some of the most interesting technical details and problems cannot be told in publicity releases. Commander J. R. Poppen, helping out on 'The Flight Patrol' at Warners, recently was interviewed by an Associated Press reporter here. Poppen, a veteran flight surgeon in the Navy for 19 years, told some of his experiences. Interview was killed by the local AP desk on the ground that all such news must come from Washington, D. C., under recent ruling by Secretary of the Navy Knox. Warners had another experience in connection with 'Dive Bomber.' After getting permission from the highest ranking officers in the Navy to have the utmost freedom in shooting publicity stills at the San Diego Naval Base, a local lieutenant attempted to censor the shots when they were shown to him. Local lad was James Bassett, former aviation editor for the Los Angeles Times. Bassett didn't pursue the censorship when he learned where original permission came from.

☆ ☆ ☆

HOLLYWOOD correspondents continued their drive against Jock Lawrence's Studio Publicity Directors Committee by journeying to Long Beach Saturday night to catch another sneak preview. This time is was Paramount's 'Buy Me That Town', screened at the West Coast theatre. The group met at the Beach, had dinner together and then descended on the theatre, paying their admission as regular patrons. Reviews of Columbia's 'Adventure in Washington', the first sneak preview caught by the group, were printed in a couple of newspapers, and three writers carried extensive leads on it in their syndicated columns. All were reparted to have given the picture a kick in the pants. The correspondents are demanding that productions be previewed here before they are screened in New York and other eastern cities. Lawrence's committee has agreed to cooperate, but the writers say this has been only an empty promise.

☆ ☆ ☆

BEGINNING with the premiere of 'Major Barbara', which will be tomorrow at the Four Star, the local United Artists office is launching an experiment to benefit the entire film industry, as well as Southern California. Arrangements are being made with the All-Year Club to give tourists a chance to purchase a few choice seats for the preem, a major tourist attraction which builds up Los Angeles and Southern California. At most premieres tourists have no chance to buy tickets, or to see the attendant color and swank save from the sidelines. All-Year Club is favorably disposed and the idea will be tried out on 'Barbara' to see if it can be perfected.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences today announced the availability of a replacement excerpt, consisting of new dialog, to be included in the Research Council theatre sound test reel (ASTR-2). All exhibitors, theatre circuits and sound equipment companies who have previously purchased prints of the reel may now obtain the additional recording. All future prints will include the new excerpt. As a part of the theatre sound standardization program, the Council plans to continue to make available from time to time new test reels and new tools to assist the theatres in maintaining the best possible sound quality.

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ONE of the most important features of the business session of the Variety Clubs of America at their national convention in Atlantic City (15 to 17) will be reports of the Heard Committees of the various Tents, which comprise the backbone of their charitable activities. Unlike previous years, these reports will not be made public in advance of the convention. However, the committee is saying that reports will show that 90% of Tents this year exceeded their last year's pledges by thousands of dollars. New angle this year also will be the creation of a National Fund, to be handled by the national officers.

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NO DECISION on NBC's controversy with Lime Cola's 'Kids of the Week' over its similarity to the formula of 'Quiz Kids' is expected until arrival early this week of Niles Trammell, network prexy. Program did not go on the air yesterday, its second postponement. Chain head will confer with Donald Davis of the Davis-Pearson agency, which handles the Lime Cola account, with a view to adjusting the differences or giving the program its release so it can move over to the Don Lee network.

☆ ☆ ☆

PLAYERS are donating fracture beds for the Orthopedic ward of Guy's hospital in London in the wing which was recently destroyed by bombs and is being replaced. Bundles for Britain is the sponsoring organization here. Those who have donated beds are Deanna Durbin, Jeanette MacDonald, Bette Davis, Claudette Colbert, Edward G. Robinson, Randy Scott, Amos 'n' Andy, Gary Cooper, Anna Neagle and Kay Francis.

☆ ☆ ☆

ROBOT time-keeping is in effect at Warners through automatic tabulating device which keeps a complete record of employes on a master card for permanent record. Special electric impulse machine stamps the record through a paper puncturing arrangement, similar to a piano-player roll, and upon completion of the master card, it is installed in the tab machine, with new and continuous record week by week.

☆ ☆ ☆

TOM WALKER today checks in at Edward Small as treasurer to augment the growing organization the producer is marshaling to handle the program of nine pictures lined up for United Artists. Walker was for 20 years aide to Dr. A. H. Giannini, including the period when latter was prexy of United Artists, and more recently was eastern representative for Hal Roach.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

They were weary of their toiling
the picture studio.
As they strutted in their silks beneath the hot electric glow.

They were weary of their acting
and they yearned to be at ease
In the loose and cooling languor
of a gentle evening breeze.

So they hastened from their labor
when the lights began to fade
And they strutted till the dawning
in a night club masquerade.

★ ★ ★

Perfect casting—John Carradine as a picador in 'Blood and Sand.' A picador is a villain who makes the bull mad.

★ ★ ★

When an actor, suddenly opulent, buys a rancho with a swimming pool, he has gone Hollywood. When he doesn't, he is a tightwad. And there you are.

While the title wranglers are wrangling about that Navy picture, they might compromise on 'Abbott and Costello in Two Swimming Pools.'

'Honeymoon in Havana' draws an all-star cast but the question still remains: Who plays Sloppy Joe?

★ ★ ★

It was about time Hollywood discovered Ginny Simms. Even if she didn't have an eloquent voice, which she has, Ginny's smile could sell a million dollar's worth of toothpaste.

★ ★ ★

There is bound to be a title change before the boys produce 'The Night Before Christmas.' Exhibitors won't like the line 'and all through the house not a creature was stirring.'

Baby Sandy has nothing on Hobart Bosworth, who has signed a seven-year contract. The young rascal.

Although her first name is not pronounced that way, Rise Stevens is going to get up in the morning when she works in pictures. It ain't grand opera.

★ ★ ★

Film actors have discovered the value of under-playing, and now the title writers are getting that way. 'Mary Had a Little.'

★ ★ ★

There was naturally a lot of competition for the male lead in 'Kings Row.' The queen is Annie Sheridan.

Hays office restrictions on 'The Outlaw' are practically the same as Babe Ruth's criticisms when he visited Bali. 'The gals are too chesty.'

Do you remember when a twosome meant a couple of guys batting a ball around a golf links? Now it means a studio romance in a night club.

★ ★ ★

'The Life of Texas Guinan' threatens to develop into another Scarlet O'Hara hunt. Thus far the nominations include practically every Hollywood gal above the moppet age.

★ ★ ★

Socrates was a wise old guy but he never realized what agony he would inflict on future generations when he started the quiz program.

Film Previews and Review

Rookies On Parade

(*Musical Comedy*)

Republic production and release. Cast: Bob Crosby, Ruth Terry, Gertrude Niesen, Eddie Foy, Jr., Marie Wilson, Cliff Nazarro, William Demarest, Sidney Blackmer, Horace MacMahon, William Wright, Jimmy Alexander, Louis Da Pron, Bill Shirley. Director, Joseph Santley. Associate producer, Albert J. Cohen. Screenplay, Karl Brown, Jack Townley, Milt Gross from original story by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin. Photography, Ernest Miller. Film editor, Charles Craft. Supervising editor, Murray Seldeen. Musical director, Cy Feuer. Art director, John Victor Mackay. Lyrics and music, Sammy Cahn, Saul Chaplin, Jule Styne, Eddie Cherkose, Sidney Claire, Nick Castle. Orchestrations, Gene Rose, Walter Scharf. Dances staged by Louis Da Pron. Technical advisor, Captain Jack Voglin. Previewed at the De Anza, Riverside, May 2. Running time: 69 mins.

This modestly-budgeted little service musical should garner a goodly share of coin at the box office primarily because it's here on time to ride the crest of current service picture vogue. Though it lacks compelling name power draw for marquee garnishing, the title will help considerably. Above all, it packs quite a few laughs with a couple of standout comedy sequences inspiring well-nigh hysterical guffaws.

'Rookies' is based on a somewhat innocuous narrative but bolstered by an able if not prominent cast. Cliff Nazarro, with and without double talk, scores repeatedly. Eddie Foy, Jr., is a never-failing source of merriment. William Demarest, as henpecked hubby who becomes hard-boiled sergeant; Sidney Blackmer, William Wright, Gertrude Niesen and Marie Wilson serve well in less prominent assignments.

In the lead Bob Crosby makes the best of a role which doesn't quite do justice to his capabilities. Crosby, whose voice is amazingly reminiscent of brother Bing, is pictured as a disgruntled bad-boy songwriter who gambles away royalties. Payoff comes when he loses proceeds of royalty check on day of wedding to Ruth Terry, dropping girl's money as well. Unfavorable reaction thereby created isn't overcome until near the close of the story when Crosby turns down lucrative offer to sell interest in show he produced for the U. S. Army.

Army camp interlude is most prolific in laughs. While writing score for stage revue scheduled for immediate opening Crosby and Eddie Foy, Jr., discover that unopened mail of two weeks earlier contained order to report for service. When show bankroller William Wright protests he needs the boys for his production, army officer retorts that Uncle Sam needs them more. Wright tries to intercede with Washington in effort to get boys off but only lands himself in the army.

Film is studded with pertinent, impressive and compelling touches of a similar kind. When Crosby voices protest against fatigue duty

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

A Woman's Face

(*Melodrama*)

Metro production. Stars Joan Crawford and Melvyn Douglas. Supporting cast: Conrad Veidt, Osa Massen, Reginald Owen, Albert Basserman, Donald Meek, Marjorie Main, Connie Gilchrist, Richard Nichols, Charles Quigley, Gwili Andre, Clifford Brooke, George Zucco, Henry Kolker, Robert Warwick, Gilbert Emery, Henry Daniell, Sarah Padden, William Farnum. Directed by George Cukor. Produced by Victor Saville. Screenplay by Donald Ogden Stewart and Elliot Paul. From play, 'Il Etait Une Fois,' by Francis De Croisset. Photography, Robert Planck. Music score, Bronislau Kaper. Dance direction, Ernst Matray. Film editor, Frank Sullivan. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Wade B. Rubottom. Previewed May 2. Running time: 105 mins.

A woman's face is still one of the world's chief concerns—which makes it a good title. Joan Crawford's popularity is again on the up-beat. This is a natural for her, and she does a fine job of it. Melvyn Douglas is a marqueeworthy name. Supporting players are on their mettle. George Cukor delivers a skillful piece of direction on top of a carefully built job of interesting and suspenseful screen writing. All of which grooves 'A Woman's Face' for box office favor, especially the feminine trade.

The production is specified as a psychological melodrama. It is built on the mystery suspense formula, with romantic overtones. The focal interest lies in the change which takes place in a hard and bitter female crook when plastic surgery changes an abhorrently scarred face into one of attractive beauty. The impulse to have her features altered, even at the price of sustained pain and a long gamble of success, comes when the woman, head of a band of blackmailers, falls in love with an arch criminal, Conrad Veidt. The opportunity comes when she is trapped in the home of a noted surgeon, Melvyn Douglas, where she has gone to blackmail his faithless wife, Osa Massen. After the transformation the Crawford character is sent to be a governess of a small child in a north European country, with the intent of killing the little boy in seeming accident, so that Veidt may inherit a fortune from his uncle, Albert Basserman. But the physical alteration of the woman's face also brings about spiritual regeneration. In the end, repelled now by the crook, and in love with the surgeon who has given her a normal life, she kills the crook to save the child.

The facial disfigurement, confined to one side of Miss Crawford's face, is hideous, but leaves no abhorrent audience reaction, and is cured for greater portion of the picture. It is a highly skillful piece of make-up.

Device used in telling the tale is the retrospective viewpoint which has of late became commonplace, but in this case it has genuine dramatic

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

Phantom Cowboy

(*Western*)

Republic production and release. Stars Don 'Red' Barry. Features Virginia Carroll, Milburn Stone. Supporting cast: Neyle Marx, Rex Lease, Nick Thompson, Bud Osborne, Ernest Wilson, Burr Caruth. Directed by George Sherman. Screenplay by Doris Schroeder. Photographed by Reggie Lanning. Edited by Tony Martinelli. Musical director, Cy Feuer. Reviewed at the Hitching Post May 2. Running time: 58 mins.

Don 'Red' Barry is starred in this Republic production, which is just another western, geared for its immediate following. Opus is full of fast riding and hard shooting, with a number of rough-and-tumble fights, all of which should provide plenty of diversion for fans who go for this type of screen diversion.

Milburn Stone and Rex Lease, the latter a crooked sheriff, have the machinery well in motion whereby Stone, through marriage with Virginia Carroll, will secure control of a rancho and at the same time deprive Barry, ward of the former owner, as well as the peons who have long lived on the estate, from coming into their share.

Barry poses as Lobo, ostensibly an outlaw but who in reality is Barry's friend, orphaned when Stone and the sheriff are responsible for the aged peon's death. Miss Carroll is the other heir to the property and for a time is made to believe Barry is responsible for the murders, but truth triumphs and the villains meet a sudden end, with Barry and Miss Carroll united.

Barry handles his assignment satisfactorily and Stone and Lease give clearcut portrayals of the menaces. Miss Carroll is adequate and the support cast is up to standard.

Screenplay by Doris Schroeder is just another scenario, and Reggie Lanning's photography is on a par with average westerns.

BREEN OFFERED RKO POST

New York, May 4.—After reports had been going around for more than a week that he had been negotiating with Joseph I. Breen to join RKO, George Schaefer Wednesday phoned him from here offering position of studio general manager. Post would give Breen charge of entire operation of the studio outside of active production of pictures.

Understood Schaefer has unit production plan in mind as studio policy and will make deals with individual producers.

Breen has Schaefer's offer under consideration and will discuss it further when he arrives on Coast this week.

Ends 'Scarface'

Director Frank Woodruff brought in 'Lady Scarface' at RKO on Saturday.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

GEORGE YOHALEM and Betty Mack, who formerly played in the Charlie Chase comedies at the Roach studio, were married in Yuma Friday and honeymooned over the weekend at Palm Springs. The groom checks in at Columbia today to start duties as production manager on 'Ladies in Retirement', the Gilbert Miller-Lester Cowan production. . . . Weekending at Palm Springs were the Richard Landaus, Lou Irwin, Phil Goldstone, Pete Smith, Sidney Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Metzger. . . Wayne Morris and George Stone gave birthday party for Patricia Stewart at Charlie Foy's Supper Club last night. . . . Radio interview of Dorothy Comingore by Irwin Allen on Saturday night was third for actress in a week. . . . Richard Bradley, tenor with the 'Merry Widow' opera at the Mason theatre, shaken up but not badly hurt in three-car collision Friday. . . . Edmund Gwenn goes from role in 'Charley's Aunt' to featured part in 'Unexpected Uncle.' . . . Dick McWhorter took over assistant director's place on Columbia's 'Heaven Can Wait', when Billy Mull was bedded with flu.

Bob Hope acted as emcee at the Red, White and Blue charity party Saturday night at the Ambassador.

HAROLD F. KRESS is film editor on Metro's 'The Yearling.' . . Irving Brecher has been signed to new term writer contract at Metro. . . . Harold Lipstein will lens John Nesbitt's 'Your Last Act' at Metro. . . . Warners press previews 'Affectionately Yours' tonight, with dinner prelude. . . . Barry Hays spotted in 20th-Fox's 'The Bouncer and the Lady.' . . . Anton Grot assigned art direction on 'The Constant Nymph' and 'All Through the Night' at Warners. . . Robert Chapin, under auspices of American Arts Foundation, talks on the creation of motion pictures at University High School (8). . . Arthur Schwartz has turned in first of six songs he will cleff for Warners 'Navy Blues.' Johnny Mercer did the lyrics. . . . Warners 'Dive Bomber' company working at U. S. Naval Base at San Diego for five days. . . . Howard Jackson has turned in original music score at Warners for preparedness short, 'Here Comes the Cavalry.'

When Jack Haley suggested 'slight' change in the script on Warners 'Navy Blues', 30 extra boys who were to have received $8.25 daily, bounded up to $25 per day checks for speaking each the one word, 'Okay', in a quiz scene.

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO, Rudy Vallee, Ella Logan, the White Sisters, Baron and Blair and Herbert Schreiner will head the entertainment at the Garden Show and Flower Fiesta at Uplifters (7-11).

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .
LEW AYRES

Under contract
M-G-M

9,000 Jam Gilmore For Mount Sinai Big Benefit

Bill Elliott, western star, galloped to the opening gate with a colossal golden key and started the Racing Jamboree at Gilmore stadium yesterday for the benefit of the Mount Sinai hospital and clinic with 9,000 customers in the oval stand looking over the widest variety of athletic entertainment ever seen in Hollywood.

From the Polar ice fields to the tropical deserts, the competition went on under a sun that was typically Californian. Following an Eskimo dog sled race, with the sled on wheels, was a camel race, with the camels on foot. Athletes from the A.A.U. sprinted, hurdled and leaped in the high jump; old Malicious, of 'here comes' fame, galloped three-fifths of a mile; old-fashioned bikers and new fashioned motor scooters pedaled and sputtered hither and yon; there were movie cowboy races, Pony Express races and greyhound races. There was everything but a boat race.

Victor McLaglen's Motorcycle Corps did a slick job of navigating around the track, except for one of the riders, who was un-motorcycled and was taken away in an ambulance. The other riders went on riding, under the show-must-go-on theory.

It was a one-ring circus with a three-ring emcee idea. The three masters of ceremonies were Milton Berle, Ken Murray and Gus Mack. The judges, in addition to Mischa Auer, who rode a horse as commander of a Cossack troop, were Edward Arnold, Abbott and Costello, Buck Jones, who directed the Pony Express race, Tex Ritter, Roy Rogers and others who didn't show up.

Hedda Hopper Easting Wed. For NAB Date

Hedda Hopper has been invited to address the delegates at the convention of the National Association of Broadcasters, at the final session in St. Louis May 15. Columnist is the only woman to speak before the radio gathering. She flies to St. Louis following her Wednesday broadcast of gossip.

'Texans Ride' Given Five Locations

Entire company and crew on Producer Sam Bischoff's 'The Texans Ride' (Col), will go on five ranch locations and Lake Sherwood during first two weeks. Shooting begins next week with William Holden and Glenn Ford teamed in film.

Hardy Family Rolls

Metro launches its new untitled Hardy Family today, with the same cast headed by Mickey Rooney and Lewis Stone, and George Seitz directing.

Dennie Moore Set

Dennie Moore will have the comedy role opposite Allen Jenkins in Warners 'Dive Bomber.'

Title Changes

'Thunder Over the Ozarks', Republic, to 'Mountain Moonlight'.

'One Way Street', Columbia, to 'Two In a Taxi'.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday. (April 26-May 2). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
Amapola	Marks	37
My Sister and I	BMI	34
Things I Love	Campbell	32
Walkin' By the River	BMI	30
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane	28
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	28
Maria Elena	Southern	26
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	26
There'll Be Some Changes Made	Marks	23
Look At Me Now	Embassy	23
No. 10 Lullaby Lane	Warren	20
Wise Old Owl	BMI	19
You Walked By	BMI	18
Let's Get Away From It All	Embassy	18
South of North Carolina	Porgie	17
High On a Windy Hill	BMI	17
Perfidia	Southern	17
Everything Happens to Me	Embassy	15
So You're the One	BMI	15
With a Twist of the Wrist	BMI	15
G'Bye Now	BMI	15

TELEVISION GOING COMERSH JULY 1

■ Continued from page 1 ■

the long pondered step that will let operators pass some of their costs along to the public through sale of time. Regulators declared 'the industry is entirely in agreement that television broadcasting is ready for standardization' and adopted for a trial period of six months the principles recommended by the National Television System Committee (equipment representatives).

Difference of opinion about when commercialization should start was noted, with the regulators saying the reason for the delay presented by National and Columbia at the March hearings 'are not controlling.' Report also observed that 'other leading figures in the industry, that earlier opposed commercialization', have different views now.

The row over RCA, Dumont and Hazeltine pulses was ended with the engineering principles calling for receivers able to bring in pictures transmitted by any system. The standards, however, provide for 525 lines (compared with the 441 advocated last year) and 30 frames. (Dumont wanted slower transmission).

The regulators tried to encourage exploitation of color, which the report said had been lifted 'into a new realm in entertainment possibilities' by CBS. No standardization or money making with tinted pictures will be allowed for another six months, but the report urged immediate experimentation.

Wails of the pioneers about the high cost of program productions caused the commish to soften up on the proposed minimum service requirement. Instead of 30 hours weekly, figure originally contemplated, the new rules require licensees to be on the air only 14-15 hours. Regular schedule must include two hours daily except Sunday between 2 and 11 p.m., with one of these hours between 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. five days each week.

All of the ribbons were opened up for commercial use, while the rules perpetuate the restriction against multiple ownership. No licensee can have over three video plants or more than one in a particular area. To get more than one ticket, applicants must make a convincing showing that public interest requires the granting and that they will not cover the field.

Frequency modulation was given more fertilizer, with the regulations specifying this type of sound transmission must accompany the images.

Thomas Lee's W6XAO, only western video station, is expected to have a bankrolled program ready for the July start. Commercialization has been the goal of the Lee site over its 11 years of experimentation and telecasting under the supervision of Harry Lubcke.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY DOUBLEHEADERS

Hollywood, 3-9; Oakland, 13-1.

Los Angeles, 5-11; San Francisco, 11-10.

Sacramento-Portland, rain.

San Diego-Seattle, rain.

SATURDAY SCORES

San Francisco, 5; Los Angeles, 1.

Oakland, 7; Hollywood, 4.

Sacramento, 7-5; Portland, 3-3 (doubleheader).

Seattle, 4; San Diego, 3.

FRIDAY GAMES

Los Angeles, 7; San Francisco, 6.

Other games called, rain.

Sam Robbins Assigned To Col 'Brothers'

Wallace MacDonald, producer with Irving Briskin unit at Columbia, has assigned Sam Robbins to treatment and screenplay of 'Brothers'. Howard Green has been tagged for an original and screenplay on 'The Lone Wolf Takes a Holiday', to star Warren William.

Richards Attempting KMPC Splitup From CBS

Severance of its affiliation with CBS is being undertaken by G. A. 'Dick' Richards, owner of KMPC. Columbia has been routing sustainers from the east, which it can't handle, to the Bevhills station. Object of the friendly break is to enable the transmitter to strike better deals with unions as an independent, unaffiliated station.

Manager Bob Reynolds has been ordered to prune the overhead but encountered objections from the Musicians Union when he sought to trim his studio orchestra of six men to a lone organist.

KMPC was included in the deal with Richards-owned WJR, Detroit, and WGAR, Cleveland, when those stations re-signed with CBS after NBC had made a feverish effort to wean the Detroit money-maker over to its chain.

Bud McAllister East For 3 Air Shows

Bud McAllister, Paramount player featured in 'Henry Aldrich For President', has gone to New York to appear on the Kate Smith, Helen Hayes and Henry Aldrich radio shows during the next few months.

Cobina Wright In 'Rio'

Cobina Wright, Jr. is assigned romantic lead in 20th-Fox's 'Charlie Chan In Rio.' Harry Lachman directs from the Lester Ziffren script for Sol M. Wurtzel production.

a.m. Dailies

Jessel Sells Home—

George Jessel has sold his Beverly Hills home to Eleanor Whiting for a reported $23,500. Another realty sale was Michael Fessier's residence on Comstock ave. to Donald T. Hunter. Akim Tamiroff purchased a nine-room house on Alta drive, Bevhills, from Louis C. Mayer, and Frederick Hazlett Brennan bought a 12-room home in Santa Monica.

Mitzi Cummings to Wed—

Engagement of Mitzi Cummings, writer, and daughter of Mrs. Ida Mayer Cummings, and Sol Baer Fingerman, artist, was announced over the weekend. Wedding date has been set for May 14 at the home of Miss Cummings' brother, Jack Cummings, Metro producer.

Mary Brian Married—

Mary Brian, actress, and John Whitcomb, illustrator, were married yesterday at the First Baptist church, Hollywood. Couple sail Wednesday on the S.S. America for a Caribbean cruise.

Templeton Passes U. S. Exam—

Alec Templeton, British-born pianist, has passed his American citizenship examination in Chicago, and may take the oath of citizenship after 30 days.

Snow White's Voice Weds—

Janet Matilda Carroll, the voice of Snow White in the Disney cartoon, and Lawrence W. Grady were married Saturday in Worchester, Mass.

Jack Merivale Marries—

Jack Merivale, actor son of Philip Merivale, and Jane Sterling, actress, were married in Boston, Mass., Saturday.

Rep Sets 'Navy Blue' As Followup For 'Rookies on Parade'

Quick followup on 'Rookies On Parade', entitled 'Navy Blue Eyes', is going into immediate production at Republic. Associate Producer Albert J. Cohen has been handed yarn by Mildred Cram with instructions to turn out navy musical as quickly as possible in order to cash in on current demand for service pictures.

Already cast for 'Navy Blue Eyes' are Mary Lee, Eddie Foy, Jr., Leni Lynn and Lois Ranson. Director and scripters not yet set.

Blumberg Is Sued Over Gloria Jean

New York, May 4.—Nathan J. Blumberg, Universal president, and his secretary, Lawrence Waterman, are named defendants in a $200,000 damage suit filed by Emil Neugebauer, who claims he discovered Gloria Jean Schoonover and was promised compensation for securing her services for Universal. Verbal agreement, according to suit, was made in October, 1938, and defendants are assertedly trying to defraud plaintiff of his legitimate commissions.

Writers Sue Warners, Others Over 'Doe'

New York, May 4.—Robert Shurr and Pat A. Leonard, film writers, have filed suit in U. S. District court here against Warners, Vitagraph, Inc., Richard Connell, Robert Presnell, Robert Riskin, Frank Capra and Jacob Wilk, charging plagiarism of their play, 'The Stuffed Shirt', in the picture 'Meet John Doe.' Writers ask for an injunction, accounting of profits, and damages. They assert play was submitted to Wilk, Warners story editor, but was rejected.

Silverstein Assigned

Jack Fier, producer with Irving Briskin unit at Columbia, has assigned David Silverstein to complete the script on 'You'll Remember Argentina.' Fier now begins preparations on 'Canal Zone', with Martha Chapin assigned to treatment and screenplay.

Obituary

HUGH STRICKLAND

Funeral services for Hugh Strickland, for years the world's champion cowboy, will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at the A. C. Fillbach funeral parlors at 152 N. Palm, Burbank. Strickland, who was a big money winner at the Newhall Rodeo, died Friday of a heart attack. He had toured the world several times, and is estimated to have won more than $100,000 in prizes. He was a member of the Screen Actors Guild.

LOU MILLER

Lou Miller, 35, onetime musical comedy actress, died last Friday in North Hollywood after a long illness. Surviving is her husband, William Ruhl, film actor.

PREPAREDNESS FOR ALL

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

will be determined by the earning power of the employe. Goldstone feels that if he starts his people off with a dowry in these bonds they will then buy of their own volition and get into the habit of being Defense conscious, and that is the greatest symptom of patriotism any American can show at this time.

Picture companies and theatre operators, who give bonuses, etc., could use the Goldstone deed as a good example for themselves. They could start off their employes on a great patriotic mission that would be helpful to the country and all its inhabitants. Too, others in show biz could do likewise—writers, directors, players, producers, and others.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE investment in these bonds, besides showing the United States that the amusement industry is in accord with its defense program, also enables those who buy the bonds to save coin as well.

Also, with the picture industry as a body making a move in the proper direction of supporting National Defense, the country as a whole would follow this step, and Uncle Sam would quickly find that America, through a lead taken by the picture people, realizes the importance of Defense preparedness, and garner these bonds in short order and call for more, should the Government's defense requirements necessitate more issues.

—A. U.

Pete Gets Music

For first time the voice of Pete Smith, as narrator for Metro shorts, will be heard with full symphony orchestra accompaniment in 'Lions On the Loose', showing the adventurous antics of a small lion and other animals.

Johnston, Carr Leave For NY Conferences

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram Pictures president, and Trem Carr, of the board of directors, trained Friday for New York to confer with Steve Broidy, general sales manager. Talks will be on exploitation and selling plans for Monogram for the 1941-42 season in relation to the consent decree. Johnston and Carr return in 10 days.

Stern In; Brandt Due

Harry Stern, Los Angeles rep for Film Alliance, is back from New York where he huddled with Harry Brandt on forthcoming releases. Brandt is due on the Coast in about a week, his first trip here in several years.

Raison On Sequel

Milton Raison, screen writer and novelist, has an assignment to write another whodunit, 'Nobody Loves a Dead Man', as a sequel to his recent novel, 'Phantom of 42nd Street'.

Jean Phillips Rides

Jean Phillips rides in the femme lead for Paramount's second Harry Sherman production of Hopalongs for the season, 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte'.

Sues Recalled

Leonard Sues has been called back to Paramount for retakes on 'Henry Aldrich For President'.

'Wastelands' Lensing

'Secret of the Wastelands', Harry Sherman's next Hopalong for Paramount, rolls today. William Boyd stars and Brad King, Sherman's new cowboy discovery; Barbara Britton and Soo Yong also are in the cast.

DeSylva Returns From NY H.O. Looksee, Griffis Party

B. G. DeSylva yesterday returned from business trip to New York. Paramount executive producer looked at 'Lady In the Dark' and 'Out of the Frying Pan', both of which Paramount bought for screen versions. He also attended 400th performance of his play, 'Louisiana Purchase', also to be made by Paramount with Bob Hope in one of stellar spots.

DeSylva was introduced to home office executives at a N. Y. party hosted by Stanton Griffis, chairman of the board, who recently returned from a Mexican vacation. Other guests were Arthur Hornblow, Jr., who, with his wife, Myrna Loy, are seeing plays nightly while visiting in the east.

Wm. Scully Goes East After U Confabs

William Scully, Universal general sales manager, left Saturday for the East, after attending studio production conferences with studio heads and Prexy Nate Blumberg and J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board. Blumberg leaves tomorrow and Cowdin pulls out Wednesday.

Lane, Merritt Collab

Tamar Lane and Mal Merritt, playwrights, are completing a combination film-stage-radio manuscript under the title, 'Pan-American Broadcast'.

ROOKIES ON PARADE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

BOB CROSBY • RUTH TERRY
GERTRUDE NIESEN • EDDIE FOY, JR.
MARIE WILSON • CLIFF NAZARRO
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director • Screenplay by Karl Brown, Jack Townley and Milt Gross • Original story by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin

Harry Wineberg Closing Deal for Oriental On Sunset Blvd.

Harry Wineberg, who recently wound up 10 years here with Columbia Pictures, part of which time he functioned as branch manager, is closing a deal with Irving Carlin and Max Sinker for the purchase of their Oriental theatre on Sunset Blvd., near Gardner.

Deal is now in escrow and operation is expected to be taken over by Wineberg later this week. Carlin and Sinker, who operate a chain of indie houses here, had the Oriental for past five or six years. House is an 800-seater.

Yartin Sues Colemans For $50,000 Breach

New York, May 4.—Paul Yartin, author and composer, has filed $50,000 damage suit here against Barbara Sprague Coleman and Herbert C. Coleman, charging defendants with breach of contract. N. Y. Supreme court action asserts agreement was made Aug. 15, 1939, whereby defendants would publish plaintiff's book, 'Art of Cannon', dealing with music, but that they never carried through. Defense alleges Yartin was only part author of book and had no right to sell the rights.

Ellington, Borne Do Music For 'Joy'

Duke Ellington and Hal Borne are writing the musical score for 'Jump For Joy', all-Negro revue which stars Ellington and his orchestra, opening at the Mayan theatre here early in July. Sketches and lyrics are being done by Sid Kuller, Hal Fimberg and Paul Webster.

Coburn Tops 'Uncle'

Charles Coburn gets the title role in RKO's 'Unexpected Uncle' and gets star billing for the first time in pictures. He shares stellar bracket with Dorothy Comingore and Edmond O'Brien. Director Tay Garnett starts production for Erich Pommer this week.

Yawitz Ends 'Blackie'

Paul Yawitz has finished an original screenplay, 'Boston Blackie', which will be the second of that name for the Columbia series. Picture will be the first for William Berke to produce in the series.

Schwab, Lee Collab

Pierre Schwab is working with Leonard Lee on latter's original at Paramount, 'Channel Port', which Fred Kohlmar will produce.

Wilson With 'Revels'

Don Wilson is the latest radio performer to be signed by Universal for 'Radio Revels of 1942'.

Ill in Pix

GENE TIERNEY reports to work today on 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr', after having been out for five days at the Good Samaritan hospital for treatment of swollen eyelids. Malady is ascribed to allergy to smoke and certain foods.

Film Previews

Rookies On Parade

♣ Continued from page 3 ♣

on grounds that nothing can happen here, he gets reply that 50,000,000 Frenchmen once figured the same way.

Martial music, where used, is gripping. None of seven tunes featured in the film appeal as strong entries for general popularity, but serve well enough for an unpretentious musical. 'My Kinda Music', 'Rookies On Parade' and 'Chula Chi Hua Hua' possibly the catchiest. Others are 'Mother Never Told Me Why', 'You'll Never Get Rich', 'I Love You More' and 'What More Do You Want?' Bill Shirley makes one vocal a standout.

Gertrude Niesen does a brief Mae West gag version of 'Mother Never Told Me Why'. Songstress could have been employed to better advantage with a torch number, as suggested when she goes on again with short but effective vocal toward the close. Ruth Terry, heart interest and number one warbler, scores nicely with a couple of melodies and rates attention on appearance. That she is deserving of more sympathetic camera treatment is evidenced in one or two shots where she photographs unusually well.

Boys in uniform doing ballet work and breaking drill to go into a conga routine with rifles are among most hilarious episodes.

AGVA Board Meeting Tomorrow On Reorg.

A meeting of the board of directors of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists has been called for 3:30 p.m. tomorrow to discuss the reorganization program which started with the ouster of Kenneth Howard as executive secretary. Prexy Cliff Nazarro, Kenneth Thomson, now in charge of AGVA affairs, and Lee Travers, acting executive secretary, will attend to get acquainted with the board and discuss future policies.

Elconin In From Oakland Victory

William Elconin, international representative of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, returned yesterday from Oakland where he won a CIO election before the National Labor Relations Board. He will assume charge of the Columbia Recording Corp. strike here.

20th Keeps Newman

Alfred Newman has signed new seven-year contract at 20th-Fox as general music director. He is presently scoring 'Blood and Sand'. New pact starts his third year at the studio.

Haydn Joins 'Aunt'

Richard Haydn, English actor known to radio as Professor Carp, has been signed for the William Perlberg production at 20th-Fox, 'Charley's Aunt.'

Lola Lane Spotted

Lola Lane will have femme lead in Columbia's 'Mystery Ship', an Irving Briskin production.

A Woman's Face

♥ Continued from page 3 ♥

reasons for being so related. Suspense is enhanced. First shot shows Miss Crawford being led into a Europeon courtroom on trial for murder. But the nature of the crime and its possible accomplices are unfolded as witness after witness recites his knowledge of the situation. They are all excellent characterizations, these testifiers, and the narrative is held to high and mounting intensity, ending in a wild melodramatic chase of sleighs through snows alongside a thunderous waterfall and canyon where the killing of Veidt is done.

Elliot Paul made the original adaptation from the play, 'Il Etait Une Fois', and Donald Ogden Stewart collaborated with Paul on the screenplay, which combines sound psychology, exciting drama and pictorial thrill in a commendable piece of craftsmanship. It has the fault of overlength, which must be shared by writers and director for holding on to certain sequences, especially a country estate dance and festival scene, much beyond the entertainment values.

Miss Crawford excells all previous roles. Melvyn Douglas, in contrast to most of his recent parts, plays this one straight, and very effectively. Veidt's sinister contribution is in the rather theatrical villainous manner. Osa Massen impresses as the fickle and almost infantile wife of the surgeon. Reginald Owen and Donald Meek perform well as members of the blackmail ring. Basserman is the amiable wealthy grandfather of the little boy whose life is a pawn in the plot maneuvers. Marjorie Main is the jealous housekeeper. Many of the lesser roles are also carefully and interestingly depicted. Richard Nichols is the little lad.

As the producer, Victor Saville deserves credit for an attractively presented, substantial and widely exploitable piece of popular entertainment, meritorious in all its technical phases. The musical score by Bronislau Kaper is especially praiseworthy, and the photography by Robert Planck a notable contribution.

Play was made once before as a Swedish production with Ingrid Bergman starred, but was seen in this country only to limited extent in the arty houses.

'Dildo' Crew Leaves For Bahamas

Paramount's 'Dildo Cay' company, headed by Edward H. Griffith, who will produce and direct; Madeleine Carroll, Stirling Hayden and 40 other cast and crew members, left Friday night for location in the Bahamas. Griffith will stop in New York en route and, by flying part way, will reach the location before others in the group.

Bagnall In From NY

George Bagnall, vice president for Alexander Korda, returned over the weekend from New York where he had gone on company business. Back with him came Steve Pallos, Korda's New York representative, to look over the production, 'Illusions.'

Add More Bleachers For 'Barbara' Preem Tomorrow Night

Additional bleacher seats are being erected by the Four Star theatre management for the premiere tomorrow night of Gabriel Pascal's 'Major Barbara', which is to be given a swank $5 opening for the benefit of Bundles for Britain and the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.

Among the cinema names that have signified their intention of turning out are Marlene Dietrich, Ronald Colman, Benita Hume, Harry Warner, Mervyn LeRoy, Claudette Colbert, Charles Chaplin, Howard Hughes, Irene Dunne, Charles Boyer, Carrie Jacobs Bond, Sigrid Gurie, Burgess Meredith, Norma Shearer, Loretta Young, Alexander Korda, Merle Oberon, Tyrone Power, Annabella, John Payne, Anne Shirley, Greer Garson, Mary Pickford, Basil Rathbone, Gladys Cooper, Sarah Allgood, Y. Frank Freeman, Michael Cortez, Murray Silverstone, Arthur W. Kelly, Henry Ginsberg, Frank Capra, Conrad Veidt, Edward Small, Charles Boyer, Pat Paterson, Brian Aherne, Joan Fontaine, Samuel Goldwyn, Ernest Lubitsch, Benny Thau, Reggie Gardner, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, and others.

Two Days Additional For 'Ice-Capades'

Two extra days have been added to 'Ice-Capades of 1941' engagement, now in its third week at the Pan Pacific auditorium. This will bring closing date up to May 13, instead of (11) as originally set. Outdoor skating spectacle showed considerable strength on its second stanza and grossed close to $38,500. Saturday and Sunday biz have been sellouts for past three weeks.

Jack Crosby Terping Korda's 'Illusions' '

Jack Crosby has been signed by Alexander Korda to stage the dance sequences in 'Illusions', depicting the Tony Pastor Music Hall. Crosby will stage a 'Patriotic Review' with girls, singing waiters and stage cast.

Wm. Gargan Set

William Gargan gets a featured role in 'Flying Cadets', Paul Malvern's first at Universal which rolls Wednesday.

Carroll For 'Lewis'

Leo G. Carroll will have a featured character role in 'I, James Lewis', Frank Lloyd's next at Universal.

Don't Forget....
You Have a Date....
National Convention of
The Variety Clubs of America
Traymore Hotel
Atlantic City, N. J.
May 15th, 16th & 17th

NETWORKS MAP WAR ON FCC IN ALL OUT BATTLE

ACRIMONIOUS LITIGATION INEVITABLE

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the courts fail to call a halt to the reform-minded majority of the FCC, which climaxed over two years of discussion of alleged monopoly and protection of the public interest, with rules prohibiting almost every established business principle and greatly limiting the exercise of private initiative.

Strategy sessions of the scheduled victims started immediately after circulation of the long report adopted by a 5 to 2 vote. Executive Committee of National Assn. of Broadcasters huddles in New York Wednesday. Columbia and NBC executives start tomorrow weighing suggestions about ways to prevent scaffolding.

Prolonged, costly and acrominious litigation seems inevitable. Two veteran webs let regulators know months ago they will not submit willingly to dismemberment. First move probably will be request for a temporary injunction on claim of irreparable injury, with NBC likely taking the lead.

Crackdown policies reflect share-the-wealth philosophy and will have a far-reaching effect. Aim is to redistribute industry income and strengthen bargaining positions of independently-owned affiliates, incidentally creating new chances for non-web stations to tie in. More chains are desired, although most industry leaders doubt whether many gamblers will be attracted by such unfavorable odds.

COMISH TOUGHNESS

Most immediate effect of the comish toughness will be forced peddling of several NBC outlets and dissolution of the blue string of stations. Without trying to claim jurisdiction over the webs, new dealers invoked licensing powers in a way that requires unloading of one of two NBC plants in Washington, New York, Chicago and San Francisco, and junking of many agreements with indie blue transmitters.

Regional chains also will feel the force of the blow, but Coast combinations won't suffer any more than any one else. Don Lee chain stands to benefit to the extent that the regulations are more advantageous to Mutual than any other outfit in the industry.

Exclusive clauses of affiliation agreements go out the window, along with time options. No chain company can own or operate more than one plant in a single area, but the comish made no move against individuals with several transmitters. Further expansion of CBS or NBC holdings is prohibited, with both companies likely to be required to justify continued control of certain stations. Without fixing any specific maximum on the number of transmitters a web can own or operate, kilocycle cops laid down the principle that they will look at every situation and deny complete control wherever insufficient competition appears.

Questions of talent and recording activities of the chains were ducked, although majority FCC members recalled receiving strong complaints and made critical references to these sidelines, glowering in particular at RCA-NBC. Explaining that they don't think everything about Mutual is good, the majority was especially sympathetic to the rookie web's wails. Difficulties encountered in obtaining outlets were cited as proof of selfishness of senior claims.

REGULATORS HORRIFIED

Regulators were particularly horrified by financial success of Columbia and NBC. Too much of the cream is skimmed off, with the managed-and-operated plants getting favored treatment and the indie affiliates in the stepchild role. Long discussion of industry economics stressed that two veteran companies took $4,349,446 of the industry's $18,854,784 of net operating income in 1938, and combined with earnings of M and O stations their consolidated grab was 'about one-half' of the industry total.

Out of time sales revenues of $44,313,778, NBC and Columbia kept 73%; they had 44% of the industry's over-all receipts, with Mutual getting only 2%. Fat profits meant tremendous return on investment, the report said. Tangible property of the majors was worth only $9,276,019, so that in a single year they got back in net operating income more than the plant outlay. In 1938 NBC made 80% of the aggregate investment and CBS 71%.

The new policy will make the networks little more than time brokers. No options will be allowed, while every affiliate must have unrestricted freedom to turn down any program without advance notice. Report said that arguments in defense of the option system were tripe and scoffed at fears the industry's stability will be undermined.

UNLIMITED COMPETISH

Unlimited competition in business is a traditional American doctrine so firmly established as to be virtually a law, the regulators declared in justification of their toughness. Since facilities are limited and opportunities to enter business are automatically restricted, federal government must assure real rivalry. The report acknowledged FCC is not charged with enforcing the Sherman anti-trust act, but said that the public interest requirement inevitably requires lively competition and infractions cannot be condoned.

Concern over the listeners and advertisers, as well as the individual stations, was expressed frequently. Exclusivitity denies sponsors access to certain markets and prevents dial twisters from getting certain desired features. The rate cards are ample protection for the webs and individual stations, since advertisers aren't likely to waste any money.

Strongly worded minority report by Commissioners T. A. Craven and Norman S. Case warned that the new policies will impair efficiency of the entire industry and likely bring 'anarchy' or 'chaos'. They pointed out the regulators must take a huge slice of blame for any monopoly existing and protested unsuccessfully that the 'remedies' are almost certain to bring even worse conditions.

FCC ruling, while not unexpected along the local radio front, proved far more drastic than had been anticipated. Network heads here withheld quotable comment, but made no effort at disguising their shock at the far-reaching effects of the commission's dictum. All are agreed that it is the most momentous decision ever handed down by radio's governing body.

That NBC will resort to the courts to protect its $11,000,000 investment in the blue network is generally conceded. Immediate local effect of the report in ordering dissolution of the blue web is the detachment of Earle C. Anthony's KECA from NBC affiliation. Columbia loses KMPC in Beverly Hills by the edict, but station has been taking steps to sever the relationship.

NBC, along the Coast, also loses KGO, 7,500-watter in Frisco. Chain has operated the site as a blue outlet on a lease from General Electric since 1929. Coast blue sales staff, under Tracy Moore, established a year ago to compete against the net's red, will likely be absorbed by Syd Dixon's red crew.

TRAMMELL'S STATEMENT

New York, May 4.—Characterizing the report of the Federal Communications Commission on new regulatory policies affecting the networks as 'a definite step toward complete government control of radio', Niles Trammell, president of NBC, tonight issued the following statement:

'Even a casual reading of the regulations set forth in the report adopted by a majority of the commission is enough to indicate that chaos, not further competition, would result from the blow aimed at the American system of broadcasting. I do not purport to know why such a bombshell should be exploded at this critical time in the life of our country when the fullest use of the nation's radio facilities is demanded. The regulations make certain a confusion that must lead to further bureaucratic grip upon freedom of the air. I don't believe that when Congress created the Commission in 1934 it contemplated that the Commission would attempt to remake the American system of broadcasting without even consulting the Congress. Year after year the Commission had renewed licenses of independent stations affiliated with the NBC network in recognition of the fact that the stations performed a service in the public interest.'

STRINGENT REGULATIONS

Washington, May 4.—New FCC regulations governing network operations embrace the following points:

No station to be forced to carry the programs of only one network.

No network to deny service to any station desiring its programs.

Contracts between networks and stations not to run more than one year.

Networks not to tie up time of affiliates as now done by time option system.

Stations to have full freedom to accept or reject any network program.

No network to operate or own more than one transmitter in any service area or any station where ample competition is lacking.

No network to maintain more than one network.

Networks not to exercise control over rate schedules of their affiliates.

All provisions to become effective in 90 days.

PRODUCERS, SWG IN SESSION THURSDAY

★ Continued from page 1 ★

pected to reach the Coast in time to sit in at the session.

Although the SWG is sounding out the membership on the advisability of a strike of writers if the Guild's demands are not 'reasonably met' by the companies, negotiations were resumed Friday night. After discussing the Guilder's demands for several hours, the session was adjourned at 11 p.m. with an agreement that the two committees would get together again Thursday.

It is reported that the two are still far apart on an agreement. The SWG had demanded a minimum wages of $150 per week for writers, with the Producers making a counter proposal of $50 per week. Other hurdles to be overcome are the Guild demands for elimination of all speculative writing and abolition of flat deals under $5,000.

Rogell Ending 'Blues'

Director Albert S. Rogell washes up Universal's 'Big House Blues' (formerly 'Symphony In Stripes') today and reports immediately to Ken Goldsmith for his next assignment, not yet set.

Chas. Griffith Turns In Low Gross For SOEG Tourney

Charles Griffith, of Metro, turned in the low gross score in the men's division of the Screen Office Employes Guild golf tournament yesterday, and Judy Fay, also of Metro, won first honors in the women's division. Prizes will be awarded to the various winners at the SOEG general membership meeting tomorrow night at the Roosevelt hotel.

Negotiations between the SOEG and Metro executives will be resumed Wednesday night (7).

SPEEDY HEARING FOR DISNEY

Following announcement by Walt Disney that he would close his studio if American Federation of Labor crafts call a strike and 'any violence occurs', the National Labor Relations Board Saturday wired authorization from Washington for a speedy hearing on the unfair labor practice charges filed against the company by the Screen Cartoonists Guild. It is understood that an NLRB complaint will be issued this week, and that the hearing will be held Tuesday (20) if a board trial examiner is available for that date.

The SCG claims that the Federation of Screen Cartoonists is a 'company dominated union'. The Guild claims to represent a majority of the 700 cartoon workers and is demanding immediate recognition as their sole collective bargaining representative. The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors also is demanding a basic agreement covering wages, hours and conditions. A company offer to recognize the Society, but to defer wage adjustments pending negotiations, was turned down by the film editors.

Authorization to hold a hearing was received Saturday by William Walsh, senior attorney for the board, who currently also is acting regional director, acting as a trial examiner and as a litigation attorney. Walsh said another attorney would be assigned to handle the Disney case, as he is scheduled to attend a conference of NLRB regional directors and attorneys in Washington May 23, 24, 25.

Disney in urging a speedy hearing also requested an NLRB election so his workers could select a bargaining agent. This will not be necessary, however, if the board finds that the Federation is 'company dominated'. It would merely order it to disband and notify Disney to cease dealing with the organization. This would leave the Guild as the only representative of the workers, and place them in a position to demand immediate recognition.

Walt Disney checks out today for a brief vacation, leaving union negotiations in the hands of Walter Spreckels, former NLRB regional director and now labor contact for the Disney company, as well as a large number of aircraft companies.

Levy On Custer Yarn

Melvin Levy is working on screen play of the story of General Custer at Warners, 'They Died With Their Boots On.'

Film Unit of Signal Corps To Be Organized Tonight

Preliminary plans for organization of the Signal Corps GHQ Motion Picture Unit will be completed tonight at a meeting of officers commissioned in the Signal Corps Reserve from the film industry. The session will be held at 20th-Fox studio. The officers will be guests of Lieut. Col. Darryl F. Zanuck, and will be addressed by Colonel Nathan Levinson.

The meeting will be in the nature of a reception for Lieut. Col. Richard T. Schlosberg, of the Signal Corps, and Lieut. Col. Herbert T. Perrin, of the War Department General Staff, both of whom are here for a few days in connection with Academy Research Council's training film production program. Major Charles S. Stodter and Capt. Robert H. Bungay, Army Signal Corps officers on duty with the Research Council, will attend.

Motion picture reserve officers invited to attend the meeting include Major S. J. Briskin, Major John Aalberg, Captain Gordon S. Mitchell, Captain Robert Lord, Captain Herbert L. Bergstein, First Lieut. Lloyd T. Goldsmith, First Lieut, J. E. Grainger, First Lieut. Winton Hoch, Second Lieut. Jules Buck, Second Lieut. Edwin D. Levinson, Second Lieut. M. M. Sperling, and Second Lieut. Jack M. Warner.

'Ghost' For Clyde

Andy Clyde's latest Columbia comedy has been titled 'Host to a Ghost.' Harry Edwards and Elwood Ullman scripted.

'Bill' Resumes Work

Main production unit on 'Barnacle Bill', starring Wallace Beery, resumes production today on location at Fish Harbor.

Cummings To Wichita

Robert Cummings TWA'd to Wichita over weekend to fly back new plane he purchased.

Film Extras Reap Golden Harvest In April

Film extras reaped a golden harvest in April. Estimates released to the Screen Actors Guild yesterday by Central Casting Corp. fixed the total number of job placements at 32,907, the biggest single month atmosphere players have caught since June, 1939. Based on an average daily wage of $11, this means the extras received approximately $361,907.

Because of the demand for young faces and high school sets, much of this, however, did not go to regular extras. The SAG was required to issue hundreds of waivers to take care of the demand for soldiers 18 to 25 and for young high school boys and girls. While the SAG has many members who know the new Army streamlined drills, few of them could qualify as 18 to 25 year old draftees.

Central executives are now making a breakdown to determine the number of extras called in the various classifications and the total amount paid them. While the Guild has tried to tighten up on waivers, both the SAG and Central Casting are faced with a continuous demand by directors and producers for new and young faces.

'Partners' Wash Up

Final scenes on Metro's production, 'Unholy Partners', were filmed on Saturday under direction of Clarence Brown.

ASCAP HURLS SABOTAGE CHARGE IN TUNE FIGHT

● Continued from page 1 ●

proved by Mutual directorate, until after NAB convention in St. Louis May 12-15.

Following telegram, over Buck's signature, was dispatched to Miller:

'We have a contract with the Mutual Broadcasting System where the approval of a majority of its affiliates will immediately reinstate the use of Ascap music on the entire Mutual system. We construe your telegram of May 1 to the several Mutual System broadcasting stations as an unlawful interference with the realization of the benefits of that contract. We hold you fully responsible for all damages we may suffer thereby and demand that you take immediate action to fully counteract the damaging effect of your unwarranted and illegal interference with the said contract.'

Early indications were that Miller would succeed in dissuading Mutual affiliates from approving contracts before opening of the NAB convention. Returns received by Mutual at close of business Saturday were small but showed that a majority of the affiliates were heeding Miller's suggestion and preferred to wait for action at the convention.

Fred Weber, Mutual prez, wired Miller, protesting against tendency of NAB to 'enter into controversial subjects affecting competition between the older networks and Mutual' and 'attempts along with others to coerce or restrain free choice of action by independent broadcasting stations.'

Mutual affiliates again were on a nationwide conference line yesterday to hear further reports on the progress of voting on the new Ascap contract. Lewis Allen Weiss, general manager of the Don Lee network, said that only Coast affiliates not yet voicing their approval of the Ascap deal are the Washington stations, stymied by the anti-Ascap law in the state. Weiss was certain they would vote for the plan, subject to limitations of the state law pending repeal of the statute due to the government's consent decree.

Eric Carruthers Wins In Local 44 Battle; Ticket Victorious

Eric Carruthers was re-elected president of Affiliated Property Craftsmen Local 44, as the Regulars in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes union routed the Progressives and captured every office. William Mittlestedt was reelected as vice-prexy, and Cappy DuVal as business representative. Edwin T. Hill defeated Dell Crawford for secretary-treasurer. George Bahr was named sergeant-at-arms, and William Goodwin as trustee.

John F. Doolan was named to the executive board to represent the nursery set dressers, Walter J. Hoffman to represent the special effects, J. W. Lofey to represent the prop makers, Joe (Red) Thompson to represent the property men, R. C. (Brownie) Brown to represent the upholsterers and drapers, and James M. Walters to represent the swing gang. Frank O'Connor and W. A. (Tom) Dailey were elected as delegates to the Central Labor Council.

The Progressives blamed their defeat on a new International rule permitting members to vote for executive board candidates regardless of their classification. The election rules also required that a member must have attended six meetings during the year in order to qualify as a candidate.

U. S. COURT ACTION ON $3,000,000 JACKPOT SEEN

Continued from page 1

justments would be made later if it was proven a worker was entitled to it under the Wage-Hour Division classifications. The general procedure was explained by Dave Sokol, former attorney for the National Labor Relations Board who recently filed suit for retroactive pay for the garment workers. There is a possibility Sokol will be retained to bring joint legal action for the various IATSE studio locals if the Wage-Hour Division fails to settle the question of retroactive pay when it hands down decisions this week on disputed film classifications. It has been reported the Division will leave the question of back pay up to the individual unions or workers.

Baird Snyder, deputy Wage-Hour Administrator, passed through here Friday en route to San Francisco. He said the decision would be handed down soon, and in regard to compliance added:

'Compliance has been a little jumbled. They (industry leaders) took our rules and interpreted them. Due to the fact that the industry has not made as thorough a study as we did there was bound to be some confusion.' Snyder was accompanied by Wesley O. Ashe, regional administrator who will have the duty of enforcing the classifications in the film industry.

At the meeting of union tops called by Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695 and chairman of the IATSE business representatives committee, it was stated the unions would have an opportunity to negotiate even after the classifications are announced.

SMPE Spring Sesh In Rochester Tomorrow

Rochester, May 4.—Annual spring convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers opens (5) at the Sagamore hotel, with total of 10 technical sessions scheduled for the four day gathering.

Film engineers will be advised via papers and demonstrations of technical advances within the industry during the past several months. RCA Fantasound, the new stereophonic sound-film system developed by Bell Telephone Laboratories, and three dimensional photography, will provide major interest in demonstrations for the delegates and guests.

Convention will be first presided over by Emery Huse, west coast manager of motion picture film division of Eastman Kodak, who functions as president for the next two years.

Herbert Marshall Tops 'Foxes' With Davis

Herbert Marshall has been given the top male role in Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Little Foxes', opposite Bette Davis. Marshall reports for work today. This will be his first job for Goldwyn since 1935, when he was in 'The Dark Angel' with Merle Oberon.

Brooks Back To RKO

Phyllis Brooks pulled out of the cast of 'Panama Hattie' in New York and reports back to RKO studio this week, having been away on leave of absence for the legit engagement.

Columbia Recording Strikers Hit Sponsor Airers by Mail

Columbia Recording Co. strikers yesterday mailed letters to advertisers sponsoring programs over the Columbia Broadcasting Co. network, as well as agents handling the accounts, indicating the Congress of Industrial Organizations might be asked to put their products on the 'unfair list' if they continued to patronize the company while the Columbia strike is in progress. The United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers also announced that Columbia Recording had been forced to suspend delivery of May and June record releases.

At the same time, it was learned that Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator, was trying to arrange another meeting between the union and company executives in the hopes that an amicable settlement could be reached. More than 500 pickets marched in front of CBS Studio Saturday night, including representatives from the Newspaper Guild, Warehousemen, Furniture Workers and Office Employes.

Loretta Young Terps In Ratoff Film

While ostensibly on vacation with husband Tom Lewis, Loretta Young has been undergoing special training for role as ballet dancer in forthcoming production entitled 'Tonight Belongs to Us'. Miss Young trained in from New York Saturday (3) to start work under Gregory Ratoff, who will produce and direct for Columbia.

Luke Doubling

Keye Luke doubles in brass in connection with Monogram's 'The Gang's All Here'. Luke played a featured role in the film. Now he's been signed by the studio to use his talents as an artist on posters and advertising art for the picture.

Katharine Brown Out After Selznick Talk

Katharine Brown, David O. Selznick's New York representative, wound up two weeks' conferences here Friday and planed east after discussing production plans on 'Jane Eyre' and 'Claudia', and nature of future story buys for the Selznick program.

Miller Lenses 'Chan'

Virgil Miller draws term lensing contract at 20th-Fox and gets as first assignment the camera chore on 'Charlie Chan In Rio.'

Standing With 'Lady'

Wyndham Standing gets featured place in Edward Small's 'International Lady.' Also added is Douglas Gordon.

Demurrers Up Today In Rodriguez Job Suit

Seven demurrers will be argued by as many defendants before Municipal Court Judge Alfred E. Paonessa this morning in an action filed by Jose Luis Rodriguez, actor, against Screen Actors Guild, five major producing companies, and Central Casting agency. Other defendants are Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Corp., Paramount Pictures, RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc., 20th-Fox Film Corp. and Warner Brothers Pictures.

Rodriguez suit is for compensatory relief, exemplary damages and injunction, plaintiff contending that he has been refused work as an actor by virtue of his having refused to pay dues to Screen Actors Guild. Being without funds, actor will argue his own objections to the demurrers.

Complaint was filed under Sections 1567 and 1575 of the California Civil Code for detriment suffered through 'oppression', 'exercise of undue influence', and 'by taking grossly unfair advantage of one's necessities and distress.'

Action is somewhat unique in local court circles in that outcome of the litigation will likely indicate what rights free-lance actors, not affiliated with Screen Actors Guild have in securing film employment.

Allwyn Joins 'Puddin' '

Astrid Allwyn has been given second femme lead in 'Puddin' Head', Republic's Judy Canova starrer.

PHOTOGRAPHED

BY

RAY JUNE, A. S. C.

"Ziegfeld Girl"

METRO - GOLDWYN - MAYER

ROBERT Z. LEONARD

DIRECTED

"Ziegfeld Girl"

METRO - GOLDWYN - MAYER

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF T

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Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
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Vol. 31 No. 44 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, May 6, 1941 5 Cents

HINT PROBE OF FCC 'RUSH ACT'

FREEMAN AID IN SCRIBE ARGUMENT

Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, has stepped into the tiff between the Studio Publicity Directors Committee and Hollywood correspondents, it was disclosed yesterday, and is backing up the Committee request that pictures be previewed here before they are screened elsewhere. Freeman has sent a letter to the heads of the major companies urging that they cooperate with their

★ Continued on page 6 ★

RKO, NBC in 52-Week So. Amer. Air Deal

RKO yesterday signed a 52-week deal with NBC's international division for the shortwaving of two programs weekly to South America beginning Friday. Tuesday show will be devoted to dramatic highlights of current releases and the Friday chapter carries dramatized biographies of the studio's players.

'Fact' Works Again

'Before the Fact,' coasting for over a week due to illness of Joan Fontaine, is slated to get underway again today at RKO. Picture is expected to finish shooting end of the week.

SWG CALLS SPECIAL MEETING MAY 19

Screen Writers Guild has called a special membership meeting for May 19 at which time it will sound the sentiments of the Writers on the advisability of calling a strike if the Guild's demands are 'not reasonably met' by the Producers. The SWG is scheduled to resume negotiations with the companies Thursday, but the two groups are reported to be far apart.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting Corp.	234
Major Studio Calls	368
Artists Casting Bureau	62
FK Studio Service	78
Tinsman Casting Agency	190
Total	932

ROOSEVELT QUITS PRODUCERS OVER U. S. SERVICE

The Producers Association at its meeting yesterday accepted the resignation of Capt. James Roosevelt as a member of the Association. Roosevelt wrote that he was withdrawing because of his foreign service with

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Carol Bruce Gets Lead In Lloyd's 'Lewis'

Carol Bruce, who flew out here from New York 10 days ago for a quick test, has been given the feminine lead in Frank Lloyd's 'I, James Lewis', at Universal. Actress comes in from the east next week. She is currently in 'Louisiana Purchase.'

CHARGES FLY AS NETS READY FIGHT ON RULING

Washington, May 5.—Doubt of networks' ability to stave off Federal Communications Commission reforms today fanned flames of radio industry indignation. Litigation, probably long and costly, and certain to be bitter, is inevitable, but legalites were apprehensive about the outcome of efforts to get the courts to handcuff the regulators. Comish brain trusters may have outsmarted high-priced industry attorneys by framing new rules in such a way that assault is next to impossible.

With industry leaders fuming, Chairman James Fly of FCC said a formal report of the comish will be

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

NEW ATTEMPT TO END COL. R'CDING STRIKE THURSDAY

A new attempt to settle the strike at Columbia Recording Corp. will be made at 2 p.m. Thursday when company representatives renew negotiations with the United Electrical and Radio Machine Workers union, which authorized a walkout at the plant April 11. The parley was arranged by Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator, who moved back into the picture after negotiations had been bogged down.

It also was disclosed that the United Local at the Bridgeport home plant of Columbia Recording is reopening wage negotiations with the company. The Los Angeles Council of the Congress of Industrial Organizations will assist in the local negotiations, and in enforcing any secondary boycotts where dealers are found handling Columbia recordings during the duration of the strike. The San Francisco and Oakland CIO Councils have endorsed the local strike and have promised to cooperate by placing Columbia Product on the 'unfair list' if a settlement is not reached.

DISNEY HEARING SET FOR (19)

The National Labor Relations Board yesterday ordered a hearing Monday (19) on charges of unfair labor practices filed against the Walt Disney Studio by the Screen Cartoonists Guild. William Walsh, NLRB senior attorney and acting regional director, said a complaint against the

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Geo. Schaefer Due

George Schaefer is due to arrive today after a quick trip to New York. RKO prexy stopped over in Chicago on his way to the Coast to attend premiere there of 'Citizen Kane.'

Mutual Still Lacks Votes To Ratify Ascap Deal

New York, May 5.—At the close of business today Mutual had not yet polled the votes necessary to the agreement which the network's board of directors had worked out with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers. MBS management declared the network has over two-thirds of the votes required for approval of the licensing contract and expressed confidence it will be able to produce okays for the remaining third in time for return of Ascap

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

O'CONNOR, MEYERS STAY AT RKO

New York, May 5.—John J. O'Connor, general manager of the RKO theatre circuit, and Fred Meyers, film buyer for the company, who tendered their resignations last week, will remain with the company. Decision was reached following overtures made to both of the execs. Nate Blumberg, Universal prexy, who was to have planed here today, and would ostensibly offer O'Connor a job with that company, has postponed his trip east, due to a cold, and is not coming for a week or so.

Lum and Abner Return To Ether June 2

Norris Goff and Chester Lauck return to the air June 2 with their 'Lum and Abner' routine for Alka Seltzer over NBC Coast red network. Program will be heard four times weekly in quarter hour stanzas on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:15 p.m. Deal calls for a transcontinental airing in the fall. Sybil Chism, organist, and Lou Crosby, announcer, will be back with the rustic comics.

Nat Levine, Glucksman In Indie Pic Deal

Nat Levine will resume film production in a deal being worked out with Herman Glucksman, former New York indie exchange, and state right operator, who will handle the distribution. Plan is to make a group of nominal cost films for the state right market.

Keyes in 'Retirement'

Evelyn Keyes, now playing in 'Heaven Can Wait' at Columbia, has been assigned to the featured cast of 'Ladies In Retirement'.

PREVIEWED

AFFECTIONATELY YOURS
(WB)

I'LL WAIT FOR YOU
(MG)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Luise Rainer planed in from New York.

Henry Herbel to Frisco on Warners sales.

William Frawley goes on the Kraft show Thursday.

Sam Hayes starts his 11th year as a newscaster May 20.

Martha Wilchinski trained in from Mexico City yesterday.

Martha Raye does guest duty on Chase & Sanborn Sunday.

Franklin Pangborn joins the cast of 'Tillie the Toiler' at Columbia.

Jose Plaza, Consul of Ecuador at San Diego, visited Warners yesterday.

Betty Grable's option has been taken up for another year at 20th-Fox.

Aneas MacKenzie, writer with Warners, has been handed new one-year ticket.

Lou Holtz and Conrad Nagel planed out for New York yesterday via TWA Stratoliner.

Arabelle Andre, singer and dancer, arrives here from Panama Friday for picture and stage work.

Republic yesterday added two new readers to the studio personnel. They were Bernard Gordon and Enid Hubbard.

Peter O'Crotty has been appointed Hollywood editor of Coast and Fan Fare mags, published in San Francisco.

Roseanne Murray, summer stock grad, of Clinton, Conn., makes her film debut in 20th-Fox's 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Bernie Hymes here from Denver for a two-week vacash. He is manager of the Denver theatre there for Fox Intermountain.

Claire Trevor will do the femme lead in 'Texas', formerly 'The Texans Ride', with William Holden and Glenn Ford at Columbia.

No decision has been reached by Tony Martin's radio sponsors on summer respite for singer or fall resumption. Option date is (21).

Jean Bosquet has been taken off unit publicity work at Paramount and assigned to handle news photographic art, replacing Jack Kelly, who left to open his own offices.

Victor McLaglen will open a personal appearance tour at the Strand theatre, New York Friday (9). He stays there one week and follows with a week each in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Benny the Gouge sez—To hear the press agents tell it, 'Manpower' is going to exert a lot of horsepower at the b.o.

Hollywood Inside

FOLLOWING screening of 'Three Cockeyed Sailors' for United Artists heads in New York, plans for a regular UA trade paper advertising campaign and other exploitation means are being lined up by Jake Milstein, representative for Edward Small, and the distributing company. Picture, made in England by Michael Balcon and to which Small recently acquired U. S. rights with frozen English money, is a farce comedy and belief in its 'sleeper' qualities is behind extra exertion to sell it to the theatres and public. Film will be shown at each of the regional UA conventions, starting shortly, in order to prepare salesmen and exchange heads for drive on play dates. Title roles in film are played by Tommy Trinder, Claude Hulbert and Michael Wilding with Carla Lehmann as the femme interest.

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TWENTIETH-FOX art department has prepared charts which show Rouben Mamoulian's ideas as to the emotional equivalents of color, as determined by experiments made during filming of 'Blood and Sand', and the studio will ask other directors making Technicolor pictures to consider them as potential 'palettes'. Mamoulian's charts will become standard props at the Westwood lot. They include ribbons, ties, drapes and other cloth goods in every color in the spectrum. Director used them in 'Blood and Sand' to 'paint' the tints as he went along. He also drew on the old masters of painting for color and composition.

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DOWNTOWN newspaper publishers have clamped the lid tighter on radio news. First to feel its effect is Hedda Hopper, whose column for today's Times was devoted to Jack Benny's 10th anniversary on the air. Sheet tossed it out and asked the columnist to turn in another pillar, which she refused on the ground that she was too busy on her Sunkist program. Column will be missing from today's Times for the first time since she incepted her deal with the Chandler daily. One of the sheet's execs said he would hire a couple of extra phone operators to handle the squawks from her army of readers.

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RECENTLY, as an exploitation stunt in connection with 'Navy Blues', Warners started a search for one of the original Floradora Sextet: Idea was for the Floradora girl to act as chaperone, during filming of the musical, for the sextet of femmes who will be used in the picture. Story of search was widely printed. Studio has now had 16 applications for the job, from that many women claiming to be original Floradoras. Two of those in the first Sextet are now dead, one is in London and there are only three possible survivors.

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IN APPRECIATION of his helping to set a new two-week record at the Paramount theatre here, by garnering $52,134 over the double stanza, Phil Harris has been presented with a gold lifetime pass by Marco Wolf, operator of the house. Harris with his ork played a two weeks' run at the downtown acer, winding up (30) in conjunction with Par's 'Road to Zanzibar.' First week the dual attraction grossed around $32,000 and on the second week garnered a few dollars over $20,000.

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KNX drew one of the major awards at University of Ohio's Institute for Education by Radio for its production of 'The Mole on Lincoln's Cheek' in the Free Company series. Program singled out for the kudos was the one that touched off the Hearst campaign against the air series, through the erroneous info that Orson Welles appeared on the show. Charles Vanda produced the prize-winner and Irving Reis directed.

☆ ☆ ☆

HEAVIEST weekly transcontinental radio schedule of any band leader is claimed by Glenn Miller, currently at the Palladium. Nine times a week the strains of his band will waft cross country; three times over CBS for Chesterfield, and six times as a sustainer on NBC. Miller's crew shattered all attendance records at the Palladium for a weekend since opening Friday night.

☆ ☆ ☆

DANCERS employed on Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich' will receive approximately $5,000 in wage adjustments and overtime, it was disclosed yesterday by the Screen Actors Guild. Hoofers demanded and were awarded straight $11 per day, claiming they were required to do ballet and other dance specialties. They objected to being placed on a $55 per week basis.

☆ ☆ ☆

AT LEAST one star has been told, indirectly, but not in a too subtle fashion, that it will be healthier to stay away from the opening here Thursday night of 'Citizen Kane' at the El Capitan. Story is to the effect that warning was given that permanent displeasure in certain quarters would be courted if stars lent the prestige of their names to Orson Welles picture.

☆ ☆ ☆

MUSIC CORPORATION OF AMERICA was advised yesterday from Chicago that Alex Templeton, blind pianist, and his father, Andrew B. Templeton, had reached an agreement and mutual understanding in the former's suit against his parent for an accounting. No details of the settlement were received here.

☆ ☆ ☆

SUCCESS of Universal's 'Buck Privates' has revived interest throughout the country in Abbott and Costello's first one for Universal, 'One Night in the Tropics'. 'One Night' opened at the Capital theatre in Scranton last week and did only $12 under the take of 'Buck Privates.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Full many an actor, full of erudition
Derived from toil, experience and book
Goes through his life with one suppressed ambition,
To be a cook.

Full many a cook who sets your tonsils itchin'
And wields a noble skillet, for a fact,
Has distant dreams while toiling in his kitchen—
He wants to act.

★ ★ ★

'G-Man vs. Scotland Yard' sounded too flat-footed, so Eddie Small put high heels on it and called it 'International Lady.'

★ ★ ★

Barbara Button is too old fashioned a name for an up-and-coming screen player. One of these days Paramount will change it to Zenobia Zipper.

Doggishly speaking, the film industry is in the fourth generation. Strongheart's great-grandson is barking his way to fame in 'Barnacle Bill.'

There is a bit of dictatorship in everybody. Which explains that urge to lead the orchestra after the third drink in a night club.

★ ★ ★

'Manhattan Furies' evidently is a yarn about the Furious Forties.

★ ★ ★

Illness will be a pleasure in 'Breach of Discipline' at 20th-Fox. Nancy Carroll plays a femme medico.

★ ★ ★

A picture star has a luncheon date
In the east or the middle west,
And half the citizens, small and great,
Turn out with a lot of zest.
But the selfsame star will seldom meet
A howdya-do on a Hollywood street.

★ ★ ★

There will be complications if the star who plays the title role in 'The Life of Rube Waddell' runs true to form. The Rube was the problem child of baseball in your grandpop's day. At times, when he was slated to pitch an important game, George Edward was wandering in the wildwood, casting for black bass instead of strike-outs. At other times the emissaries from the ball park discovered him in a tavern, clad in a barkeep's apron and tossing schooners across the bar instead of curves across the plate. The actor who plays the role will have to be a southpaw with plenty on the ball.

Edgar Buchanan, who pulls teeth in Pasadena and acts in Hollywood, is about to play a double header in 'Texas.' He gets an actor's pay for a dentist's role. The mystery is that the casting boys neglected to tell him he wasn't the type for a dentist.

The actor scorned the motion pix
As he hopped an eastbound train
But, truth to tell, he loved them well
When he got a job again.

Film Previews

I'll Wait For You

(*Drama*)

Metro production Features Robert Sterling, Marsha Hunt, Virginia Weidler, Paul Kelly, Fay Holden, Henry Travers. Supporting cast: Don Costello, Carol Hughes, Reed Hadley, Ben Weldon, Theodor von Eltz, Leon Belasco, Mitchell Lewis, Joe Yule, Eddie Hart, Jerry Jerome, Steve Darrell and William Tannen. Director, Robert B. Sinclair. Producer, Edwin Knopf. Screenplay, Guy Trosper. Based on a story by Mauri Grashin. Photography, Sidney Wagner. Musical score, Bronislau Kaper. Song, Al Siegel and Ralph Freed. Film editor, Elmo Veron. Previewed May 5. Running time: 73 mins.

Metro's 'I'll Wait For You' will find numberless supporters among those who like stories filled with folksy human interest, and, although it will be no sensation at the box office, it will do all right in the secondary spots where patrons do not expect too much for their money.

Story is of a gangster, mixed up in laundry and restaurant rackets, who flees, wounded, from New York cops. He manages to make his way to a Connecticut farm before collapsing. Kindly farm folk take him in. He finds here, amidst the simple surroundings, that life is real and earnest. He dscovers honest love for the farmer's daughter, who responds to him so much that he is abashed and cannot pursue his courtship to the conclusion he would have with a chorus girl in the big city.

Finally, when the cops come for him in this rural hideaway where the farm folk think he is the victim of gangsters, he prevails upon them to pose as friends coming to take him away on business. At the last moment he cracks to the girl, tells her his real identity and is happily amazed that she will wait for him to get out of jail and come back to the quiet countryside with her.

Robert Sterling does a smooth job as the gangster, a job that is reminiscent of Robert Montgomery, who originally played the same role several years ago when gangster pictures were more in the vogue. Marsha Hunt gives a soft, appealing quality to the role of the farm girl who is attracted to the visitor. Virginia Weidler is an excellent kid sister. Paul Kelly and Don Costello, who plays it deadpan throughout, are warmly human as the cops inexorably pursuing Sterling. Among others who give quality to the cast are Fay Holden, Henry Travers, Carol Hughes, Reed Hadley, Ben Weldon, Theodor von Eltz, Leon Belasco, Mitchell Lewis, Joe Yule and Eddie Hart.

Direction, by Robert Sinclair, is first class for a film of this type. Edwin Knopf draws the producer credit. Guy Trosper's story, although old-fashioned, is good. Sidney Wagner, who photographed the picture; Bronislau Kaper, who was responsible for the musical score, and other technical aides are satisfactory.

James on Autry

Edward James has been assigned at Republic to do an untitled picture for Gene Autry.

Affectionately Yours

(*Farce-Comedy*)

Warners release of a First National picture. Cast: Merle Oberon, Dennis Morgan, Rita Hayworth, Ralph Bellamy, George Tobias, James Gleason, Hattie McDaniel, Jerome Cowan, Butterfly McQueen, Renie Riano, Frank Wilcox, Grace Stafford, Carmen Morales, Murray Alper, William Haade, Pat Flaherty and James Flavin. Director, Lloyd Bacon. Associate producer, Mark Hellinger. Executive producer, Hal B. Wallis. Screenplay, Edward Kaufman; from the story by Fanya Foss and Aleen Leslie. Photography, Tony Gaudio. Art director, Anton Grot. Film editor, Owen Marks. Music, H. Roemheld. Orchestral arrangements, Ray Heindorf. Musical director, Leo F. Forbstein. Previewed at Studio City theatre, May 5. Running time: 90 mins.

This broad farce taxes the capacity of its top players somewhat beyond their skill for slapstick comedy, coming out uneven in its quality of entertainment, but giving a lavish amount, and summing up as agreeable laugh material for the general runs because of its gags.

Rita Hayworth, who is on the quick upbeat because of recent roles, carries the acting honors and shows she can troupe a fine brand of farce. Merle Oberon is ill at ease in certain stretches and brightly competent in others. Dennis Morgan showcases his personality and thespian merits again, but also has to fight the tendency to overstress which characterialized work of cast generally.

The story as scripted by Edward Kaufman from the original by Fanya Foss and Aleen Leslie, blends war correspondent romance with domestic turmoil when the ace reporter, Dennis Morgan, cannot make up his mind as between the charms of his ex-wife, Merle Oberon, and his fellow reporter, Rita Hayworth. Ralph Bellamy completes the quadrangle with his standard role—the fatuous suitor doomed to ridiculous contrast with the contrite husband-lover. Point of the tale, after a string of fresh and intrinsically ludicrous gags, is that it is harder for an ace reporter to quit newspapering (as The Front Page first set out, to be copied in innumerable films) than it is for a gangster to quit his mob. James Gleason is the tough newspaper boss—and very good. George Tobias gets chuckles as the foreign press photographer.

Director Lloyd Bacon had a job cut out for him to stretch the thin line of antagonism between husband and wife across the required time, and hustled his pace and overplayed his actors to accomplish his chore competently. Laughs pick up toward the end, and are sprinkled throughout, although the proceedings are pretty silly and tediously repetitious in numerous scenes to pull down the entertainment level.

Mark Hellinger handled the associate producer responsibilities under Hal B. Wallis, giving the picture nice presentation. Tony Gaudio's camera shows the players favorably and Orry-Kelly's gowns look well on Miss Oberon and Miss Hayworth.

Thomson Sees AGVA Board for More Time On Reorg Plans

Kenneth Thomson will appear before the board of directors of the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists today and ask for more time to work out a reorganizational program for the group. It is understood that Lee Travers, acting executive secretary, has advised Thomson that no consistent program has been carried through and that little or no constructive work has been done for the membership.

Travers was loaned to AGVA for a month when Thomson agreed to assume supervision over the group after the ouster of Kenneth Howard as executive secretary. Prexy Cliff Nazarro will sit in with the board today to assist in mapping future policies.

SDG, Producer Parley Date Indefinite

A date for the resumption of the negotiations between the Producers and the Screen Directors Guild will not be set until the Directors have had an opportunity to digest certain objections and counter-proposals made by company executives. Producer representatives stated yesterday that another meeting will be arranged as soon as the Guild indicates that it is ready.

SOEG Sesh Tonight

Members of the Screen Office Employes Guild meet tonight at the Roosevelt hotel to receive reports on the progress of negotiations with the various companies. Prizes also will be awarded to the winners in the SOEG golf tournament staged Sunday. Prexy Glenn Pratt will preside.

Freeman on Stump

Y. Frank Freeman will be the principal speaker at the Motion Picture Day of the Los Angeles Advertising Club at 12:30 p.m. today at the Biltmore. Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, will act as chairman.

Simpson Opens Agency

Alan Simpson leaves the Leland Hayward office after a four year association, to open his own agency in Beverly Hills. Prior to becoming associated with the Hayward agency, Simpson was with Myron Selznick for several years.

Tannura Lenses 'Us'

Phil Tannura has been transferred from 'Tillie the Toiler' to photograph 'Tonight Belongs to Us', Gregory Ratoff production. Henry Freulich takes over camera spot on 'Tillie'.

Blue at Slapsie's

Ben Blue has been signed to star in Slapsie Maxie's show opening May 14. New show will include Cully Richards, Patti Moore, Sammy Lewis and Al Barr's orchestra.

Blake Ends Chore

Charles Blake has finished his treatment of 'White House Correspondent' at Republic and checked off the lot.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ELLA BORIS, publicity secretary at Paramount, revealed yesterday that she has been married since Dec. 7. The groom is Dan Deutsch, nonpro, and the ceremony took place in Las Vegas. Deutsch checked in at Cedars of Lebanon last night to undergo a major operation to clear complications from injuries received in an auto accident nine months ago. . . . Lana Turner will continue on to New York from Lexington, Ky., for few days vacation before returning to Metro for 'Honky Tonk.' . . Tony Martin returned last night by plane to wind up final recordings in singing role in 'The Bargain Basement.' . . . Jacqueline Warrington opens tonight in the Nut Shell Theatre play 'Taming of the Stew.' She is daughter of Grace Dudley, script girl.

Paramount publicity department was all ready to spring the new type of formal shorts, a femme garb for evening wear at resorts, last night at the Miramar hotel in Santa Monica with Paulette Goddard as the model. Wire services had been contacted and the event was set to spread countrywide when the taskmaster, Production Office, said nix, at least not before Wednesday because Miss Goddard is needed for night work on 'Nothing But the Truth.'

PREMIERE of 'Major Barbara' tonight at the Four Star will provide bleacher accommodations for 3,500 star gazers with 25 police to handle the crowd. Jimmie Vandiveer will do the loudspeaker commentating. . . . Buck Jones will be guest of honor at a dinner at the Hotel Hassayampa in Prescott, Ariz., tomorrow night. Feed is being tossed by that city for Jones as 'the outstanding example of a real western hero since the passing of Tom Mix.' Speaking will be Mayor Edward Francis McCabe, Sidney P. Osborn, Governor of Arizona, and Park Miller, Chief of Police. Scott R. Dunlap, producing the Jones series of 'Rough Rider' westerns for Monogram, will also be a guest. . . . Bill Boyd started his 37th picture as the western character, Hopalong Cassidy, yesterday when go signal was given to 'Secret of the Wastelands.' It also marks his seventh straight year of portraying the desert detective hero.

New censorship order from the Hays office to studios decrees that henceforth an actor must keep at least one foot on the floor in all love scenes.

DIRECTOR AL ROGELL has bought the Freeman Gosden (Amos) home in Bevhills for $100,000. Property covering six acres has a tennis court and swimming pool. Four acres of the site will be subdivided.

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John Royal Arrives For Jack Benny Fete Friday

John Royal, NBC vice-prez in charge of television, short wave and kindred activities, arrived yesterday from New York for the Jack Benny testimonial dinner in Biltmore Bowl Friday night.

Also putting in for the shindy was Bill Thomas, publicity director for Young & Rubicam. Due in tomorrow are Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, and Bertha Brainard, manager of NBC program and talent sales. Arrivals later in the week will include Sidney Strotz, NBC vice-prez in charge of programs, and Colby M. Chester, board chairman of General Foods (Jell-O).

Obituary

OLIVER T. MARSH

Oliver T. Marsh, 48, veteran cameraman, died yesterday at Cedars of Lebanon hospital after collapsing from heart attack while in the commissary at Metro a few hours earlier. Funeral will be tomorrow at 12 noon at Wee Kirk o' the Heather, and interment will follow at Forest Lawn.

Born in Kansas City, Mo., in January, 1893, and brother of Mae Marsh, he had been an active cameraman since 1911 when he started at the old Biograph company in Fort Lee, N. J., with D. W. Griffith. From 1918 to 1924 he was associated with Robert Z. Leonard and photographed the then Mrs. Leonard, Mae Murray, in the top pictures of her career. Other stars on which he held camera during their peak were Blanche Sweet, Mabel Normand, Lillian and Dorothy Gish and Geraldine Farrar. While with Griffith he worked under producer's ace cameraman, Billy Bitzer.

In 1924 Marsh joined Metro, where he had been under contract since. In 1938 he won the Academy award for Technicolor photography on Metro's 'Sweethearts'. Other pictures on which he was the directing cameramen were 'Sadie McKee', 'San Francisco', 'Maytime', 'After the Thin Man', 'The Merry Widow', 'David Copperfield', 'A Tale of Two Cities' and the musicals, 'The Firefly', 'Rosalie' and 'Girl of the Golden West'.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Marsh, and three children, Warren, 13; Gloria, 12, and Owen, 10. He had been in failing health for some time.

MRS. THOMAS E. PREISSER

Mrs. Thomas E. Preisser, mother of June and Cherry Preisser, former stage team, died early yesterday morning of a heart attack at her home, 154 S. Kenter ave., Brentwood Heights. She had been ill for several months following two eye operations. June Preisser, now under contract to Paramount, and her brother Ed planed in yesterday from Portland and will accompany the body to New Orleans for burial in the family plot. Surviving, in addition to Ed, June and Cherry, now Mrs. David Hopkins, are three other sons, Ulrich, Victor and Thomas E., Jr., all of New Orleans.

Mutual Still Lacks Votes To Ratify Ascap Deal

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

music to the web by Sunday or Monday.

Mutual wired affiliates today the Ascap contract must be negotiated independent of any other networks and in good faith to avoid any charge of conspiracy with others in the industry in violation of the anti-trust laws, and accordingly network is prohibited from considering the Ascap deal on the floor of the convention in St. Louis next week.

Ascap officials called on the Justice Department in Washington, and after going over the Mutual contract received assurance they were within purview of the consent decree. Call had been prompted by complaints filed regarding Mutual contracts by some broadcasters.

117 Billion

Network and agency statisticians have it all figured out that Jack Benny's Jell-O troupe generates 117,000,000,000 laughs a year, at the rate of a chuckle every 15 seconds of the show with time out for music and commercials. Figure is based on a listening audience of 30,000,000 every Sunday.

ROOSEVELT QUITS PROD'S ASSN.

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

the Marine Corps and due to the inactivity of his company, but added that he desired to reaffiliate when he resumes production.

The executives also discussed plans to cooperate with the combined convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America here next month. A special committee will be named to see that the industry is well represented by top actors and company executives.

The Producers received a request from the Screen Actors Guild that a date be set this week to resume negotiations. It was agreed, however, that the executives would not have sufficient time to digest the Guild demands by that time, hence the next meeting will be deferred for a week or 10 days.

Vallee East June 12

Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airshow moves east after June 12 broadcast for a summer stand. Unlikely that John Barrymore will make more than an occasional guest shot, being held here by picture commitments.

Bull Inaugs Bullseyes

Frank Bull inaugurates his Sports Bullseyes on KFWB today under sponsorship of DeSoto dealers. Every night except Monday he'll highlight the big inning that won the day's major league games.

DISNEY HEARING SET FOR (19)

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

company will be issued within the next two or three days and a trial examiner and attorney assigned to handle the case.

In the meantime, Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, sent a letter to all company employes in which he reviewed the entire situation from the time the Federation of Screen Cartoonists was certified by the NLRB up to the present SCG demand for recognition. He pointed out that the employes will have an opportunity to vote for a collective bargaining representative after the board hearing, and urged that all factional strife be put aside and everybody 'put his shoulder to the wheel'.

The SCG claims the Federation is a 'company dominated union', and that the Guild represents a majority of the employes. Guild tops met last night with American Federation of Labor leaders to discuss the situation. If the NLRB upholds the unfair labor practice complaint, the SCG is expected to demand immediate recognition as bargaining agent for the 700 cartoon workers.

Ray Coffin Sells Orig For KHJ Airer

Ray Coffin, former program director for Thomas Lee's television station, W6XAO, has sold his original serial yarn of the seeing-eye dog, 'Let There Be Light', to Vita Pep for three times weekly broadcast over KHJ starting May 19. Tailwaggers Assn. will collaborate on the programs, to be written by and produced under the supervision of Coffin.

Berle East Friday

Milton Berle finished in 20th-Fox's 'Sun Valley Serenade' and leaves for NY Friday for month's vacation. Comedian opens at Paramount NY for two weeks starting June 11.

Bing Guests Kyser

Kay Kyser makes a guest call on Bing Crosby's Kraft airer (22).

What Happened To Vaude?

On the 'Navy Blues' set at Warners yesterday could be spotted remnants of 15 vaude acts. Jack Haley, formerly of Crafts and Haley; Fred Sweeney, of Duffy and Sweeney; Jack Oakie, with Lulu McConnell & Co.; Frank Orth, of Codee and Orth; Tommy Dugan, of Dugan and Raymond; Al Lloyd, of Aveling and Lloyd; Dick Lane, of the Tex Guinan company; Leo White, of White and McCann; Harry Leonard, of Tracy, Gale and Leonard; Ed Gargan, of Charlie Wilson's 'The Loose Nut' act; Martha Raye; 'Gentlemen Gene' Delmont, of Jimmy Hussey & Co.; Haley's stand-in, Harry Masters, of Masters and Kraft; Art Berry, of Nelson and the Berry Boys, and Creighton Hale, who did vaude sketches long ago.

SMPE Speakers Stress Aid of Films In National Defense

Rochester, N. Y., May 5.—Importance of motion pictures for aviation training under the National Defense setup was impressed on guests of the spring convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the opening session here this morning. Two government officials, Arch A. Mercy and E. M. Ellingson, described how three chief problems of aviation instruction are being overcome by motion pictures, especially teaching workers unfamiliar with building and care of equipment. New films now being produced will aid in pilot selecting and testing, the speakers asserted.

Afternoon and evening sessions were given over to sound in motion pictures, with the Disney Fantasound and Warners Vitasound methods being covered in several papers. Increased lens efficiency through chemical coatings also was explained in technical detail.

RODRIGUEZ GETS 30-DAY LEEWAY

Jose Luis Rodriguez, actor, suing Screen Actors Guild, Central Casting, and five major producing companies, for compensatory relief, exemplary damages and an injunction, was yesterday allowed 30 days by Municipal Court Judge Alfred E. Paonessa in which to file an amended complaint. Judge Paonessa expressed inability to rule on action which had been drawn up by the actor, who has no legal counsel, and advised Rodriguez to have brief presented by an attorney in proper form.

William Berger (Beilenson & Berger) appeared in court for Screen Actors Guild, and Arthur Freston (Freston & Files), represented Warner Brothers Pictures, Central Casting and the four other defendants, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Corp., Paramount Pictures, RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc., and 20th-Fox Film Corp.

Seven demurrers by the defendants scheduled to be heard yesterday were deferred pending filing of amended complaint by Rodriguez. Counsel for the defendants offered no objections to delay since actor was not represented by an attorney.

Rodriguez claims he has been barred from working in motion pictures for two years because he has not paid dues to the SAG.

Dennis Day p.a.'s

Dennis Day, vocalist on the Jell-O airshow, goes personaling after Jack Benny calls it a season. He opens June 5 at the Hippodrome in Baltimore and then goes into the Roxy, New York. Other dates are being lined up.

Story Buys

Paramount has purchased 'Prison Widows', story by Louis Pollock, and assigned it to the Sol C. Siegel unit for production. Gordon Kahn will screenplay. Jonathan Latimer also has been assigned to do the script on 'Sing a Song of Homicide', novel by James A. Langham, for the Siegel unit.

Hint Probe of FCC 'Rush Act'; Charges Hit 'Airtight' Ruling

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

turned over to Justice Department for any possible use in connection with investigation of the music situation or trade practices beyond the comish's jurisdiction. No recommendation will be made, with a decision up to Attorney General Jackson and his assistant, Thurman Arnold.

New developments in the latest industry-government feud included complaints from newspapermen and the commission minority that the New Deal element used dirty tactics in releasing the report and new regulations. These angles are likely to attract more interest in Congress. Handling of the document, adopted hastily last Friday, less than 24 hours after the proposed rules were submitted to members for scrutiny, may be the match that lights the fuse for congressional probe of the regulatory body.

Dissatisfaction and suspicion of conspiracy to conceal the strongly-worded minority report are becoming widely known. Though Fly had indicated publication would be impossible until this week, extraordinary moves nearly enabled the crackdown faction to do a little monopolizing of their own—in the press. Putting pressure on the government printing office, Fly arranged for issuance of a digest of the report for scribes Saturday morning for use in preparing stories for Sunday papers. No warning was given Commissioners Craven and Case, who dissented, and no provision was made to let them prepare a handout for simultaneous distribution. Result was that many newspapermen knew nothing about the minority report until Sunday. Only mention that the vote on rules was not unanimous was in next to the last paragraph of the 14th page of the mimeographed statement.

DISSENTERS' CONTENTION

Fly denied any intent to suppress the minority report or conceal the split within the commission ranks. He claimed Case had been told if he wanted any statement of minority views included in the press digest to get his stuff in pronto. But the dissenter maintains he was misled into believing nothing would come out before today's printed volume, with both factions' views not available until after the comish quit for the weekend.

Legal problems troubling the industry's strategists arise from the shrewd drafting job by the commission's lawyers. Except for one rule banning network dualism, new regulations apply only to stations, not chains. It raises the serious question whether the webs would have any standing in court. NBC probably can get a temporary injunction delaying execution of the blue web, but the rest is uncertain. Affiliates are almost sure to be egged into seeking injunctions or to otherwise try to block application of radical policies, but there is no assurance networks, National Assn. of Broadcasters or others will be allowed in. Requests for a new hearing on the specific rules are possible, but all signs point to a comish refusal.

VOLUMINOUS BRIEFS

Fly and his pals think plenty of time already has been spent and everything pertinent has been previously said at hearings lasting six months, three days of arguments and in voluminous briefs.

Cornered by newspapermen for a reply to statements by NBC's Niles Trammell and Columbia's William S. Paley that the new regulations mark a step toward government control over broadcasting, Fly said, 'I don't react to those matters. I am simply calling them as I see them. I'll let them do the name calling. There's an orderly process for settling problems of this nature.'

PALEY COMMENTS ON FCC MONOPOLY REPORT

New York, May 5.—William S. Paley, president of Columbia Broadcasting System, offered the following comment on the monopoly report of Federal Communications Commission:

'About three weeks ago President Roosevelt appointed Mark Ethridge of Louisville to make for him a study of the whole field of radio broadcasting. Pointing out that he, the President, recognized that the principal function of the Government was to determine who should operate the limited number of transmitters and asking Ethridge to make recommendations as to how to keep radio free, prevent monopoly of ownership or operation, and how best to utilize radio in the public interest.

'Ethridge's appointment came at a time when broadcasters throughout the country were disquieted at the increasingly hostile attitude shown by a majority of the commission toward the industry, and particularly toward the principal networks, with the air full of rumors that the commission's monopoly report would be destructive.

'The appointment of Ethridge was welcomed by the industry because of his broad experience both in broadcasting and newspaper publishing, and because the appointment was interpreted as evidence that the President, who has fostered broadcasting throughout his years in the White House, had not suddenly switched to advocacy of a wrecking operation and was willing openmindedly to weigh all the facts before any effort was made to tamper with the existing structure.

'Hardly had Ethridge embarked upon his Presidential mission when the commission launches a report backed up by regulations calculated to torpedo the existing broadcasting structure and apparently defiant of the orderly process proposed by the President and defiant as well of the very limited powers conferred upon the commission by the Congress.

WARNS OF AUTHORITY

'While crediting the commission with cleverness in cloaking the inevitable results of its proposed action in language designed to make the public believe it is promoting what it is actually destroying, I feel it to be a public duty as head of one of the major networks to warn out of the depth of long experience and study that if the commission succeeds in the venture it now launches, networks will become mere catch-as-catch-can, fly-by-night sellers of programs. Permanence and stability will have departed from the industry and incentive to public service will have been removed from the broadcasting the American people know and like. Worst of all, the first paralyzing blow will have been struck at freedom of the air, because a commission which can exercise such drastic powers without even going to the Congress for authority to exercise them, will have reduced the networks and stations of America to impotent vassals, able to survive only so long as they please the regulatory authority.

'Ramming what the commission calls ''a Magna Charta'' down the throats of the affiliates of the major networks is really taking away from them that freedom of independent lawful action without which radio itself cannot remain free. This is true even though there may be opportunistic elements in the industry who will see in a sudden upset of the whole broadcasting structure a chance to gain temporary commercial advantage.

OPEN THREAT

'The fact that the commission has proposed to go so far, and that it openly threatens Government ownership or common carrier regulation if it is thwarted in its purpose, is evidence enough that the American people should be alarmed and on the alert. If these are strong words, they are measured ones. Competition in broadcasting exists now; its principal limitation is imposed by the physical limitation upon existing facilities. To make a fetish of competition to the extent the commission proposes makes as much sense to me as if one were to argue that freedom of the press cannot exist unless one national magazine is allowed to sell advertising in the columns of another.

'This argument is absurd. If the one making it were to add that his real purpose was to strengthen and improve the national magazines as a whole, his sincerity would come into question. The commission in its report and proposed actions persistently ignores the evidence. It disregards the remarkable progress of radio, the absence of substantial complaint and it insists upon considering the whole question of monopoly without giving the slightest weight to the fact that the networks and the stations of America are publicly committed to a policy of freedom and fairness of the air, devoid of any editorial bias whatsoever.

'I do not believe that either the President or the Congress will countenance what the commission seeks to do.'

Olsen Due May 15

Ole Olsen arrives here May 15 to confab with H. C. Potter, who will direct 'Hellzapoppin' for Jules Levey at Universal. His partner, Chic Johnson, hits the Coast at a later date after finishing a hunting trip in Canada.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'The Texans Ride' now titled 'Texas'.

Arnold Will Appoint SAG Committee On Army Camp Shows

The Screen Actors Guild board of directors last night authorized prexy Edward Arnold to appoint a committee to represent the SAG in arranging entertainment for United States Army camps.

The Guild also requested that the Los Angeles locals of the American Federation of Radio Artists, the American Guild of Variety Artists, and Actors Equity Association appoint similar committees, so that all entertainment for Coast camps could be coordinated through the Associated Actors and Artistes of America.

A similar committee from the various AAAA's groups is now functioning in the east.

Execs Cross Picket Line at Central

Company executives attending the meeting of the Producers Association yesterday had to cross a picket line maintained in front of Central Casting Corp. by Ed Dahlen. E. J. Mannix, Metro general manager, stopped for several minutes to discuss with Dahlen the latter's demand that 'old time extra players' be given seniority rights at Central in the distribution of jobs. Dahlen refused to disclose the conversation but an extra standing nearby said Mannix suggested Dahlen discuss the situation with Howard R. Philbrick, Central general manager.

Trio of 20th Sick People Return to Studio

Betty Grable, Gene Tierney and H. Bruce Humberstone, all of whom have been on the sick or injured list, yesterday returned to 20th-Fox after hospitalization. Miss Grable returned to set of 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' after siege in Santa Monica hospital with an infected wisdom tooth; Miss Tierney has allayed an allergy which affected her eyes, and resumes title role in 'Belle Starr', and Director Humberstone returned to pilot's job on 'Sun Valley Serenade', wearing a celluloid nose guard and 11 stitches in his lip from auto smash.

Evelyn Shontz Resigns Universal Spot

Evelyn Shontz has resigned as cashier at the Universal exchange here, after four and a half years, to return to domestic life. She is replaced by Abe Swerdlow. Dorothea Jensen is new cashier at the Columbia Pictures exchange.

a.m. Dailies

Fairbanks In Brazil—
Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., planed into Sao Paulo, Brazil, yesterday, as one of the stops on his South American tour for the improvement of Pan-American relations.

Paul Mantz Injured—
Paul Mantz, stunt flyer, is under treatment at the Hollywood hospital for auto accident injuries received Saturday.

RKO, PARAMOUNT ATTENTION!
$55,000 Hancock Park home, good as new; yours if you act quick for $18,500. Only $2500 cash required—4 bedrooms.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

'Kane' Goes Into Frisco Geary in Theatre Sked Shiftover

San Francisco, May 5.—Golden Gate theatre today received orders to pull 'Citizen Kane', which was scheduled to open May 14. No reason was given for the sudden order.

Tickets had been on sale two hours when the decision to yank 'Kane' was made. Money paid at the box office will be refunded.

Charles Koerner, district manager for RKO, last night explained the reason for 'Kane' not playing the Golden Gate. He said RKO had decided 'not to disturb the policy of the house', which plays combined bill of films and vaudeville.

Instead, he said, the Geary theatre had been taken over and the picture will follow 'Fantasia', currently there and scheduled to close on May 14. He said it probably would take a week to fix up the Geary for 'Kane' but that the picture would play there definitely as soon as possible.

Selznick-Russell Case In Court Today

The Myron Selznick-Rosalind Russell case is scheduled for an airing in Superior court today. Selznick, through his attorney, Barry Brannen, is seeking to enjoin an arbitration board from putting into effect an award which held that Miss Russell was entitled to be relieved of her contractual relations with the Selznick Agency.

Esper Move Put Over

Application of Dwain Esper, independent film producer, for a bill of particulars and a motion to quash his indictment on the charge of transmitting lewd and lascivious records via Railway Express, was put over for one week yesterday by U. S. District Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer. Esper, who a week ago was over-ruled by Judge Hollzer on a demurrer, to prevent going to trial June 23, now seeks to have the Federal charge against him upset.

AFRA Meeting (21)

A general membership meeting of Los Angeles local of the American Federation of Radio Artists has been called for Wednesday (21) to elect a nominating committee. This committee will nominate candidates for local officers, as well as delegates to the national convention. Members also may nominate candidates by petition.

Lynn Planes East

Jeffrey Lynn planed last night to visit his folks in New England, later will attend New York premiere of Warners 'Million Dollar Baby', scheduled for latter part of May.

Edwards Takeover

Edwards Theatre circuit has taken over the Montrose theatre in Montrose and added it to its independent chain. Mont Friend formerly operated.

Births

SON, seven pounds, eight ounces, to Mrs. Julian Hochfelder, Sunday, at Cedars of Lebanon. Father is writer in the short subjects division at Metro.

CANADA SEES 50% DROP IN PIC PATRONS FROM TAX

Toronto, May 5.—Canadian exhibitors fear a 50% drop in attendance at picture houses as a result of the unexpected 20% tax on film receipts imposed by the Federal government in the latest budget regulations. Grosses have been skyrocketing during the past year due to increased employment and spending under war momentum.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, vice-president in charge of theatre operations for Famous Players-Canadian Corp., stated that new tax will be passed on to moviegoers. He pointed out that patrons in the lower income brackets, who constitute major source of picture house revenue, would be affected.

Commenting on the surprise tax Fitzgibbons said: 'We'll feel it. Faced with so many new taxes the Canadian people will have to curtail their spending in some way and will probably cut down on their amusement allotments first; the film industry is terribly surprised, but if this will win the war, everybody will do his share and no one in the film industry is going to object to doing his part.'

Latest war measure boosts amusement tax in the Province of Quebec to 36%. In Ontario, only province in Canada where no amusement tax heretofore has been levied, customers will pay the 20% boost.

New tax does not apply to legit theatres or concert halls.

Harry Jolson Sues Al for Breach

New York, May 5.—Harry Jolson filed breach of contract suit today in New York Supreme court against his brother, Al Jolson, asking damages amounting to $25,050. He says he agreed to remain out of the theatre, and to do no acting, with Al offering him $150 weekly, plus a job as his theatrical agent. Harry charges that Al made the agreement in February, 1934, and has not paid him since 1937.

'Serenade' Holdover

'Penny Serenade', currently in its second week at the RKO and Pantages theatres, will be held over for a third week at Pantages, starting next Friday. New supporting feature will be RKO's 'Little Men.' RKO on same day starts road show run of 'Citizen Kane', day-dating with El Capitan theatre in Hollywood.

Par Unshelves 'Furs'

Paramount is again turning a production eye on the story property, 'Angel in Furs', which it has owned for a number of years, and Lester Cole has been assigned to prepare a screen play.

SHEA, ERPI V.P., FOR DEFENSE WORK

New York, May 5.—T. E. Shea, engineering vice president of Electrical Research Products, Inc., has been granted indefinite leave of absence for duties with the National Defense Research Committee, announcement by T. K. Stevenson, Erpi president, revealed today.

Dr. E. M. Honan will be in charge of all Erpi engineering for motion pictures in the temporary reorganization required by Shea's governmental work. Honan headquarters in Hollywood under Coast v-p Clifford W. Smith, and liaison committee will function locally with research activities of Bell Telephone Laboratories. Setup will maintain Erpi close contacts with both studios and research program of Bell Labs.

46th & Western House To Be Reopened

After being dark for better part of the past two years and prior to that intermittently operated, the Rivoli theatre at 46th and Western is to be rebuilt by Fox-West Coast and operated as one of circuit's subsequent runs in the southeastern part of Los Angeles. House, an 800-seater, will be thoroughly remodeled, with opening probably sometime in August or Sept. 1.

Biltmore Summer Season Opening Friday

Summer season at the Biltmore theatre opens Friday (16) when 'Pins and Needles' begins an extended run at $1 top. House has been dark for past month. During run of 'Pins' policy will be two mats and six nights each week, with the tariff raised to $1.50 for Friday and Saturday evenings. Both matinee performances will be scaled at 75c top.

'Maisie' Goes May 20

Production date on 'Ringside Maisie', new Ann Sothern starrer, has been set at Metro for (20), with J. Walter Ruben as producer and Edwin L. Marin directing.

Add to 'Man Hunt'

'Man Hunt' was turned in Saturday at 20th-Fox by Director Fritz Lang, but company returns today for one day's added scenes.

WANGER WILL REP BIZ AT VARIETY CLUBS SESH

Walter Wanger will represent the motion picture producers at the Variety Clubs of America convention in Atlantic City May 15, 16 and 17. Stars definitely signed to appear at the convention, which will be attended by 1,500 exhibitors, include Dorothy Lamour, Ray Milland, Patricia Morison, Phil Regan, Simone Simon, John Payne, Anne Shirley, Charles Laughton, Lew Ayres and Errol Flynn. Ronald Colman, Rosalind Russell and Bob Burns also may go.

Party leaves here evening of May 15 in chartered plane, accompanied by Cliff Lewis, who, with Harlan Hobbs, is handling details at this end for Paul Short and John Harris, reps of the Variety Clubs recently here to line up talent.

Freeman Aids Scribes In Argument For Coast Previews

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Publicity Directors Committee by giving the local writers an opportunity to review productions here before the films are shipped east to be previewed or released for exhibition.

Freeman explained yesterday that the Producers were not being pressured into anything, but were merely backing up the recommendation of the Publicity Directors Committee, which had advised the correspondents that their complaint was just and that every step possible would be taken to remedy the situation. He indicated that the matter could be adjusted speedily if all parties would cooperate and work to the best interests of the industry. His letter was written some time before the correspondents began catching sneak previews.

The Publicity Directors Committee held a meeting yesterday, at which time it was agreed that a copy of Freeman's letter would be sent to the reviewers, together with one from the Committee explaining the steps being taken to adjust the situation. It is reported that the Committee also is taking up with the various companies the question of eliminating the holding of two and three important previews on the same night, taking the position that this also is an injustice to the correspondents.

The correspondents yesterday turned down a dinner invitation from Warners which was showing 'Affectionately Yours' at the Studio City theatre. The writers explained that an important sneak preview was scheduled and that they planned to catch it if it could be learned where the showing was scheduled.

The action of Freeman, however, was expected to result in a speedy and amicable settlement of the preview differences.

Brower Crew In

Otto Brower and his second unit on 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr', train in today from Noel, Mo., where they have been shooting background and key scene stuff for a month.

Ill in Pix

BING CROSBY'S cold caused cancellation of recording for 'Birth of the Blues' yesterday at Paramount.

B. G. DE SYLVA, Paramount production chief, bedded yesterday with a cold.

Don't Forget....
You Have a Date....
National Convention of
The Variety Clubs
of America
Traymore Hotel
Atlantic City, N. J.
May 15th, 16th & 17th

Copy 2

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE S

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 31 No. 45 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, May 7, 1941 5 Cents

AF of L ORDERS EXTRA PROBE

RYAN SET FOR DISNEY HEARING

A complaint charging that Walt Disney and other executives of his company sponsored formation of a company union by their studio employes was issued yesterday by the National Labor Relations Board. At the same time it was announced that Charles A. Ryan, who conducted the Harlan County, Ky., coal cases, had been assigned to handle the Disney hearing Monday (19).

The NLRB issued the following

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

Brit. Ealing Becomes Producer for UA

London, May 6.—Ealing studios, owned by Michael Balcom, will become producers for United Artists under a contract signed this week. Deal is for six pictures annually for four years, effective immediately, with two films to be delivered this season. They are 'Ships With Wings' and the next George Formby starrer. Ealing's present releasing organization, Associated British Film Distributors, folds at the end of this season.

Kelly Leaving Thursday, Silverstone Friday

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists general sales manager, for past three weeks conferring on product convention announcement for UA, leaves here Thursday for New York with Murray Silverstone, leaving Friday. Conventions will probably start May 19 with initial one in New York.

MacBride at Col

Donald MacBride reports at Columbia tomorrow for featured assignment in 'Heaven Can Wait', Robert Montgomery starrer. Alexander Hall is directing.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting Corp.	193
Major Studio Calls	370
Artists Casting Bureau	137
FK Studio Service	78
Tinsman Casting Agency	15
Total	793

FREEMAN HITS INDUSTRY ENEMIES

Speaking before the Los Angeles Advertising Club yesterday at the first Motion Picture Day in its history, Y. Frank Freeman told those who criticize the film industry as 'war mongers' that 'we will stand on our record'. Freeman, appearing in his triple capacity as president of the Producers Association, chairman of the Production Defense Committee, and head of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, said there are those in America who try to gain headlines for themselves by attack-

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

LEWIS WILL INVESTIGATE REPORTED CLASS A MITT

William F. Green, prexy of the American Federation of Labor, has ordered an immediate investigation on the extra situation in the Screen Actors Guild, it was disclosed last night in a telegram received from Washington by Harry Mayo, chairman of the SAG Council when it was abolished and currently head of the Extras Advisory Council.

Green has instructed Meyer L. Lewis, AFofL western director, to investigate complaints filed with AFofL headquarters charging that the Guild is controlled by 1,100

♣ Continued on page 10 ♣

INDUSTRY WATCHES FCC MONOPOLY RULING

New York, May 6.—Federal Communications Commission monopoly ruling against the major networks is viewed in the film industry as a move toward further government regulation that might extend to the picture business. Executives were aware of the danger in stirring up new interest in Washington regarding a possible commission for the film industry as a result of FCC move to increase the number of radio networks and give wider latitude to individual stations in dealing with the chains.

Picture commission idea has been up in Congress before, but there hasn't been so much talk of it in Washington, even though counterpart of Neely bill and Federal censorship had been offered.

YATES GEARS UP REP SKED

Herbert J. Yates, Republic's board chairman, in conference with Moe Siegel, prexy, is gearing the studio to get production up to peak load to turn out a program which will have 10 to 12 features ready when the new selling season starts Aug. 1. While Republic is not technically affected by the consent decree, Yates

★ Continued on page 10 ★

Cantor-ese

New York, May 6.—Eddie Cantor has been taking Spanish and Portuguese lessons for the last eight weeks. He explains that when and if he visits South America he wants to be able to talk their language, if possible, well enough to be humorous in the interests of good will and democracy.

Mutual Confident of Getting Okay for Ascap Ratification

New York, May 6. — Mutual network executives today showed no signs of dismay at inability to produce enough votes from among affiliated stations to ratify the licensing agreement tentatively negotiated with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. They expressed themselves as still confident that they will obtain the necessary accord before opening Tuesday of National Assn. of Broadcasters convention in St. Louis.

Mutual will hold its own meeting of affiliates Saturday and expects to

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

BLUMBERG LEAVES AFTER U SESH

Nate Blumberg, Universal prexy, trained east last night to attend board of directors meeting in New York Friday, and returns to the Coast for the summer around June 1. He was accompanied by Mrs. Blumberg. J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, planes east tomorrow or Thursday, following production and policy conferences here with Blumberg, W. A. Scully, general sales manager, Cliff Work and Matty Fox. Scully planed out last night, going by way of Dallas for brief stopover on way to New York.

Sears Says Warners Will Concentrate on A's

New York, May 6.—Gradwell Sears says that Warners sales policy will be extremely flexible under the government consent decree, and, in fact, may place most pictures on a solo selling basis. He claims the whole industry seems to be thinking in terms of blocks-of-five, but that he is not. He asserts that Warners will make only the number of B pictures that the market requires, and that mostly A product will be filmed hereafter. A majority of the latter will be sold singly on their own, Sears stated.

de Fuentes Studies

Fernando de Fuentes, president of Motion Picture Directors Guild of Mexico, is here to work with Director Raoul Walsh on set of 'Manpower' in study of American film technique.

Tony Stanford Resigns

New York, May 6.—Tony Stanford has turned in his resignation to J. Walter Thompson agency as producer of the Gene Autry airshow for Wrigley.

PREVIEWED

KING OF THE ZOMBIES
(Mono)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Harold F. Kress will be film editor on 'The Yearling' at Metro.

Max Parker art director on 'Two Steps to Heaven' at Warners.

Jack Sullivan will assist Edmund Goulding on Warners 'The Constant Nymph'.

Raymond Walburn will have a character role in Paramount's 'Sullivan's Travels'.

Stan Rubin and Roy Chanslor have completed treatment on Universal's 'Bombay Clipper'.

Owen Crump is writing narration for a scientific short entitled 'Miracle Makers' at Warners.

Eleanor Stewart is due back to Paramount this week from a Columbia river fishing trip.

Ben Alexander will be replaced by Clinton 'Buddy' Twiss as Chase & Sanborn announcer (18).

Iris Wong was signed for a Chinese role in 'Charlie Chan In Rio', starting May 9, at 20th-Fox.

Stuart Palmer in from La Jolla to fill speaking engagement on his book, 'The Puzzle of the Happy Hooligan'.

Earl Carroll's Vanities troupe, which has been touring the east, is due in Los Angeles Friday (9) via the Challenger.

Kenneth Earl and Curtis Kenyon have finished their writing job at Paramount on 'Her Perfect Mate' and have checked off the lot.

Robert Sisk is visiting Eugene O'Neill in San Francisco, and will return here late this week before taking over his new job at Paramount.

Nick Castle and Rene Hubert have been added to production staff on 'Jump For Joy', colored musical revue opening next month at the Mayan.

Marjorie Main will be one of the featured players in 'Honky Tonk', new Clark Gable-Lana Turner starrer at Metro which Jack Conway is directing.

Hans Dreier has been appointed head of the Paramount special effects and transparencies department. He also will continue to head the art department at the studio.

Kemper Campbell, Jr., American graduate of Oxford, will act as technical advisor on 'Charley's Aunt', Jack Benny starrer at 20th-Fox, for sequences touching on the English university.

Benny the Gouge sez—With all those breezes blowing around Hollywood and Vine, you would think the studio flacks were holding a convention.

Hollywood Inside

DOWNTOWN dailies are carrying their peeve against radio beyond the pale of accuracy. During his recent domestic unpleasantness, John Christ of the J. Walter Thompson radio production staff was identified as producer of 'One Man's Family.' In reality, his connection with the family series, as of several months ago, was an agency contact, with Carlton Morse, writer and producer of the program. On the occasion of his being called into the army, Christ is still referred to as the 'Family' producer despite memorandums from both the Thompson agency and NBC some time ago to the city desks as to his then actual portfolio. Intelligence apparently was brushed aside as a scowl at radio and to justify importance of the story under a two-column head.

☆ ☆ ☆

CANDLES that actually burn have long been a headache in matching scenes, but property men at Samuel Goldwyn's have now devised a method to keep candles the same length indefinitely. Candles are wired for electricity and piped for gas. Inside them is placed a 110-volt light bulb hooked onto a motor-driven rheostat which causes the light to flicker. The white gas flame burns and registers on the film. Flickering light bulb gives the effect exactly of a candle (which a real candle will not do). With this device it is not necessary to throw a spot behind the candle, for the flickering light emerges from the rear side. Studio figures to save upwards of $600 on this arrangement during shooting of 'The Little Foxes.'

☆ ☆ ☆

ONE of the most exacting scenes in years of picture making was the one-shot Director Michael Curtiz had to get for Warners 'Dive Bomber', calling for every facility of the U. S. Naval Air base at San Diego: 200 fighting planes, 2,000 uniformed men, 400 fliers, 1,000 men of ground crews, as well as some $500,000 worth of stellar actor material. Scene was filmed in Technicolor, and there was no chance of a retake. U. S. Navy cooperated fully for the one-shot, and Curtiz had to take the gamble. During time of filming entire Navy base was tied up and work in every hangar and machine shop ceased. To prepare the scene entire Warners crew worked through the night before.

☆ ☆ ☆

ALTHOUGH George Schaefer has struggled during the last week to clear the RKO reorganization decks in New York, there is no evidence that unsettled conditions at the studio or in the theatre operating department have been unwrinkled. He spent the week trying to persuade John J. O'Connor, RKO circuit head, and Fred Meyers, chief booker, to withdraw their resignations. On the financial front, also ending last week, Floyd Odlum's Atlas Corporation obtained a 60-day extension of the option it holds to acquire the Meehan stock interests in Keith-Albee-Orpheum.

☆ ☆ ☆

CURRENT practice of actors carrying on hot and heavy gin-rummy games between picture takes on the sets is causing the publicity unit workers a big headache. Having to catch players between scenes for interviews, still shots and other necessary exploitation fodder, flacks now find that it is as hard to break up a gin-rummy session, and just as disastrous, as it is to halt a scene for some publicity duty. With only the between-scenes time allowed for such work, unit men are hoping Hollywood adopts a new fad that will not require so much concentration by the players.

☆ ☆ ☆

REQUESTS for early vacations are hitting studio department heads this season more so than any in the past. Reason for sudden rush of many lot employes to get their annual two-week holiday behind them is expectations of draft calls and uncertainty as to what the next few months will bring as regards national issues. Heretofore most workers tried to space holidays for late summer or early fall and this year's rush is causing plenty of scrambling for the periods to be juggled around so no department will be too much under-staffed.

☆ ☆ ☆

FIRST list of arbiters has been sent out by Walter H. Elliott, secretary of the Los Angeles branch of the American Arbitration Association, from which it is expected panel in the clearance actions filed by Bromley & Bounce and O. W. Lewis against major distributing organizations will be picked. No dates have been set as yet for the initial hearings, but with several theatre operating concerns having filed interventions cases loom up as important to the trade.

☆ ☆ ☆

SHERIDAN GIBNEY, prexy of the Screen Writers Guild, has issued an appeal for Guild members to contribute scripts for the labor radio program aired each Thursday night over KFWB. The labor groups sponsoring the program to combat passage of anti-labor bills at Sacramento has decided to continue them indefinitely.

☆ ☆ ☆

STUDIO which has been banking on using titles which it had mothballed for several years woke up the other day to find that several of its choicest monickers had been signed away to other studios in writing and with legal finality by a former story editor head.

☆ ☆ ☆

CBS PUBLICITY release passes along the info that Lolly Parsons, hostess of 'Hollywood Premiere', keeps a dictograph beside her beds at both her Bevhills home and San Fernando valley ranch in order to record 'things to do' as they occur to her in the night.

☆ ☆ ☆

A CITIZEN named Kane was mentioned frequently yesterday in the Los Angeles Examiner in the column, 'In The News' written by William Randolph Hearst. Hearst praised the citizen, named Eneas Kane, for being kind to a bird.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

And now the movie censor has proclaimed a law profound:
That players who are making love keep one foot on the ground.
It conjures up the early days when you were skipping school
And gathered in a smoky joint to shoot a game of pool.

And when you stretched your limbs to snag the eight-ball or the ten,
The one-foot-on-the-carpet law was potent, even then.
And though the censor may be chaste as old Sir Galahad,
He must have been a shark at pool when he was but a lad.

★ ★ ★

Atmosphere exercises an important function in motion pictures. So Betty Grable spent a week in a dentist's chair soaking up experience for 'A Yank in the R.A.F.'

★ ★ ★

Speaking of dentistry, Dr. Edgar Buchanan grew tired of tooth-yanking and became an actor to get away from it all. Now he is in the Columbia picture, 'Texas', playing a dentist.

Sign of approaching summer —Paramount is shaking the moth balls ot of 'Angels in Furs.'

Yesterday's robust zephyrs around Hollywood and Vine gave many a gal a Veronica Lake hair-do, for free. It was a case of 'Hold Onto Your Hats' or 'Gone With the Wind.' Not only that, the breeze inspired Mary Livingstone to kick in with a gusty ode, as follows:

Chicago, oh Chicago,
You think you're windy,
But out here in your eye
Blows a cindy.

★ ★ ★

In 'Radio Revels of 1942' Don Wilson plays himself—an old Hollywood custom.

It must be uncomfortable to play in an ice revue. All the still photos indicate that a skating star goes through life on one foot, like a stork.

Dalton Trumbo is covering a lot of territory in his new book. It's about Los Angeles.

★ ★ ★

The picture flack was colossal once
And pulled a lot of colossal stunts
And juggled with many a million,
But hark to the radio flacks who state
Jack Benny is ultra-colossally great
And turns out laughs at a yearly rate
Of 117,000,000,000.

★ ★ ★

It will take all of 117,000,000,000 chuckles to laugh off Uncle Sam's radio investigation.

★ ★ ★

Do you remember, a few months ago, when the scribes had Harry Carey retiring from the pictures to write his autobiography? Harry's answer is a co-starring role in 'Among the Living.'

★ ★ ★

An honest creature is the seal
When trained to do his tricks,
Though he is often known to steal
A scene in motion pix.

Preview

★

King of the Zombies

(Melodrama)

Monogram production and release. Features Dick Purcell, Joan Woodbury, Mantan Moreland. Cast: Henry Victor, John Archer, Patricia Stacey, Guy Usher, Marguerite Whitten, Leigh Whippen, Madame Sul-Te-Wan, Jimmy Davis, Lawrence Criner. Director, Jean Yarbrough. Producer, Lindsley Parsons. Photography, Mack Stengler. Screenplay, Edmond Kelso. Musical direction, Edward Kay. Film editor, Richard Currier. Settings, Dave Milton. Art direction, Charles Clague. Previewed May 6. Running time: 67 mins.

Monogram's 'King of the Zombies' is a well-contrived chiller, sure to evoke squeals of delighted horror from all but the audiences that sit on their hands at mystery shows. It should more than return its investment from that market for which it is aimed.

Dick Purcell, John Archer and the latter's Negro valet, Manton Moreland, are flying to an ocean island when their plane crashes on another island near the gloomy castle of Henry Victor, a mysterious doctor from Vienna. Victor lives with his wife, Patricia Stacy; his niece, Joan Woodbury, and a collection of zombies. He makes the superstitious natives think the zombies are automatons returned from the dead. Actually they are under the voodoo spell of Victor and Madame Sul-Te-Wan, ancient voodoo priestess.

Victor plots against his guests, for he has imprisoned in another part of the castle Guy Usher, an admiral whose plane has crashed on the island a few days earlier. He also has a secret radio station over which he transmits national defense secrets to the Nazis. Purcell, Archer and Moreland discover the plot, break up a voodoo ceremony and rescue Usher and Miss Woodbury as the zombies turn on Victor.

Archer easily takes the acting honors among the sympathetic characters, and Victor is a thoroughly reprehensible heavy. Moreland and Marguerite Whitten supply most of the numerous laughs, with the Negro's traditional fear of ghosts being well exploited by the story. Purcell has top billing, although his role is not as important as Archer's. He and Miss Woodbury give a good account of themselves. Others deserving mention are Usher, Madame Sul-Te-Wan, Patricia Stacey, Leigh Whippen, Jimmy Davis and Lawrence Criner.

Direction of Jean Yarbrough and certain minor weaknesses in the story make the action too slow at times, but the dimly-lit scenes, gloomy, cavernous interiors and the tense excitement in many of the situations, rate Producer Lindsley Parsons a bouquet. Technical assistance is adequate.

Col Heavy Extra Call

Approximately 165 bit and atmosphere people checked in at Columbia Ranch for Havana dock scenes in 'Our Wife', John M. Stahl production. It's one of the biggest calls for extra talent on Columbia's shooting schedule.

Par Reties Clemens

Paramount has lifted William B. Clemens' option and he will shortly be given another directing assignment.

Welles Has Definite Offers From Alex Korda, Warners

New York, May 6.—Orson Welles has definite offers of a producer berth from Warners and Alexander Korda, with other studios making less definite overtures. While RKO is endeavoring to hold Welles after one more picture to which he is committed, Welles is reported 'listening to all offers' with determining factor not money or terms but 'artistic integrity'.

Welles apparently wants complete freedom to film scripts of his own choice without consultation with studio heads. Welles asserted that as long as studio has final okay on screenplays chances of obtaining 'complete artistic integrity' are nil.

Wells has left Columbia Artists management and is being handled by Al Schneider, who resigned from Columbia Artists to handle Welles exclusively. Welles' pact with CA permitted him to break away whenever Schneider did.

There's a 13th

Eleven times Don Barry has started a western starrer at Republic under the title, 'The Kansas Cyclone', a stock title studio has kept perennially new and available, and each time the film has come out under some other handle. Now he starts it for the 12th time—and maybe it'll stick.

Nazi Propagandists Get Cold Feet

New York, May 6.—Apparently frightened by too much publicity, Nazi propagandists in the United States postponed the opening of one of their major film efforts, 'Sieg Im Westen' ('Victory in the West') from last Friday to tomorrow. Six simultaneous premieres, reportedly planned, have also been called off. Picture is said to be the first in a series of three super-propaganda vehicles made in Germany for American consumption and brought here at a great effort to divert the current tide of the war.

Gwenn, Barnes Leads For Metro Legit

New York, May 6.—Edmund Gwenn and Binnie Barnes have been tentatively cast for the lead roles in 'We Fought at Argues', Frederick Hazlett Brennan play that Metro will produce on Broadway next fall. Edgar Selwyn, nominal producer; Kenneth MacKenna, company's story editor, and Robert Sinclair, who will direct, return to the Coast this week after setting preliminary preparations.

Crime Yarn Rolls

Production started yesterday on 'Race Track Story', Metro Crime Doesn't Pay short with Roy Rowland directing from the screen play by Douglas Foster. Harold Lipstein is on the cameras and cast includes Lynne Carver, in the lead, Roy Bailey, Jim Millican, Eddie Hearn, George Ovey, Mitchell Lewis and Hugh Beaumont.

'Savers' Rolling

'Labor Savers', next Our Gang comedy, went before the cameras at Metro yesterday after a week's delay due to weather. Edward Cahn is directing from the script by Hal Law and Robert McGowan. Jackson Rose is photographing.

Okays Minors' Pacts

Minor contracts for Lorraine Gettman, 18, Joan Winfield, 20, and Faith Dorn, 16, with Warners, yesterday were approved by Superior Judge Emmet Wilson.

Travers Appointment Surprises AGVA Execs in NY

New York, May 6.—A report from the Coast that Kenneth Thomson has placed Lee Travers in temporary charge of the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists came as a shocking surprise to AGVA officials here. Travers was a Hoyt Haddock appointee as Philadelphia executive secretary. Later he was sent to Chicago as national representative, from which post he was discharged.

Officials here said yesterday that no action will be taken on the matter until receipt of a full report from Thomson.

The executive board of the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists, at a meeting yesterday, approved the actions taken by Kenneth Thomson since he agreed to assume supervision of the reorganization program. It was stated that Thomson had been requested to continue to act in a supervisory capacity and had been authorized to make any changes he felt necessary for the betterment of the organization. I. B. Kornblum, former attorney and executive secretary of AGVA, attended the meeting as a guest. Prexy Cliff Nazarro presided. Lee Travers, acting executive secretary, also sat in on the session.

Rags Raglund Tested For Metro's 'Honky'

New York, May 6.—Rags Raglund, burlesque comedian currently in 'Panama Hattie', was tested last week by Metro for assignment in 'Honky Tonk.' Comic has already been inked by studio to repeat his legit role in forthcoming film version of 'Hattie.'

Heading East

John Boles.
Victor McLaglen.
Robert Benchley.
Mr. and Mrs. Nate Blumberg.
W. A. Scully.
Harrison Holliway.

In from the East

Bert Wheeler.
Orson Welles.
Dolores Del Rio.
Carol Bruce.
Jules Buck.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

AMONG those who made the 'Major Barbara' premiere at the Four Star theatre a gala affair last night were the Milton Brens, the Ernst Lubitsches, the Mervyn LeRoys, the Darryl Zanucks, the Basil Rathbones, Claudette Colbert and Dr. Joel Pressman, Greer Garson, Mischa Auer, Joyce Hunter, the Alexander Kordas, Mrs. Ernst Moeller, Norma Shearer, Marlene Dietrich, Townsend Netcher, Aline Rhonie, Judith Anderson, Maureen O'Hara, Sonja Henie, Constance Bennett, the Charles Boyers, Mary Pickford, the Robert Montgomerys, the Elliott Nugents, Charles Chaplin, Cecil B. DeMille, the Melvyn Douglases, Dick Powell and Joan Blondell, Charles Feldman, the Harry Warners, John Stahl, and others. All proceeds were donated by Producer Gabriel Pascal to the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund and Bundles for Britain. . . . California can claim another 'just as good' against the state of Florida now that Metro has discovered that the brush of middle Florida is practically duplicated along the Sacramento River. Studio needed similar foliage to use for 'The Yearling' sequences which will be shot at the Culver City plant and survey of this state's plant life revealed that California can brag that its brush country looks just like Florida.

> ***Jock Lawrence's cry every time a situation comes up before the publicity director's committee involving newspaper people is 'Let's be men, we're not mice.' Then nothing happens.***

BER-MAR, a turbaned psychic, is mystifying customers at the House of Murphy with his telepathy act. . . Richard Arlen hosted cast and crew of the Bill Pine-Bill Thomas production, 'Forced Landing', at Johnny Fisher's Nineteenth Hole last night. . . . Scores were finally untangled yesterday on last Sunday's RKO studio golf tournament at the Lakewood Country Club, in Long Beach. Al Newman shot low gross, with a 73. Ethel Turnquist led the women's division with a low gross of 117. Newman, Edgar Kennedy and Bob Hoffman were tied for a low net of 72.

> ***Al Sherman's 'Carry On, Old England' has been adopted by British-American Ambulance Corps as its official song. It gets its first rendition by Betty Fields at the Uplifters Ranch Garden Show. Ditty goes into the Ascap catalog.***

JOHN SHELTON is trying to interest his Metro bosses in an original idea he has developed titled 'Forgotten Glory.' Yarn deals with early western film stars and would call for such old timers as William S. Hart, Harry Carey, Hoot Gibson and William Farnum to re-enact themselves. . . . Harry M. Warner presented the American Legion Luncheon Club with a new American flag. Superior Judge Clarence L. Kincaid accepted the colors for the club. . . . Aurora Miranda, sister of Carmen Miranda, is being tested at Warners for the musical, 'Carnival in Rio.'

Joe Breen Keeps On Hays Job Because Of Latter's Illness

New York, May 6.—Joe Breen, resigned Hays office code administrator, is temporarily staying on the job due to Will Hays' illness in Chicago hospital which is delaying appointment of Breen's successor.

Geoffrey Shurlock, Breen's assistant, and Francis L. Harmon are the only two candidates for the job, with likelihood that Harmon will get it.

J. J. O'Connor, Meyers Resignations Stick

New York, May 6. — John J. O'Connor, RKO theatre circuit general manager, and Fred Meyers, film buyer-booker, who resigned suddenly from their posts two weeks ago following operations disagreement with Malcolm Kingsberg, company vice-president, turned down all overtures to remain with the company. George Schaefer, before leaving for the Coast tonight, did his utmost to get them to remain, promising no further interference from any sources in the company. But after he got through with his proposition the boys said their resignations would stick.

Atlantic Films Wins in Col 'Thunder' Suit

New York, May 6.—Atlantic Film Productions, Ltd., of England, won over Columbia in the New York Supreme court when latter company settled Atlantic's action for $13,000, the full amount sought. Atlantic claimed Columbia withheld funds due on distribution of 'Thunder in the City', which it produced. Columbia had counter-claimed that money was held up due to claims against Atlantic by various persons in the U. S.

Gifford Going Home

Frances Gifford returns to Paramount, home lot, after winding up 'Jungle Girl', 15-episode serial at Republic next Monday.

Small Sigs 'Strings'

'The Singing Strings', all-girl orchestra, has been signed by Edward Small for 'International Lady.'

Obituary

Oliver T. Marsh Rites

Funeral services for Oliver T. Marsh, Metro cameraman, will be held today noon at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, Forest Lawn, with Rev. John C. Donnell conducting. Jeanette MacDonald will sing at the services, and pall-bearers will be Fred Jackman, Leonard Smith, J. M. Nickolaus, George Folsey, John Arnold and Ray June. Honorary pall-bearers include Louis B. Mayer, Edward Mannix, Robert Z. Leonard, Hunt Stromberg, Joe Cohn and Ben Thau. Marsh, 48, died Monday at Cedars of Lebanon after collapsing from a heart attack at Metro.

SHADRACK BOYS
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NO COVER CHARGE

Mutual Confident of Getting Okay for Ascap Ratification

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

have Ascap music back on the air by Monday. Up until this afternoon Mutual home office had heard from 36% of 188 stations to which it had addressed the contract formulas worked out with Ascap and had asked for early approval. Ratio was even between those favoring acceptance or waiting until after the NAB conclave.

Meanwhile, both NBC and Columbia are hurrying their Ascap negotiations to obtain a set of formulas they can present to their own affiliates during the convention and thereby, if possible, prevent Mutual from being the first network back on the air with Ascap tunes.

New York Indie Theatre Owners Ask U. S. To Reopen Decree

New York, May 6.—Independent Theatre Owners Assn. of New York proposed getting into the current broadcaster-Ascap battle by asking Department of Justice to reopen the Ascap-government consent decree so that theatre biz can become a party.

Move is predicated on the argument that since the decree provides for payment at the source, theatre operators should be protected from having to pay a music fee after copyright owners had already collected one from the producer.

Holliway to St. Louis NAB Convention

Harrison Holliway, KFI-KECA manager, super-Chiefs to Chicago tomorrow for National Assn. of Broadcasters convention in St. Louis next week. He will attend a board meeting of broadcasters there Sunday. Before returning he'll pass a few days in Washington and New York. It was announced yesterday in Washington that Vice President Henry A. Wallace will address the convention Tuesday, with NBC carrying the talk.

'Geese' to Arrowhead

Troupe of 'Wild Geese Calling' starts a two-day location stand at Lake Arrowhead Friday under the direction of John Brahm before commencing shooting at the 20th-Fox lot Monday. Outdoor shots were originally scheduled for later in the picture but good weather now prevalent caused switch. Henry Fonda and Joan Bennett head the cast.

'Kane' Over KECA

KECA will carry 15 minutes of lobby gab at El Capitan premiere tomorrow night of 'Citizen Kane', with Knox Manning presiding at the mike. RKO-Pantages account is being billed for the time.

Trio for Sketch

Jackie Cooper, Edward Arnold and Irene Rich will be in a dramatic sketch together on I Am An American Day at the Hollywood Bowl (18).

Churchill at Par

Edward Churchill has rejoined the Paramount publicity department, and leaves Sunday by plane for the Bahamas to work on 'Dildo Cay'.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles, 11; Hollywood, 6.
Portland, 8; San Francisco, 4.
Sacramento, 4; Oakland, 2.
Seattle, 6; San Diego, 5.

a.m. Dailies

Weiner Pleads Guilty—

Eugene Weiner yesterday pleaded guilty to simple assault on wife, actress Lillian Roth, before Superior Judge A. A. Scott. Weiner was originally charged with intent to do great bodily harm in alleged beating of Miss Roth. Lesser charge was entered with consent of wife.

Nelson Eddy In Court—

Nelson Eddy appeared before Superior Court Judge Charles S. Burnell yesterday to give testimony on traffic accident involving damage claim of $8,723. Eddy is a defendant, though stepson, Sidney Franklin, Jr., drove the car.

License Escort Bureaus—

Board of Supervisors yesterday adopted an ordinance requiring escort bureaus located in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles county to take out a $100 annual county license. Regulation becomes effective in 30 days.

Sues Leon Janney—

Leon Janney, film actor, was yesterday sued for divorce by actress wife, Wilma Francis. Couple were married in Fredericksburg, Va., on March 20, 1939.

Benny's Marine Date

Jack Benny will do a Jell-O broadcast from the marine base at San Diego sometime next month.

IBEW Signs Closed Shop Deals With Three Stations

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 40 has signed closed shop deals with KIEV, KFVD and KFAC, and is now negotiating with the Don Lee network for a unit contract covering KHJ, KFRC, San Francisco; KDB, Santa Barbara, and KGB, San Diego. The new contracts up wages 25 to 30%, and provide for three weeks' vacation, 10 days' sick leave, and arbitration of all disputes.

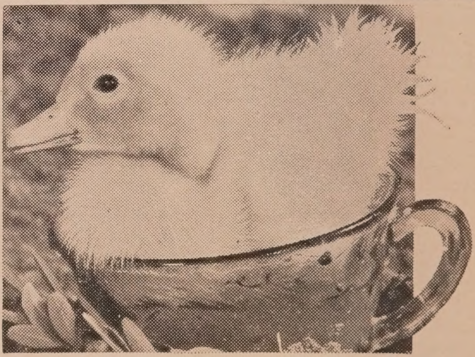
The IBEW drive to line up the entire radio field on the Coast is being handled by Roy Tindall, chairman of the radio unit, and Al Speede, business representative of Local 40. The only independent stations that have not yet been brought under the IBEW banner are KRKD and KGER.

CAPRA, RISKIN PLAN SEQUEL TO 'DOE'

Frank Capra and Robert Riskin will make a sequel to their current John Doe picture, under the title 'The Further Adventures of John Doe', as the first on their new two-year deal with Warners as an individual production unit. The Capra-Riskin combination is no longer operating as a syndicate, but on separate contracts with Warners. Riskin has completed the original story and has received Gary Cooper's okay as a desirable vehicle, provided Cooper can get clearance from Samuel Goldwyn. Story deal requires Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck and Walter Brennan.

Russell Case Postponed

Motion of the Myron Selznick agency to have injunction granted Rosalind Russell vacated and the award given the actress set aside, was postponed in Superior court yesterday until next Wednesday (14). A crowded calendar was responsible for the case going over.



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And now you can buy it on the installment plan. Just find out the total cost of the one you want from your contractor; then come to California Bank and we'll tell you how you can pay for it in easy monthly installments. Badminton courts, barbecues, awnings, screens, a paint job, dark rooms, work shops, new bathroom and kitchen fixtures . . . so many ways to "doll up" your home cost as little as $5 a month to finance. Let us help you get ready for a bigger and better summer

CALIFORNIA BANK—the bank to see for loans

Freeman Strikes At Enemies Of Pic Industry

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

ing the film industry and its 'front-page people'.

'They will no doubt continue to call us war mongers and many other names', Freeman stated to the 350 Ad Club members. 'Our answer is that we will stand on our record. To the best of our ability, we are striving to render to our government that service they have requested of us. If those who criticize us object to this procedure, let them tell the American public what they would do.

'Our people are news, however. This is a front page business. As a result, certain individuals have attempted to turn our efforts on behalf of National Defense into headlines for themselves, by attacking this effort. Attacks of this nature are not new to us in the Motion Picture Industry. Now, because we are attempting to do a job as part of the National Defense program, a small group has again discovered that we are front page people.

'We have no subsidies in this industry for our work. We make no profit from training films. For every minute of playing time that is taken from the screen of America, we lose so much playing time for our own pictures. We ask no praise for these services. We are merely doing what every other good American industry is doing—supporting his country's efforts for defense.'

DEFENSE PROGRAM

Freeman listed many of the contributions of the industry to the defense program, including newsreel coverage of skilled workers in defense jobs, of trainees in army camps whom the army wants to be shown to their families at home, trailers in theatres for recruiting soldiers and workers, army training films being produced by the Academy Research Council under Lieut. Col. Darryl F. Zanuck, commercial pictures portraying the army, navy and air force backgrounds, cooperation with the Nelson A. Rockefeller-John Hay Whitney government committee for Latin American Amity, etc. He also disclosed that the president of the British Board of Trade considered American films so important to the morale in England that he expressed a desire that film imports be maintained at the highest possible level. He said the American Neutrality Act has excepted motion picture film in its exports.

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild and executive secretary of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas, presided as chairman. Major Mason Wright, Jr., who has just arrived from the War Department in Washington for conferences with the Production Defense Committee, also spoke. He said 'history will record the importance of the motion picture industry's contributions to our national defense program. The industry is doing a heroic job. And its work in this country on behalf of civilian and military morale has not yet even scratched the surface of its possibilities.'

Others attending the luncheon included Colonel A. Perrin, of the War Department General Staff; Col. Richard Schlossberg, head of the photographic division of the Signal Corps; Captain Gordon Mitchell, manager of the Academy Research Council; John Joseph, A. H. McCausland, George Brown, John LeRoy Johnston, Bob Doman, Howard Strickling, Barrett Kiesling, Leo Doland and Fred W. Beetson. Entertainment was furnished by 'Red' Skelton of Metro, and Susanna Foster and Betty Loehr, of Paramount.

My White Tie, James!

NBC will try for an innovation at the Jack Benny testimonial dinner in Biltmore Bowl Friday night by making it 100% dress-up affair. Notices went out yesterday to the working press, photographers and newsreelers to deck out in formal getup. Formal aspect of the tribute to the comedian's 10th year on the air is being stressed in the invitations and all communications with the invitees by Clay Morgan, NBC exec in charge of arrangements.

Morgan yesterday dispatched NBC page boys on the rounds for personal delivery of admittance cards, which carry the table locations. Accommodations have been made for 1,268 guests, with Benny to be flanked at the speakers' table by 39 radio and picture execs.

Decision was reached yesterday by NBC not to do a broadcast from the Bowl on account of the preponderance of speeches. Half-hour program will be aired nationally an hour before the festivities begin from three pickup points around the country.

Writers To Sponsor UCLA Symposium On Scribe Kicks

A symposium on the economic and creative problem of writers will be a feature of the Authors League of America Conference to be held under the sponsorship of the Screen Writers Guild May 23-24 at the University of California at Los Angeles. Special emphasis will be laid on the problems of scriveners employed in the motion picture and radio industries.

Sessions will be held Friday night, Saturday morning and afternoon, interspersed with a luncheon the last day. A lineup of prominent speakers now is being arranged by the SWG, Dramatists Guild, Radio Writers Guild and Authors Guild. Students will be permitted to participate in the activities. A broadcast over a national hookup also is planned.

Larry Parks Receives 'Ship' Assignment

Larry Parks, Group Theatre actor signed to term contract by Columbia, has been set in featured role in 'Mystery Ship.' Paul Kelly and Lola Lane also signed for same production. 'Mystery Ship' goes before cameras May 15 with Lew Landers directing under production supervision of Jack Fier.

Goodrich Does 'City'

Marcus Goodrich has been signed at 20th-Fox to write the screen play on 'Sioux City', forthcoming Harry Joe Brown production. Randolph Scott and Dean Jagger will be teamed in 'Sioux City', from the novel by J. Hiatt Downing.

Desti for 'Sheik'

Luli Deste has been signed by Paramount for a top role in Harry Sherman's next Hopalong, 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte'. Jean Phillips will play the leading lady. Howard Bretherton is to direct.

Ingrid Bergman Out

Ingrid Bergman trained out yesterday for New York, and will remain in the east two months before reporting in at David O. Selznick's for her next assignment.

Pryor's Benefits

When he finishes his current assignment in Warners 'Bullets For O'Hara', Roger Pryor will take an orchestra and a floor show on a swing of army cantonments. Performances at camps will be gratis, the trip to be financed by appearances at nearby towns for each showing at army posts.

Par Seeks Robson

Paramount is negotiating with Flora Robson to have the actress play one of the top roles in 'Dildo Cay'.

Bartlett Orig for Hope

Sy Bartlett has been signed by Samuel Goldwyn to write an original story for Bob Hope.

Pommer Back To RKO Monday To Ready 'Uncle' Flicker

Erich Pommer returns to RKO Monday after a three-week siege of illness to prepare for early production on 'Unexpected Uncle'. Pommer has been suffering from a heart attack.

Ruth Warrick was assigned by RKO yesterday to play a top role in 'Two On an Island', which Pommer also will produce and direct. Actress will return here from New York Saturday.

Buster Crabbe in 5-Yr. Deal for PRC Series

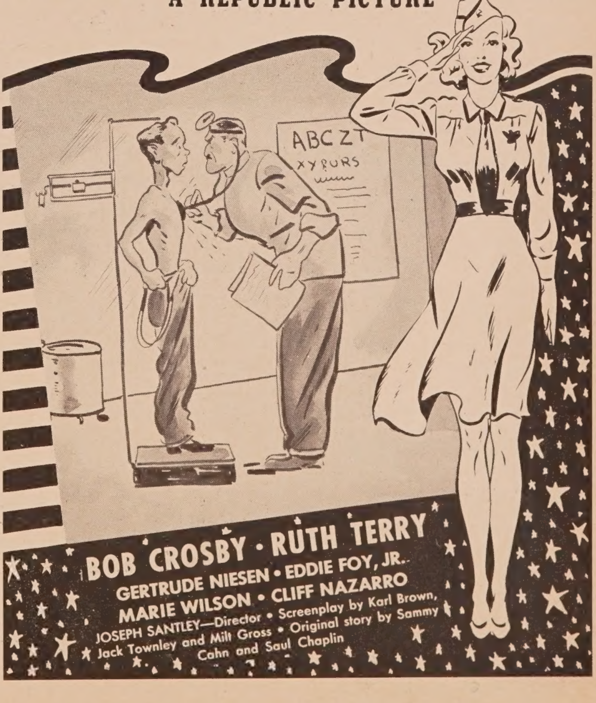
Buster Crabbe has been signed on five-year deal to play the title role in 'Billy the Kid Series' to be made by Sig Neufeld for Producers Releasing Corporation. Series will be from six to eight. Crabbe, now on personal appearance tour in east, is expected back to start initialer around July 1.

Eve Greene's 'Mystery'

Eve Greene is writing the screenplay for Paramount's 'College Mystery'.

Ill in Pix

DENNIS O'KEEFE last night was reported doing well at Cedars of Lebanon hospital following appendectomy yesterday by Dr. Charles R. Parrish.



ROOKIES ON PARADE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BOB CROSBY • RUTH TERRY
GERTRUDE NIESEN • EDDIE FOY, JR.
MARIE WILSON • CLIFF NAZARRO
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director • Screenplay by Karl Brown, Jack Townley and Milt Gross • Original story by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin

THE BIG TOUCH-AND-GO

(It's the Lubitsch

"One of the most amusing pictures this writer has ever seen. Lubitsch is still the master of subtle comedy. Merle Oberon is superb!"
—*Louella O. Parsons*

"This is Lubitsch—bottled in bond, 100 proof Lubitsch—all Lubitsch and utterly delightful. It should prove a solid audience hit."—*Hollywood Reporter*

"Has a potential for profitable grosses. Lubitsch has lost nothing of his inimitable touch!"
—*Hollywood Variety*

"Good box-office!" —*Film Daily*

"Lubitsch delivers a comedy drama of married life that sparkles."
—*Motion Picture Daily*

"For an advanced course in the sort of fluff and nonsense which has been the Lubitsch trade mark, 'That Uncertain Feeling' is a prerequisite."
—*Time Magazine*

"Rates high as entertainment. 'That Uncertain Feeling' has a certain feeling of being an outstanding hit."
— *Los Angeles Herald and Express*

the last word in the dictionary
is ZYZZOGETON . . . *but*
The Last Word in Great Comedy
is LUBITSCH!

PICTURE!

touch that makes 'em go!)

SOL LESSER presents

Merle OBERON Melvyn DOUGLAS

in Ernst Lubitsch's

THAT UNCERTAIN FEELING

with **BURGESS MEREDITH**

and ALAN MOWBRAY · HARRY DAVENPORT · EVE ARDEN · SIG RUMANN

Produced and directed by ERNST LUBITSCH

Screenplay by Donald Ogden Stewart · Adaptation by Walter Reisch · Released thru United Artists

Now Playing

GRAUMAN'S CHINESE and
LOEW'S STATE THEATRES

"THAT UNCERTAIN FEELING"

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED

by

ERNST LUBITSCH

A LUBITSCH-LESSER PRODUCTION

RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

All Major Co. Execs To Be Exam'ed In NY Trust Suit

New York, May 6.—Officers and directors of all major film companies must stand examination before trial in New York Federal court in connection with the $900,000 triple damage anti-trust suit brought against them and MPPDA by Hillside Amusement Company. Judge Murray Hulbert ordered examination today in Federal court.

Plaintiff, operating the Mayfair theatre, Hillside, N. J., claims defendants violated anti-trust laws by giving each other preferred runs, imposing score charges on the Mayfair, forcing it to overpay for film, and favoring each other on availability and playdates of pictures.

Tim Holt Rests Day Before New Pic

RKO's 'Dude Cowboy', with Tim Holt, wound up shooting under direction of David Howard yesterday. Holt rests today and starts tomorrow in 'Outlaw Trail', which Edward Killy will direct. 'Parachute Battalion' also finished yesterday at RKO. Leslie Goodwins directed. Capt. William T. Ryder, technical director on the film returns tomorrow to Fort Benning, Georgia.

Bohnen's Short

Roman Bohnen will play one of the top roles in 'The Tell-Tale Heart', by Edgar Allen Poe. 'Heart' is the second of Metro's shorts based on short stories and Jules Dassin will direct from the script by Doane Hoag.

CHAS. RYAN ASSIGNED FOR WALT DISNEY HEARING

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

statement: 'William R. Walsh, acting regional director of the 21st Regional Office of the National Labor Relations Board, today announced that he had, at the board's direction, issued a complaint against Walt Disney Productions, Inc., charging that the Walt Disney Productions, Inc., interfered with and dominated a labor organization known as the Federation of Screen Cartoonists.

'The complaint charges that the respondent, acting through its officers, agents, servants, intermediaries and others, including without limitation Walt Disney, Roy Disney, Gunther Lessing, Art Babbitt, Bill Roberts, Dave Hand, Harold Miles, Charles Phillipi, Norman Ferguson, Ted Sears, A. G. Kenner and others, incurred, dominated and interfered with the formation and administration of the Federation, and continued its support and assistance to it by encouraging and assisting in its formation at the time when several of the company employes were indicating their interest in several labor organizations affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The complaint details the allegations against the company and charges that the company has violated the National Labor Relations Act, Section A, subdivisions 1 and 2.

'Mr. Walsh announced that the attorney assigned to handle the case was Mr. Charles A. Ryan. Mr. Ryan was graduated from Notre Dame Law School in 1935 and joined the staff of the NLRB in 1937. He has acted as field examiner and attorney for the board, and as attorney tried the Harlan County coal cases, the records of which the Department of Labor later used as the basis for the Civil Liberties prosecutions in Harlan County. Mr. Ryan also tried the Eagle Ottawa Leather Case, which resulted in the board's order requiring the company to reinstate 180 persons with back pay, the disestablishment of four company unions and the payment of back wages for approximately four years. The amount of the back pay has not yet been determined, but it is estimated that it will run into many hundreds of thousands of dollars.'

The unfair labor practice complaint was filed with the NLRB by the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which claims to represent a big majority of the 700 cartoon workers at the Disney plant. Details of the complaint charge that company officers attended Federation meetings on company property and on company time, and that employes were encouraged to affiliate with it in preference to the SCG. George E. Bodle is attorney for the Guild, and is being aided in negotiations by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644; Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY

GEORGE BARNES

A. S. C.

"THAT UNCERTAIN FEELING"

The Old West

Stampeded by high wind while working on scene for Warners 'Bad Men of Missouri', herd of 400 steers broke away from the buckaroo herdsmen and ran out onto Highway No. 101 near Calabasas yesterday, slightly injuring several players. Dennis Morgan had part of heavy boot torn away by a steer's horn, bruising the ankle and was given treatment at the Warners ranch hospital.

Robert Sterling Tops New 'Maisie' Film

Robert Sterling will do the male lead in 'Ringside Maisie', new Ann Sothern starrer at Metro. Edwin L. Marin will direct and J. Walter Ruben will produce. Lou Strohm, Metro location expert, and Eddie Woehler, assistant director, will do a two-day survey of beach resorts for picture's location sites. Stanley Rogers has been assigned to handle the unit art direction on the film.

20th Reties Writers

New term writing contract has been handed William Conselman, Jr., and Irving Cummings, Jr., at 20th-Fox. They are now working on 'Lone Star Ranger', which Sol M. Wurtzel will produce.

Drew Lent Col

Ellen Drew has been lent by Paramount to Columbia for 'Our Wife', in which she will be co-starred with Melvyn Douglas and Ruth Hussey.

Paramount Buys 45 Story Properties Since Jan. 1st

Paramount has bought 45 story properties since Jan. 1, including eight novels, seven magazine stories, four plays and 25 original screen yarns. None of these, according to B. G. DeSylva, has any propaganda content. They include:

'Lady In the Dark', 'Louisiana Purchase', 'For Whom the Bell Tolls', 'Mr. and Mrs. Cugat', novel by Isabel Scott Rorick; 'Botany Bay', forthcoming adventure novel by Charles Nordoff and James Hall, authors of 'Mutiny On the Bounty' and 'Hurricane'; 'Miss Susie Slagle's', novel by Augusta Tucker; 'The Remarkable Andrew', novel by Dalton Trumbo; 'Out of the Frying Pan', play by Francis Swann; 'You Go Your Way', magazine story by Katherine Brush; 'Sing a Song of Homicide', novel by James R. Langham; 'The Good Fellow', play by George S. Kaufman and Herman J. Mankiewicz; 'Joan of Arkansas', novel by David Garth; 'Parson of Panamint', novel by Peter B. Kyne; 'West Point Widow', magazine story by Anne Wormser, F. Hugh Herbert and Hans Kraly, and 'Channel Port', magazine story by Leonard Lee.

Original screen stories: 'Caught In the Draft', by Harry Tugend; 'Take a Letter, Darling', by George Beck; 'Prison Widows', by Louis Pollock; 'Glamour Boy', by Bradford Ropes; 'King and Queen of the Jungle', by E. Lloyd Sheldon; 'We're In the Navy Now', by Monte Brice; 'Her Perfect Mate', by Curtis Kenyon and Kenneth Earl; 'War Boom', by Sidney M. Biddell; 'Blonde Venus', by Ketti Frings; 'China Pass', by Jacques Thery; 'Among the Living', by Lester Cole and Brian Marlow; 'Happy Go Lucky', by Michael Uris.

'Road to Morocco', by Don Hartman; 'First Decree', by George Beck; 'Sullivan's Travels', by Preston Sturges; 'Two Bad Angels', by William Ulman and Richard Landau; 'Murder Farm', by Jack Moffitt; 'Tomorrow's Admirals', by Commander George Campbell and Michael Fessier; 'Birth of the Blues', by Harry Tugend; 'World Premiere', by Earl Felton.

'Dangerous Holiday', by Jay Dratler; 'Government Girl', by Doris Anderson; 'The Lady Has Plans', by Leo Birinski; 'Showboat Sal', by Ray Golden; 'American Empire', by Gladys Atwater and J. Robert Bren; 'Tombstone', by Dean Franklin and Charles Reisner; 'The Silver Queen', by Forrest Halsey and William Allen Johnston; 'Santa Anita', by Sidney M. Biddell; 'Forced Landing', by Maxwell Shane and Edward Churchill.

British War Relief Exec Advises 'R.A.F.'

Dr. Dorothy Smiley, head of the medical division of the British War Relief and a doctor during World War One, has been signed to act as technical advisor on hospital sequences in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' at 20th-Fox. Shooting schedule on the picture is being re-arranged by Director Henry King to allow Paul Mantz to complete his plane scenes after he recovers from injuries received in an auto accident. Mantz is doing the dog fights and other plane stunts in the film. Fortunio Bonanova gets a singing spot in 'Yank.'

Honor Lillian Hellman For 'Rhine' On Broadcast (13)

New York, May 6.—Bette Davis, Lillian Hellman, Dorothy Parker, Samuel Goldwyn, Herman Shumlin, Donald Ogden Stewart and the cast of 'Watch On the Rhine' will participate Tuesday night in a special broadcast over NBC Blue network to celebrate the play winning the New York Critics Circle prize. Occasion will be a supper given by the cast for Authoress Hellman.

All except Miss Davis and Goldwyn will air from New York, with the cast doing a scene from the play. She will do scenes from 'The Little Foxes', an earlier Lillian Hellman success.

BODLE TELLS SOEG TO FORCE STAND

Attorney George E. Bodle told members of the Screen Office Employes Guild last night at the Roosevelt hotel that preliminary sparring with the major companies over the White Collar contract is about over and that it is now time for the Guilders to take a determined stand. He said that complete counter-proposals have been received from all the studios where negotiations have been in progress.

Bodle recommended that the Guild center its drive on the major demands and not be drawn into bickerings with the Producers on trivial matters. He said that these could be argued out after the basic agreement is signed. It was stated that negotiations with Metro had been slowed by the absence of Nicholas Nayfack, head of the studio negotiating committee, but that another meeting with that company is scheduled for tonight.

The Guild agreed to contribute $10 per week for five weeks to the KFWB program, This Is America, sponsored by American Federation of Labor crafts to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Adolph Bolm Assigned To Ratoff 'Us'

Adolph Bolm, ballet master who first took Russian ballet, headed by Anna Pavlova, on tour out of Russia, has been signed to originate and direct choreography for 'Tonight Belongs To Us'. It's a Gregory Ratoff production starring Loretta Young. Camera work on film is scheduled to start tomorrow, pre-recording under Morris Stoloff conducting orchestra of 42 having begun yesterday.

Nitery Gets New Boss

Monte Prosser's La Conga, which recently closed, is expected to reopen in three weeks under new management as Mack Gray's Copacabana. Mario will operate under the new management.

Kennedy at Work

Edgar Kennedy, playing the role of a veterinarian, today reported to work in 'Blondie In Society' at Columbia. He works with Arthur Lake, Penny Singleton and Larry Simms.

Anderson in 'Cay'

Mary Anderson stays at Paramount for the role of Stirling Hayden's wife in 'Dildo Cay.' She just finished in 'Henry Aldrich for President.'

AFL ORDERS PROBE OF EXTRA SITUATION

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

Class A members and that approximately 8,000 members are denied a vote.

The wire from Green to Mayo stated:

'I have requested our representative, Meyer L. Lewis, to confer with you, investigate complaints submitted and report to me.'

The wire was in reply to one from Mayo which stated:

'I petition you to appoint a committee to make an investigation of the AAAA's (Associated Actors and Artistes of America) undemocratic setup whereby the Screen Actors Guild, a branch of the AAAA, governed by 1,100 Class A members, have denied a vote to the rest of the membership of approximately 8,000 members.'

It is understood that Lewis, who checked for San Francisco yesterday, will, or has already instructed Aubrey Blair, AFofL Hollywood organizer and Lewis' representative here, to confer with Kenneth Thomson, SAG executive secretary, and other Guild executives and to report back to him. It is understood that either Blair or Lewis also will contact Mayo and other extra leaders who have been making a fight for the right of Class B members to vote.

Simultaneously with the action, Green reported from the east that the AFofL Executive Council at its meeting in Washington May 19 will reopen the question of the AAAA being organized into one big union. Two years ago when the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes made a move to extend its labor jurisdiction over the entire film industry, the AFofL directed that the AAAA's be organized into an international union along the lines of the IATSE, Teamsters and other film crafts. Several surveys were made, but no definite action has ever been taken to carry out the AFofL recommendation.

It is understood that several leaders in the American Guild of Variety Artists also have contacted Green and other AFofL tops, complaining that the membership is given little or no say in operations and policies of the organization, and that it is now controlled by AAAA leaders. AGVA now is being operated by an AAAA committee, and Kenneth Thomson recently assumed supervisory control over the Los Angeles local after the ouster of Kenneth Howard as executive secretary. He agreed to act upon receipt of a request signed by a majority of members of the local AGVA board, and after the move had been approved by the national board.

The SAG abolished its Council some time ago, following approval of the action by Class B members in a mail ballot. Since that time the extras have had no direct representation in the Guild, their affairs being handled by the board of directors, members of which are elected by a vote of Class A members only. When the mail ballot was conducted a majority of the extras voted to have the board handle their affairs, approved abolition of the Council, and turned thumbs down on a suggestion that a special committee be named to represent them. Extra leaders, however, claimed the ballot was confusing and that many of the Class B members did not realize they were voting out their only representatives in the Guild.

Scribes Fail to Get Freeman Letter

Hollywood correspondents who had been demanding that pictures be previewed here before being screened elsewhere stated last night they had not received a copy of Y. Frank Freeman's letter to the major companies asking that where possible the writers' request be complied with, nor had they received any official answer from anybody. When shown a copy of the letter released by Jock Lawrence's Studio Publicity Directors Committee, several of them handed out the following statement:

'Referring to the statement issued by the Producers last night—which none of the members of the press have received—and with special reference to the last paragraph of the letter which says "we are grateful to the members of the press who have maintained the traditional ethics of the newspaper profession by not catching sneak previews"—it is a distinction to be called unethical by experts.'

Those who could be reached indicated that the Freeman letter did not clear up the situation, and added that the group would continue to catch sneak previews until the Producers agreed to preview all pictures here before screening them elsewhere. It was pointed out that no mention was made by Freeman or the committee to the request that the writers be given at least two weeks' clearance after previewing a picture here.

Mees Paper Highlites SMPE Confabs

Rochester, May 6.—Second day of spring convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers here was highlighted by paper by Dr. C. E. K. Mees of Eastman Kodak, who declared that scientific research in motion pictures is being transformed from chaos to an orderly network of facts; and the newly developed electron microscope will be invaluable in study of graininess and further reduction of the latter on film negative and positive. President Emery Huse was toastmaster at the convention banquet tonight.

McGann Will Pilot 'Fast' for 20th

William McGann, just finished in directing 'The Parson of Panamint' for Harry Sherman at Paramount, has been signed at 20th-Fox to pilot 'We Go Fast', slated to hit cameras (26) under production reins of Lou Ostrow. Cast is still to be named. Adrian Scott is polishing script.

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
New York City
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager

Yates, Siegel Gear Up Republic Sked For New Season

★ Continued from page 1 ★

wants the company to have a backlog of at least 10 pictures on hand for competitive selling. These will hit cameras during June and July.

Under Robert North's production reins, 'Hurricane Smith' now is scheduled to go into work ahead of 'Ice-Capades of 1941', the former being first on the 1941-42 program, and 'Smith' the first on the new slate. North also will produce 'There Goes My Wife' with Ruth Donnelly and Roscoe Karns, from the script by Hewitt Adamson and Taylor Cavens.

Studio is behind its shooting schedule on the Gene Autrys and will hustle a couple, starting 'Under Fiesta Stars' (17) ahead of the special 'Down Mexico Way', now set for June 12. Both are on this year's program.

George Sherman goes shortly with the 12th of the Don Barry westerns, under tentative title of 'The Kansas Cyclone', to be followed with 'Ten Nights In a Bar Room', both on this year's program, and 'The Oregon Trail' set as first of the Barry series of eight for 1941-42.

Armand Schaefer has four assignments coming up and has completed seven on this year's program. The new quartet are 'Big Bonanza', John Wayne starrer; 'Mercy Island', and two untitled, one of latter to be a Weaver Brothers feature, the other to feature Lulabelle and Scotty with other radio name entries.

Albert J. Cohen has four productions coming up, headed in importance by 'Memphis Belle', musical budgeted at $750,000, his most pretentious feature to date; 'Pardon My Stripes', being scripted by Mauri Grashin and Robert Shannon; 'The Devil Pays Off', from story by George W. Yates and Julian Zimet, and 'Navy Blue Eyes', being written by Milt Gross.

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Summer sports from golf and tennis to polo and deep-sea fishing.
Rooms, suites and cottages in a 23-acre ocean-side park.
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SANTA BARBARA BILTMORE

Copy 1

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 31 No. 46 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, May 8, 1941 5 Cents

NEW CHARGES RAP AAAA SETUP

HACKEL WILL PRODUCE 2 FOR MONO

Deal for A. W. Hackel to produce two of Monogram's features for 1941-42 has been set and first will be 'Murder By Appointment', an original story by George Bricker. Phil Rosen will direct and negotiations are on for Astrid Allwyn and Roger Pryor to play the leads.

Second for Hackel will be 'Man With Many Faces', by Eugene Churchill. Both pictures will substi-

☘ Continued on page 4 ☘

Morros Seeks Carol, Lupescu for Pic

Boris Morros yesterday cabled the ex-King Carol of Rumania and Madame Magda Lupescu an offer of a job in his forthcoming picture for Paramount, 'Tales of Manhattan.' Royal refugee and his companion are on way to Cuba by way of New York. Morros' picture, which is to have sequences done by different directors and with shifting cast, after the fashion of 'If I Had a Million', has one episode dealing with a regal couple.

Erik Charrell Joining Par Writer Staff

Erik Charrell, who produced the play, 'White Horse Inn', and 'Congress Dances', comes to Paramount Monday as a writer, to collaborate with Don Hartman on the next Bing Crosby-Bob Hope itinerant, 'The Road to Morocco.'

CBS 45c Divvy

New York, May 7. — Columbia Broadcasting System today declared a cash dividend of 45c per share on both Class A and Class B stock. Divvy is payable June 6 to stock on record May 23.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting Corp.	123
Major Studio Calls	336
Artists Casting Bureau	112
FK Studio Service	37
Tinsman Casting Agency	203
Total	811

HOW PIX WRITERS ERRED

(Reprinted from the May 7 edition of Weekly Variety, which will be on Pacific Coast newsstands Saturday)

RANK-AND-FILE membership in the Screen Writers Guild is growing impatient with the interminable, long drawn out and constantly postponed negotiations with the film studios for adoption of a contract covering scenarists' working conditions.

There is talk of a 'strike-vote' among Guild members, many of whom have expressed greater dissatisfaction with their own leadership than with the Producers' group.

From Hollywood also comes the report that the scriveners are investigating the functioning of distribution and exhibi-

♣ Continued on page 3 ♣

TRAMMELL WEIGHS MOVE TO COMBAT FCC 'REFORMS'

No definite move to contest the action of the Federal Communications Commission in promulgating a new set of regulations for the major networks will be made until the 139-page report by radio's regulatory body is thoroughly analyzed and digested by NBC affiliates in St. Louis Sunday. This was the statement of Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, who arrived yesterday from New York for the testimonial dinner to Jack Benny in Biltmore Bowl tomorrow night. He said that he had been in conversation with Washington before he

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Orson Welles Arrives For 'Kane' Preem

Orson Welles planed in late yesterday after making a double appearance at the Woods and the Palace theatres in Chicago for the opening of 'Citizen Kane.' Welles, with Dolores Del Rio, will attend the El Capitan opening of 'Kane' here tonight. In New York the picture goes into second week and a run on strength of first week's take, ending last night.

MUTUAL COUNTS ASCAP VOTES SATURDAY

New York, May 7.—Mutual network will count the votes of its affiliated stations Saturday in an effort to restore the music of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers to the chain by end of the week. If majority of the web's 178 stations vote to ratify the contract approved by Mutual's board of direc-

★ Continued on page 10 ★

Team Rapf, Jungmeyer

Maurice Rapf and Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., will script 'The Orchid Hunters' at 20th-Fox. Story is an original by Ralph Dietrich, who will also produce.

PUBLICITY DIRECTORS MULL FILM PREVIEW DEMANDS

The Studio Publicity Directors Committee at its meeting yesterday discussed the demand of Hollywood correspondents that pictures be previewed here before being shown elsewhere and mulled the question of tossing dinners at previews. Major Mason Wright, public relations officer in the War Department, was guest of honor.

Robert Taplinger, Warners publicity director, stated that no mass dinner for previewers had been held before the showing of 'Affectionately Yours'. He explained that certain

◆ Continued on page 9 ◆

COMPLAINT OVER AGVA ELECTION

New charges that the setup of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America is 'undemocratic and contrary to American Federation of Labor policies' have been filed with Prexy William Green in Washington, it was learned last night, as the AFofL prepared to investigate the extra situation in the Screen Actors Guild. Members of the San Francisco local of the American Guild of Variety Ar-

● Continued on page 10 ●

Prods, SWG Showdown Expected Tonight

A showdown on negotiations between the Producers and the Screen Writers Guild is expected tonight when the two groups meet to renew their contract talks. The Guild has called a special membership meeting for Monday (19) to sound out the sentiment of the scriveners on the advisability of calling a strike if the SWG demands are 'not reasonably met' by the major companies.

Several counter proposals of the Producers, including one calling for a minimum of $50 per week, have been rejected by the Guild nego-

♠ Continued on page 9 ♠

Isobel Elsom Assigned To Col 'Retirement'

Isobel Elsom will have for screen version of 'Ladies in Retirement' at Columbia the same role she played on the stage. She is the fifth of eight principal roles to be cast. Lester Cowan is preparing to adapt the Gilbert Miller play, with latter as his associate producer, and Charles Vidor as director.

Harpo Marx Will Do Maine Strawhatter

Harpo Marx will play comedy role in 'Yellowjacket', to be staged by summer group at Marblehead, Me., early in August. Alexander Woollcott pacted him for the part yesterday.

PREVIEWED

ONE NIGHT IN LISBON
(Par)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

FOUNDED BY SIME SILVERMAN
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Perry Lieber got his training questionnaire yesterday.

Richard Denning and Don Castle on siesta at Palm Springs.

John Howard lunching with friends at Carolina Pines yesterday.

Thornton Freeland and Robert Rothafel have finished an original story, 'Open Road'.

Jack Benny yesterday made newsreel clip with Carolyn Lee at Paramount for National Defense Bonds.

Sam Cahn and Saul Chaplin have finished two of the five songs they are cleffing for Columbia's 'Girl From Panama'.

Director Edward Sutherland will address advance class in cinema at USC tonight on 'War As It Affects the Screen Story'.

Carol Hughes guested at her ranch the posture team of LeConte high school, where her 11-year-old sister, Kay, is a member.

Paulette Goddard wrote a gossip column for the Army paper, Post-Post, for Camp Roberts, and has promised to repeat.

Floyd Davis, head of Paramount studio telegraph office, reports (26) to the army for duty as a lieutenant in the Army Reserve.

Torben Meyer will do the doctor in 'Sullivan's Travels' at Paramount, marking his third straight appearance in a Preston Sturges picture.

Brian Donlevy tossed stag party as housewarmer in his new domicile, with Preston Sturges, Bill Wellman, Bill Mellor, Tommy Scott and William Demarest as guests.

Option on writing contract with Harry K. Moritz has been lifted at Columbia following his work with Kathryn Scola on the script of 'Eadie Was a Lady', a forthcoming Gene Markey production.

Dorothy Lamour sails for vacation in Hawaii soon after completing 'Aloma of the South Seas' at Paramount. She goes first to Atlantic City for appearance at the Variety Clubs convention (16), and then to New York for several days.

Working in femme ringers, professional soft ball beauts, Burgess Meredith's RKO diamond dusters beat Buddy Ebsen's vaunted 'Parachute Battalion' champs, 8 to 5. Meredith and Garson Kanin were only male members on their side. They hosted the femme ringers at dinner afterwards.

Benny the Gouge sez—If this heat in Hollywood keeps up, the femmes will have to wear grass skirts, if it weren't for the strong winds at Hollywood and Vine.

Hollywood Inside

RECORDING of the ballad, 'Apple-Blossom Time', by the Andrews Sisters after doing the number in Universal's 'Buck Privates' has already passed the 200,000 mark and Decca execs report that if sales keep up disc sale will soon reach mark set by the sisters' recording of 'The Beer Barrel Polka', which was their first big number. Andrews Sisters' recording of 'Aurora', from the Abbott and Costello comedy, 'Oh, Charlie', was released for sale two weeks ago and has already reached 65,000. Their next, 'Gimme Some Skin', will hit the record shops within the next 10 days and is from the current Universal comedy starring Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell.

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SMILEY BURNETTE, who started The Westerner, fan club magazine, five issues ago with around 2,000 copies, is printing 15,000 copies of the issue that just went to press. Latest edition of the sheet, published every six weeks, will carry a splurge of Republic's 'Sis Hopkins.' Burnette is trying to keep the circulation from further increases due to printing and mailing nut. When The Westerner started the Republic film cowpoke didn't figure circulation would go so high and if it continues to mount will have to find some means of helping pay the cost.

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FELIX MILLS reminds that, throughout all the long list of song hit ratings, the melody for 'America' still stands in the No. 1 spot on all-time international hit parade. Music for 'America' is used or has been used as the national anthem for England, Canada, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Denmark and even Prussia and Bavaria, as well as the U. S. A.

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REPRESENTATIVES of studio unions and guilds will meet with delegates from downtown unions Friday night (9) at KFWB to plan further moves to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento. J. K. Wallace, head of the Musicians, will preside. Attorney George E. Bodle will speak on 'Federal Anti-Labor Legislation.'

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COMMITTEE of Music Educator-Composers has appealed to the stations of the Mutual network to immediately ratify the new contract with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers in the interest of national unity and defense. Group represents nearly 10,000 music educators and patrons throughout the country.

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ONLY sponsored program to draw an award at University of Ohio's Institute for Education by Radio was Arch Oboler's 'This Precious Freedom' on his Procter & Gamble series. Kudos also carried a commendation for his playwriting on the American way of life.

Academy Starts Production On Infantry Training Pic

Production starts today at Metro on a War Department training film for the instruction of infantry troops on the 'School of the Soldier'. The film, to be produced by the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, will be directed by David Miller and Basil Wrangell, assisted by Julian Silberstein. Harry Cohen will be unit manager, Walter Lundin director of photography, and Ralph Goldstein film editor.

Two squads of infantry soldiers arrived in Hollywood last night from Fort Ord under the command of Lieut. Edward Doms, of the 53rd Infantry, to take part in the picture. Lieutenant Doms, a reserve officer and former film player, will have the leading role in the picture. Major Charles S. Stodter, of the Signal Corps, will act as War Department liaison officer on this film, and Lieut. Colonel Gordon P. Savage, of the infantry, will act as technical adviser.

Renew Catherine Craig

Paramount has renewed its contract with Catherine Craig who has played in 'Nothing But the Truth' and 'One Night In Lisbon' since coming from Pasadena Community Playhouse.

Rogers Ends 'Nevada'

Roy Rogers finished work yesterday in 'Nevada City' at Republic and flies east to appear at the rodeo in the Arena Stadium in Philadelphia the week of (12-17).

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 10; Los Angeles, 4.
San Francisco, 10; Portland, 2.
Oakland, 9; Sacramento, 3.
San Diego, 5-4; Seattle, 4-3.
(Double header).

Edw. H. Griffith Heads For 'Cay' Location

New York, May 7.—Edward H. Griffith, Paramount producer, headed for the Bahamas today to film part of 'Dildo Cay', with Madeleine Carroll and Sterling Hayden. Miss Carroll leaves New York Saturday for location, and Hayden goes direct from the Coast with other cast members and a technical crew.

Stark Beats Germs

Juanita Stark reported back at Warners yesterday to complete her spot in 'Navy Blues' after being laid up three days with appendicitis.

Gallico on MG Orig

Paul Gallico, writer, immediately upon arrival at Metro from New York, has started on original story for film.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A motion picture, fashioned overseas,
Is screened in some secluded filming mart
And snooty fans go into rhapsodies:
'Ah, that is art!'

A 'B' production filmed in Hollywood
Is not obsessed by high artistic plans.
The common folks in yonder neighborhood
Are screeno fans.

The ermined fans come flocking out to see
A picture of distinctly quicky type.
If made in Hollywood, the film would be
A lot of tripe.

Picture makers from here, there and everywhere sent emissaries to find out what is wrong with Hollywood, and copy the technique.

Mark Twain started something when he trained frogs. Even when he weighted the favorite down with buckshot. The boys didn't use sponges or batteries in those days, and a frog hopped on his own, without the aid or detriment of a jockey, or trainer, or politician or studio exec.

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Now comes a Jumping Frog Jubilee, at Angels Camp, May 16-17-18, if any of you frogs want to know, and there will be competition, amateur and pro. The pure A.A.U. frogs won't have a chance. It is a pro tournament, with sponsors, and a flock of entries like Al Pearce, Blondie, Cecil B. DeMille, Hedda Hopper, (a perfect name for a Frog Derby), Louella Parsons, Conrad Nagel, Edward G. Robinson, Mary Astor and Amos and Andy, entered as a team.

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With those names there is going to be a lot of elbowing and whatnot. Cecil B. DeMille will probably turn out to be a chameleon and win the race in Technicolor, ridden by a North West Mountie.

George Bricker goes and writes a novel, titled 'Ohio', and gets a commission as Honorary Lieutenant Governor, which is across the river and one step above an Honorary Kentucky Colonel, neither of which is good to crash the gate at the Kentucky Derby.

Willie Collier (William Collier, Sr. to you) and Joseph Cawthorne (Joe Cawthorne to you) are putting on a sketch at the Masquers tonight. A couple of kids trying to get along without the aid of a radio quiz. Other youngsters on the program are Weber and Fields and the Duncan Sisters. It is Family Night, and what a family!

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Into our town comes Paul Leyssac, lecturer, dramatist and authority on Hans Christian Andersen. Maybe it is just as well to have a referee around when Sam Goldwyn and Walt Disney go into a clinch about those fairy tales.

Preview

★

One Night In Lisbon

(*Romantic Comedy*)

Paramount release of an Edward H. Griffith production. Stars Fred MacMurray and Madeleine Carroll. Supporting cast: Patricia Morison, Billie Burke, John Loder, Dame May Whitty, Edmund Gwenn, Reginald Denny, Billy Gilbert, Marcel Dalio, Bruce Wyndham, Jerry Mandy. Directed by Edward H. Griffith. Screenplay by Virginia Van Upp. Based on play by John Van Druten. Photography, Bert Glennon. Music direction, Sigmund Krumgold. Art direction, Hans Dreier and Ernst Fegte. Edited by Eda Warren. Costumes, Edith Head. Previewed May 7. Running time: 97 mins.

This is as slick and engaging a love tale as has come out of the Hollywood romance hoppers in a long time. A romantic comedy, it is both comic and romantic in a peculiarly charming way and will find welcome amongst all kinds and shades of audiences from the big towns to the cross-roads. It will outgross many a more arrogant entry in the long run, both from its own home studio, Paramount, and others.

The romantic siege laid against Madeleine Carroll, a very proper English maid, by Fred MacMurray, a brash young Texan who ferries bombers across the briny, is laid against the present war scenes of London and Lisbon. The twain meet in a bomb shelter. MacMurray wastes no time. He describes himself and his clan to the competing suitor for the beautiful lady, a stuffed British uniform, as 'the advancing Houstons'. He is easily identified as the most advancingest.

The delightfully conceived and scripted tale by Virginia Van Upp employs the socially ritualistic breeding of the English girl, who is wartime auto driver and confidential messenger for a Lord Fitzleigh, and her virginal retreats from the aggressions of the bomber pilot as the medium of credible suspense, even after MacMurray has broken through the first lines of defense with sustained kissfire. Warmth and scope of the story also gives Miss Carroll the foundation for her most persuasive performance, flawless in its characterization of a very reserved and decorous maid, overwhelmed toward marriage after only two days' acquaintance with the Texas hurricane.

MacMurray is at his best in this kind of 'advancing' romance, and here does a perfect job of breaking down the girl's resistance of her heart's desire and the fuddy-duddy interferences of the British wooer, a navy officer, handsomely played by John Loder. Patricia Morison parades her allure and her skill in a few striking scenes as the ex-wife of MacMurray. Billie Burke, less wacky than usual, is effective as an English hostess and friend of Miss Carroll. Dame May Whitty is thoroughly in character as Miss Carroll's privileged servant. Edmund Gwenn has a choice part as the war-time executive who

■ Continued on page 9 ■

HOW PIX WRITERS ERRED

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

tion to ascertain why they are not getting the gratis advertising and publicity that they believe their efforts entitle them to. There is current among them the apprehension that film directors are taking too many bows for the finer creative points, to which the writers alone are entitled.

Any parallel between the two dilemmas may appear somewhat remote on the surface of things, but actually there is definite relationship.

☆ ☆ ☆

SCREEN writers several years ago were regarded throughout the industry as important contributors to the ever-growing art of motion picture production. Among them were many who appreciated the showmanship necessity of keeping their talents and their accomplishments sufficiently before the trade as to merit recognition for their individual efforts. Names of a few possessed box office value. The scenarist occupied a pivotal cog in the production machinery.

His importance is no less today, but much less appreciated, chiefly through circumstances of his own making. Screen Writers Guild several years ago adopted a resolution condemning self-exploitation by its members on the theory that such practices were 'undignified'.

☆ ☆ ☆

THAT was the night P. T. Barnum turned over in his grave. If screen writers now are faced with studio procrastination, as they claim, they have only to look into the management and rules of their own Guild to find out the reasons.

Having placed no importance on the value of self-exploitation, there is no reason for them to look elsewhere for encomiums.

In show business no one ever was acclaimed greater than his own estimate of his own importance. Neither talent, nor a light, can shine when covered by a bushel. Both Broadway and Vine street are thickly populated with showfolk, out of work, who boast wonderful scrapbooks of press clippings. The men and women who always are on the payrolls, in good times and bad, insure their careers with unceasing exploitation of their own origination.

They never have to knock at doors. The wickets swing when they approach.

Heading East

Laudy Lawrence
Arthur Kelly
Steve Pallos
Rufe Davis
Irving Berlin (TWA)
Tony Martin (TWA)
Irving Mills (TWA)
John Scott Trotter (AA)
Merian C. Cooper (AA)
Henry Armetta (SF)
Roy Rogers

SOEG, Metro Renew Pact Negotiations

Negotiations between the Screen Office Employes Guild and Metro were renewed last night, with committees spending some time reviewing the various provisions in the contract submitted by the White Collars. Prexy Glenn Pratt headed the Guild delegation, with Nicholas Nayfack acting as chairman of the studio negotiating committee.

In from the East

Atherton W. Hobler
Paul Gallico
George Schaefer
W. J. Kupper
W. H. Gehring
William Sussman
Norman Taurog
Edgar Selwyn
Barbara Bennett (AA)

Edmund Lowe Topper For U's 'Cadets'

Edmund Lowe will do one of the leads in 'Flying Cadets', initial production for Paul Malvern at Universal, with Peggy Moran and William Gargan. Others added to the cast include Frank Albertson and Frank Thomas, Jr.

Kellaway in 'Blues'

Paramount has given Cecil Kellaway a featured role in 'Birth of the Blues.'

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HENRY GINSBERG has rented the Marion Davies beach home for the summer. Stays from June to September. . . . Now Edward Robinson and George Raft are quibbling over the way publicity gets out on their feud and called in Bob Taplinger to tell him so. Not known which wanted first billing on their serialized spat. . . . Gabriel Pascal heads for New York on Sunday. Wants to lineup premiere appearances for his picture, 'Major Barbara.' . . . Steve Pallos heads for New York tonight with Arthur Kelly, United Artists general sales boss. . . . Betty Towne introduced Mary Murray, New York gal, to the Hollywood arm benders at a cocktail party on the Towne menage lawn yesterday. . . . Carole Lou Costello, two and a half year old daughter of Lou Costello will do a short role in BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO and DICK POWELL IN THE NAVY at Universal. Costello's daughter Patty, four, will have a bit in the next Abbott and Costello comedy, 'Ride 'Em, Cowboy.'

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Dorothy Lamour lunching at the Hollywood Brown Derby was chic in a slim-lined black faille tailored suit featuring the new dolman sleeves and large unpressed pleats for the skirt. Her brunette locks were encased in a vivid turquoise jersey draped turban ornamented by gold clip dangling gold and diamond charms. Completing the outfit was a gold and diamond lapel watch, black doeskin pumps and bag, and turquoise doeskin gloves.

SEVENTY-FIVE actors and actresses of rank, many of them with parties, have made reservations for tonight's premiere opening of the Orson Welles-RKO 'Citizen Kane' at the El Capitan. Preceding cocktail and dinner parties and after-theatre gatherings have been booked at various bistros. The numerous projection room showings of 'Kane', prior to press preview for the press only, were seen largely by producers, directors and executives and a very few players. . . . Cool at the peak of the heat yesterday were Merle Oberon, 75 extras and 12 ex-grid stars who worked all afternoon in rain scenes on Alexander Korda's 'Illusions' set at General Service studio. Director Julien Duvivier and crew also were thoroughly sprinkled when hose to the 'rain maker' burst. . . . When Harry Sherman's Paramount production, 'Secret of the Wastelands' next week goes on the 37th Bill Boyd location trip to Lone Pine, the star will be made mayor of the Sierra mountain town for the week. Community also has named a crag after the producer, Harry Sherman Peak.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .
ALAN CURTIS
"Buck Privates" (Universal)
"New Wine" (Alexander Korda)

Under contract
20th CENTURY-FOX

Settlement Digested Over 'Kids,' NBC Program Mixup

Basis for settlement of claims by Davis & Pearson agency, and its clients, Lime Cola, against NBC for refusal to put 'Kids of the Week' on the Coast blue network, is under discussion following a meeting in offices of counsel for the sponsor. Law firm of Penny, Trippett & Calloway, representing Lime Cola, served notice on NBC that a proffer of settlement would be expected within three days, indicating that legal action would be instituted against the chain.

Agency, according to Don Davis, is asking NBC to reimburse it for $3,051 expended on the program through talent commitments, the printing of 100,000 folders and other incidental expense. Lime Cola has not made known its claims or demands.

NBC refused air time to Lime Cola's 'Kids of the Week' three weeks ago, claiming that its formula was too similar to that of another NBC program, 'Quiz Kids'. Davis contends that the chain's policy should apply to 'Dr. I. Q., Jr.', a new entry on NBC from Chicago Sunday for Mars candy. He declared that its formula is more to the pattern of 'Quiz Kids' than his 'Kids of the Week'.

NBC has offered to make the Sunday time available to Lime Cola if it will accept a substitute program, but sponsor has declined the compromise.

A. W. Hobler Arriving For B & B Business

Atherton W. Hobler, president of Benton & Bowles advertising agency, arrives today from New York to attend the Jack Benny testimonial dinner and determine the summer status of Maxwell House airshow. Options are expected to be lifted on all talent as the program is now enjoying its highest C.A.B. rating under the production aegis of Mann Holiner. Accompanying Hobler is Charles G. Mortimer, Jr., advertising exec of General Foods.

Brad Brown in Autry Production Spot

New York, May 7.—Brad Brown takes over production of Gene Autry's 'Melody Ranch' for the J. Walter Thompson agency, following resignation of Tony Stanford.

Weiss to NAB Sesh

Lewis Allen Weiss trained out yesterday for St. Louis to attend convention of National Assn. of Broadcasters, opening officially Tuesday. Harry Engel, Coast head of Broadcast Music, leaves Saturday on the Chief for the conclave.

Kyser at San Diego

Kay Kyser's Luckies broadcast Wednesday will originate at the Naval Training Station at San Diego. That night he'll play a dance at Pacific Square ballroom.

Hope Guests Logan

Ella Logan, Scotch bluester, has the guest spot on Bob Hope's airer Tuesday.

OCEAN FRONT SACRIFICE
Believe it or not, you can own this fine 2 story home, adjoining stars' estates, for only $15,000. Was $40,000. See Mr. Price.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

TRAMMELL WEIGHS MOVE TO COMBAT FCC 'REFORMS'

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

left New York and that nothing had developed to clarify the situation.

Trammell indicated that one of three avenues of appeal would be utilized to counteract the effects of the comish's so-called Magna Charta. They are (1) appeal to President Roosevelt, (2) appeal to Congress, (3) appeal to the courts. Although he hinted some plan of action might be formulated this week, he was more inclined to a definite move after the report had been roundly discussed with him by the network's station heads.

'I can't believe that the American system of broadcasting will be destroyed, because the people won't permit it', declared Trammell. 'Surely the action of the commission can't be predicated on complaints from listeners, advertising agencies or stations. These three elements are entirely satisfied with the present panorama of entertainment, education and culture afforded by the system the FCC seeks to destroy. If the new regulations are put into effect they will change an American institution enjoyed and respected in this country for 20 years.'

Trammell at noon today will be guest at a luncheon at Perino's, to be attended by executives of the picture industry. He is expected to tell them of the dangers that confront the film business through government regulation if the FCC 'reforms' for radio are put into effect within the prescribed 90 days. Yesterday, after attending a luncheon at the California Club, which brought out the town's civic and business leaders, he addressed the 180 employes of NBC here. He also conferred with Earle C. Anthony, owner of KFI-KECA. Don Gilman, western division head of the web, arranged and presided at the luncheons.

Bertha Brainard, NBC head of program and talent sales, was grounded in Indianapolis en route here for the Benny festivities, and trains in tomorrow.

Metro Readies Six Musical Films For Summer Production

Metro is preparing six new musical films for summer production.

Pictures include 'Lady Be Good', with Eleanor Powell, Ann Sothern and Robert Young; 'The Bargain Basement', Marx Brothers; 'Smilin' Through', Jeanette MacDonald starrer; 'The Chocolate Soldier', with Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens, which gets under way Monday on prerecording; 'Babes On Broadway', with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland, and 'Panama Hattie', planned as starrer for Ann Sothern.

Irving Mills Easting On Expansion Plans

Irving Mills planed for New York last night to handle details in connection with the expansion here of Mills Music Co. and Mills Artists. He will be gone two weeks, leaving Kenny Morgan, Coast manager of the office, in charge. Larry Whitten, formerly of Al Kingston's office, has joined the new Mills Artists branch of the office.

Three Scripts Bought For 'Big Town'

Three scripts have been bought for Edward G. Robinson's 'Big Town' airshow. 'Quality of Greatness', by Milton Gunzburg, is set for (14); Max Ehrlich's 'Big Town Boys' Club', (21), and Hugh Wiley's '$30,000 Bomb' (28).

'Fantasia' Roadshows

New York, May 7.—Fifteen roadshow engagements for 'Fantasia' have been set by RKO. Bookings include Washington, Indianapolis and Montreal, last being the Canadian preem for the cartoon picture.

Option 'Woogie' Tune

KB Productions has taken an option on 'Get Along Little Doggie With a Boogie Woogie Beat', song by Hy Heath, John Lange and Lou Porter. Tune will be spotted in next KB picture.

a.m. Dailies

Tomb For Fairbanks—

A $40,000 marble tomb is being erected in Hollywood cemetery for the late Douglas Fairbanks. Crypt is placed in front of a pent engraved 'Douglas Fairbanks, 1883-1939'. Directly above engraving is to be placed bronze plaque of head of the actor. Petition to erect mausoleum was made to the Superior court several months ago by Bank of America, estate executors, with all the heirs concurring in the request.

Decca Purchases—

Decca Records, Inc., has purchased all the capital stock of Brunswick Radio Corp. from the parent company, Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc. Brunswick Radio Corp. owns plant properties at Dubuque, Iowa, and Muskegon, Mich.

Bradna, Wilhoit to Wed—

Olympe Bradna, 20, Warners film player, and Douglas Wilhoit, 22, radio singer, yesterday filed notice of intention to wed. Couple plan to wed next Wednesday (14) at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Beverly Hills.

Anna Hope to Get Papers—

Anna Hope, German-born actress now working in American films, gets her final American citizenship papers tomorrow.

James Roosevelt in Cairo—

James Roosevelt, as observer for the U. S. Marine Corps, arrived in Cairo yesterday. Flew in from Chungking, China.

Arnt Guest for 'Slept'

Charles Arnt will be guest star for the Nine o'Clock Players production of 'George Washington Slept Here' opening May 15 at the Assistance League theatre. Robert Wing is directing. This will be the first time the George S. Kaufman-Moss Hart legiter has been presented outside New York.

Hilton on Krafter

James Hilton, author, guests on the Kraft airer (29).

Interior Decorator Demands Up At Session Today

Demands of the Society of Motion Picture Interior Decorators for a new contract with the major companies will be discussed today at a conference between Society representatives and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact. The Society is seeking an up in wages to $135 per week for Class A men and $110 for regular decorators.

The Society's contract expired Dec. 16, 1940, but it was agreed that the wage scales and other provisions would remain in force pending completion of negotiations. The Decorators will be represented by Prexy Henry Grace and Attorney George E. Bodle.

HACKEL WILL DO 2 MONO BIGGIES

☘ Continued from page 1 ☘

tute for previously announced features, the first for 'The Fighting Cadet' and the second for 'Night Edition'.

Company also is dickering with other producers to take over some of the features which Paul Malvern was originally slated to produce before he moved over to Universal, and new deals are expected to be announced following W. Ray Johnston's return from New York. Johnston is east working out finances for the new season.

Techniprocess Releases Six for Jukers

Six pictures for the juke trade were released this week by Techniprocess. Group includes Rudy Vallee, Shadrack Boys and Four Musketeers, comedy singers. Mario Castagnaro, Techniprocess prexy, has announced a schedule of 48 shorts a year for the coin boxes.

Joe Louis-Conn Fracas Goes Over Mutual

First of the Gillette-sponsored fight broadcasts over the Mutual-Don Lee network from New York will be the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fracas June 18, airing over KHJ here. Ring battles sponsored by 20th Century Sporting Club are switching over from NBC.

Blanche Stewart on Al Pearce Show

Blanche Stewart (Brenda of Brenda and Cobina) does a guest turn on the Al Pearce air show tomorrow night on deal by the Leo Morrison office. Actress is also working in 'Radio Revels of 1942' at Universal with her air partner.

Schildkraut Assigned

Joseph Schildkraut was yesterday signed for top role in Metro's 'The Tell-Tale Heart', two-reeler based on story by Edgar Allan Poe. Screen play is being written by Doane Hoag. Production scheduled to begin next week with Jules Dassin directing.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

THANKS TO

EVERYBODY WHO GETS SCREEN CREDIT FOR "*CITIZEN KANE*"

AND THANKS TO THOSE WHO DON'T:

TO ALL THE ACTORS
THE CREW
THE OFFICE
THE MUSICIANS
EVERYBODY

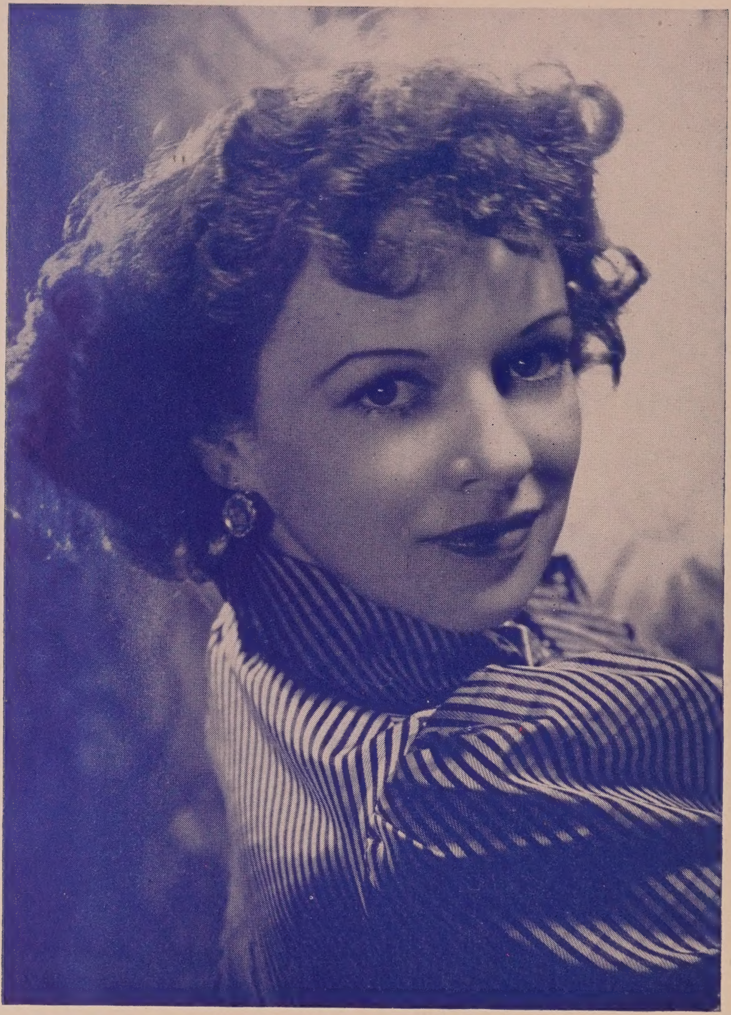
AND PARTICULARLY TO MAURICE SEIDERMAN,
THE BEST MAKE-UP MAN IN THE WORLD.

ORSON WELLES
Mercury Productions

CITIZEN KANE

A MERCURY PRODUCTION

RKO RADIO PICTURES



DOROTHY COMINGORE

Plays

"SUSAN ALEXANDER"

CITIZEN KANE

A MERCURY PRODUCTION

RKO RADIO PICTURES

JOSEPH COTTEN

Plays

"JEDEDIAH LELAND"

RUTH WARRICK

Plays

"EMILY NORTON"

FORTUNIO BONONOVA

Plays

"PROFESSOR MATISTE"

Exclusive Management
A. and S. LYONS, INC.

CITIZEN KANE

A MERCURY PRODUCTION

RKO RADIO PICTURES

EASTMAN FILM

SPECIAL EFFECTS
by
VERNON L. WALKER, A.S.C.

WITH THE CO-OPERATION
of
RUSS CULLY—LYNN DUNN
and the
ENTIRE DEPARTMENT

CITIZEN KANE

A MERCURY PRODUCTION

RKO RADIO PICTURES

20th-Fox Will Have 13 Pix Before Lenses During May

20th-Fox will have 13 pictures before the cameras this month, making May one of the busiest production periods in the studio's history. Eight films are now in production and five more will go within the next two weeks. During the month there will be more than 3,500 persons employed at the studio.

Pictures now rolling include 'A Yank in the R.A.F.', with Tyrone Power, Betty Grable and Reginald Gardiner; 'Sun Valley Serenade', with Sonja Henie, John Payne and Joan Davis; 'Belle Starr', with Gene Tierney and Randolph Scott; 'Man Hunt', with George Sanders, Walter Pidgeon and Joan Bennett; 'Dance Hall', with Cesar Romero, Carole Landis and J. Edward Bromberg; 'Private Nurse', with Brenda Joyce and Jane Darwell; 'Last of the Duanes', with George Montgomery and Lynne Roberts, and 'Dressed to Kill', with Lloyd Nolan, Mary Beth Hughes and Sheila Ryan.

Those soon going into production include 'Charley's Aunt', with Jack Benny, Kay Francis, Arleen Whelan and Ann Baxter; 'Wild Geese Calling', with Henry Fonda, Joan Bennett, Warren William and Ona Munson; 'Remember the Day', with Claudette Colbert and John Payne; 'Twenty-one Men and a Girl', and 'Charlie Chan in Rio', with Sidney Toler, Sen Young, Ted North and Cobina Wright, Jr.

Prods, SWG Showdown Expected Tonight

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

tiators without even submitting them to the membership. The Guild had asked for a minimum of $150 per week. Other differences are said to be the writers demands for elimination of speculative writing and abolition of flat deals under $5,000.

Both groups expressed hope that considerable progress would be made tonight, but Guild shop stewards continued to discuss with studio writers the possibility of a work stoppage unless a deal is set. The Producer-SWG contract expired in April, but the Guild has continued to arbitrate screen credit disputes since that time. Guild tops, however, announced that under no circumstances would the old skeleton agreement be renewed, and that they would insist on a contract that provided real protection for film writers.

Renaldo Assigned

Duncan Renaldo has been cast for an Arab role in Harry Sherman's Paramount production, 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte.'

Wood at WB (16)

Sam Wood is due at Warners (16) to complete production details on 'Kings Row' for a start on June 9.

Story Buys

'Muldoon Muddles Through', short story by Scott Littleton, has been purchased by Warners for incorporation into studio's 'The Man From the F.B.I.', for which Robert Chapin did the original screenplay.

20th-Fox has purchased 'The Girl On the Billboard' and 'Joyous', two unpublished stories by Izola Forrester Page and Mann Page.

DISNEY, SCG NEGOTIATIONS BEING RESUMED FRIDAY

Negotiations between Walt Disney Productions and the Screen Cartoonists Guild will be resumed at 9:15 a.m. Friday (9), when American Federation of Labor tops confer with Walter Spreckels, studio labor contact. The Guild will be represented by Art Babbit, chairman of the SCG Disney unit; Aubrey Blair, AFofL Hollywood organizer; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

While the National Labor Relations Board has ordered a hearing for Monday (19) on a complaint charging the company sponsored a company union, AFofL leaders are seeking a method of solving certain employe problems prior to the hearing. It is probable that a grievance committee or some other machinery will be set up to give the Guilders representation until the board acts.

Wobber, Kupper Arrive For 20th Confabs; Kent Delayed

Herman Wobber, manager of distribution for 20th-Fox, and W. J. Kupper, western division sales head, trained in from San Francisco yesterday.

Planing in from New York were W. H. Gehring, central division sales head, and William Sussman, eastern division sales chief. Charles McCarthy, New York head of publicity and advertising, arrives by train today.

Sidney R. Kent, who also was to have come to sales conferences at the studio this week, will not now arrive for two weeks. He is detained by business in New York.

Thos. Orchard Called For Naval Duty

New York, May 7.—Thomas Orchard, March of Time associate producer, was called to active duty today as a lieutenant in the naval reserve. He will be in charge of the navy's cameramen, stationed at Washington in the Bureau of Aeronautics.

Gloria Warren's Break

Gloria Warren, 16-year-old singer from Bloomingdale, Delaware, has been placed under term contract at Warners and studio plans grooming her for vocal leads in a number of forthcoming musicals She will draw shorter assignments in her first few pictures while undergoing camera schooling at the studio.

Pan Terps 'Havana'

Hermes Pan is doing the dance routines on 'Week End in Havana', 20th-Fox musical which rolls June 2. William Le Baron is producing.

Preview

■ Continued from page 3 ■

takes time out from state worries to help settle his driver's heart affairs. Reginald Denny, Billy Gilbert, Marcel Dalio, Bruce Wyndham and Jerry Mandy get interesting individual color into their contributions.

Producer-Director Edward H. Griffith displays the quality of his film craftsmanship and the inspiration of his players in one of his finest productions. The story telling is smooth, vivid, exciting and neatly conclusive. The playfulness in the intimate love scenes is delightful. The presence of the war is suggested in the sound of bombings and the detailed technique of the blackout, but these alarms never intrude too much upon the pure entertainment nature of the picture. Even a spy chapter is turned into amusement and related comically to the romance, rather than melodramatically. For the first time in American films, the song, 'There'll Always Be An England', is chanted, and very impressively, in a cellar night club.

Virginia Van Upp, in this, her fourth collaboration with Director Griffith, has made her script lush with romantic playfulness and freshly contrived behavior detail, especially the use by MacMurray of his seductive duck call. The dialog is bright and uses innuendo discreetly for adult consumption, and solid laughs. Love in a world of hate is its sustained theme.

Edith Head has done a beautiful job of costuming for Miss Carroll. Bert Glennon's camera does much to enhance the production quality. Balance of technical support is first class. Picture has elegance as well as superlative entertainment merit.

PUBLICITY DIRECTORS MULL FILM PREVIEW DEMANDS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

members of his department had invited individual newspaper men to dinner before the preview. The Committee agreed that there was no objection to such invitations by individual flacks.

Major Wright explained that he came to Hollywood to discuss the increasing demand for appearances of stars at Army camps, conferring of honorary titles on players, etc. The Screen Actors Guild and other affiliates of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America are now setting up committees to coordinate all Army camp entertainment.

Major Wright will confer with members of the Motion Picture Production Defense Committee later in the week, and will then return to Washington to report to Major General Richardson, chief public relations officer in the U. S. Army.

Edgar Selwyn Planes In After NY Play Arrangements

Edgar Selwyn yesterday planed in from New York, where he set preliminaries for legit production for Metro of 'We Fought At Argues', play by Frederick Hazlitt Brennan. Selwyn arranged for opening at the Shubert theatre in Boston on Aug. 15 and at the Plymouth in New York on Labor Day. Producer returns to Manhattan July 1.

Meantime he will put into production for Metro the picture 'Eight Girls and a Horse', which S. Sylvan Simon will direct, with Judy Garland and Kathryn Grayson.

Harold Smith Seeing Olson on Bills

Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695, planed to Sacramento last night for a conference today with Governor Culbert Olson on anti-labor legislation pending in the Assembly. He was accompanied by Herbert Aller, business representative of International Photographers Local 659. The two are representing studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Carmen Miranda Heads Par Stage Show

Carmen Miranda heads the Paramount stage show, starting today. Screen feature in conjunction will be U's 'Model Wife'. In addition to the Miranda ork stage show will comprise Lorraine Page and her orchestra, featuring the singing strings, an all-girl combo. Paramount's 'I Wanted Wings' opens at the Paramount the following Thursday (15).

Perry at Columbia For Looksee

N. P. Perry, Columbia's newly appointed home office supervisor for Australia and the Far East, arrived here yesterday for few days visit at the studio before proceeding to Sydney, where he will establish headquarters. Perry was appointed in New York by Columbia's foreign manager, J. A. McConville. He leaves by Clipper (10).

Marquand at Metro

J. P. Marquand arrives at Metro today from the east, to begin chores under his writing contract. Marquand's first assignment is to adapt his own story, 'H. M. Pulham, Esq.'

Ill in Pix

DICK PRITCHARD underwent his second major operation at the Methodist hospital yesterday, and remains there for the next 10 days.

SHIRLEY ROSS and her two-weeks-old son, John Kenneth Dolan, checked out of Good Samaritan hospital yesterday.

Shooting on 'Manpower' at Warners worked around MARLENE DIETRICH yesterday, actress being ill with a cold.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Disney's 'Dumbo' Will Be Ready for RKO Release Aug. 15

'Dumbo', Walt Disney animated feature, will be ready for release by RKO Aug. 15, according to rate of work progress on the picture to date. Ten per cent of the picture has been completely finished, 90% is through with animation and 30% ready for the cameras. Picture started out with a budget of around $650,000, but because no production hitches have developed it will be brought in under that figure.

'The Reluctant Dragon' feature, combining live action and animation, is set for RKO release on June 6 and likely will be previewed in two weeks. Production on 'Bambi' now has reached the point where Disney expects to be able to turn the film over to RKO early in the fall, to be followed by the Mickey Mouse feature-length cartoon now in work around the Christmas holidays.

MUTUAL COUNTS ASCAP VOTES SATURDAY

★ Continued from page 1 ★

tors, the Society's tunes will be back on the Mutual stations after an absence of four months.

National Assn. of Broadcasters discussed negotiations with Ascap at a meeting today but Prexy Neville Miller declined to comment other than to say that it would be taken up in all its phases at the NAB convention in St. Louis opening Tuesday.

Theresa Harris Gets Spot for 'Wife'

Theresa Harris has been shifted into role previously penciled for Louise Beavers in Columbia's John M. Stahl production, 'Our Wife.' Miss Beavers is being held at another studio for completion of a role, interrupted by illness.

Ellison Lent 'Aunt'

20th-Fox has borrowed James Ellison from RKO for the romantic lead in 'Charley's Aunt.'

Planted

Warners

Peter Caldwell, Harry Harvey, Jr., Drew Roddy, Bobby Robb, 'Manpower'.

William Roberts, Billy Wayne, Murray Alper, George Irving, 'Bullets For O'Hara'.

Gaylord Pendleton, 'Navy Blues'.

Derr-PRC

Emmett Vogan, William Ruhl, Donald Curtis, Boyd Irwin, I. Stanford Jolley, John Holland, Robert Fraser, Dudley Dickenson, Dennis Moore, Bernice Pilot, Peter George Lynn, Earle Hodgins, 'Criminals Within'.

Republic

John Heistand, Howard Mitchell, Bob Homans, George Sherwood, Phil Dunham, Fred Santley, Bill Kellogg, 'Puddin' Head'.

20th-Fox

Ann Todd, 'Private Nurse', by Dorothy MacDonald.

Paramount

Frank Thomas, 'Among the Living'.

FITZGERALD, COL. RECORDING SESH ON PEACE TODAY

Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator, will meet with Columbia Recording Corp. executives and striking employes at 2 p.m. today in an effort to effect an amicable settlement of wage differences. Attorney Homer Mitchell will act as spokesman for the company, with William Elconin, international representative of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, heading the union delegates.

Fitzgerald will attempt to work out a compromise agreement that will be acceptable to both sides and end the walkout, which started April 11. Negotiations have been stymied for more than two weeks. The union is demanding that minimum wages be increased from 55 cents to 75 cents per hour. At Fitzgerald's suggestion, the union agreed to compromise on 65 cents, but the company turned thumbs down on the compromise.

Spyros Skouras Drive Leads Exchange; Milwaukee Tops

Third week of the annual Spyros Skouras showmanship campaign, over the entire Nation Theatres' territory, brought considerable of an upheaval in standings. John Hamrick's Seattle district was ousted from top position, place it held during the first two weeks of the drive, with the Tollett-Parmentier No. 3 and 4 districts of Milwaukee going to the top.

Homer Gill and Lou Christ, of the Kern County-Arizona district, moved back into third place, after being in second on the first week and in fourth place the second stanza. Only house manager not moved in the shakeup is Knudsen of the Retlaw at Fond du Lac, Wis., who continues to lead the Class A houses.

Lucille Ball Spotted In 'Thin Wall'

Lucille Ball gets the lead opposite Charles Laughton in RKO's 'Through the Thin Wall', adapted from Ferenc Molnar's play, 'The Play's the Thing.' This will mark Miss Ball's first assignment to sophisticated type of comedy. Sam and Bella Spewack are writing the screen play for Graham Baker's production.

20th Terms Andrews

Jack Andrews has been given term writing contract at 20th-Fox on deal set by Gordon Molson of the H. N. Swanson office. He is currently polishing script on 'Wild Geese Calling', which John Brahm will direct, production starting next week.

Spots Cecilia Parker

Cecilia Parker gets the femme lead in 'Gambling Daughters', third T. H. Richmond production for Producers Releasing Corp., Max Nosseck has been signed to direct.

Lawrence Ends Confabs

Laudy Lawrence, executive manager of Loew's, Inc. in Europe, planed to New York yesterday following conferences with Metro production heads.

Watch Maehl

Gus Maehl has been elected chief of the Republic studio police force, consisting of nine watchmen and gatemen. Studio will have cops deputized by the Los Angeles Police Force.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Darmour-Columbia)

'The Devil To Pay'
Dir.: James Hogan
Asst.: Carl Hiecke

(Universal)

'Radio Revels of 1942'
Dir.: Harold Young
Asst.: Vernon Keays

Darmour Rolls Third Of Ellery Queen Series Today

Larry Darmour today starts the third of the present season's Ellery Queen tales, 'The Devil To Pay', for Columbia. James Hogan directs.

Added in support of Ralph Bellamy, Margaret Lindsay, Charley Grapewin and James Blake, are John Beal, H. B. Warner, Linda Hayes, Douglas Dumbrille, Spring Byington, Sidney Blackmer and Walter Kingsford.

Joe MacDonald Upped At 20th; On 'Rio'

Joseph P. MacDonald has been made first cameraman at 20th-Fox and assigned to lens 'Charlie Chan in Rio.' This will be his first assignment in that position. He has been a camera operator on the lot for the past eight years.

U 'Revels' Lensing

'Radio Revels of 1942' goes before the cameras today at Universal with Harold Young directing. Lewis Howard and Tom Dugan have been added to the cast for feature parts.

Obituary

MRS. ERNEST MILLER

Funeral services for Mrs. Ernest Miller, wife of the Republic cameraman, were held yesterday at 2 p.m. in the Little Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn. She died Monday after a long illness. In addition to her husband, a 12-year-old son survives.

New Charges Hit AAAA Setup; AGVA Protests Election Methods

● Continued from page 1 ●

tists have protested both to the national AGVA board and the AFofL over the methods used in the AGVA national election.

In affidavits forwarded to the AFofL president the members stated they considered certain actions during the election of national board members to 'be equivalent to stuffing the ballot'. They claim members of the Bay City local were not given an opportunity for a free expression, and that the local board had even refused to accept their protest.

Simultaneously, it was learned that Aubrey Blair, AFofL Hollywood organizer, has been designated by Meyer Lewis, western director for the Federation, to contact SAG officials and get their version of why Class B members are not permitted to vote on policy matters or the selection of Guild officers and personnel. Blair has been actively engaged in the citrus strike at Ventura, but is expected to contact Kenneth Thomson and other SAG tops the last of this week.

Guild officials stated yesterday that they had received no official notification that the AFofL was interested in internal affairs of the organization. They pointed out that the Class B members themselves voted to abolish their Council and had requested that their affairs be handled by the SAG board of directors. They stated that no cognizance would be taken of the situation unless some official word was received from the Federation.

Notice that the AFofL was ordering an investigation of the situation was contained in a telegram received by Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, from William Green. He said he had requested Meyer Lewis to confer with Mayo, investigate the complaint and report to him (Green). Mayo had charged the AAAA setup is undemocratic in that it permits the Screen Actors Guild to be governed by 1,100 Class A members and denies a vote to the other membership of approximately 8,000 members.

It was indicated yesterday that a report will be furnished Green in time for him to place it before the AFofL Executive Council when it meets in Washington Monday (19). At that time it was hinted the Council may be asked to reopen the tiff of two years ago when AFofL leaders recommended the formation of one big actor union.

Rufe Davis to Texas

Rufe Davis planed out yesterday for Childress, Tex., to be guest at the Panhandle celebration there Saturday. Comic will pick up his car in Amarillo and drive back to the Coast.

LeRoy In From Frisco

Mervyn LeRoy was back at Metro yesterday after a three-day trip to San Francisco.

BILTMORE 5th and GRAND — TUcker 7131 OPENS MAY 16 SEATS NOW!
NEW—Completely New Show—Original N. Y. Cast
PINS & NEEDLES
The Hit Musical
Mon. to Thurs. Eve: 50c, 75c, $1. Fri. and Sat. Eve: 50c, $1, $1.50
Mats. Wed. and Sat.: 35c, 50c, 75c, plus Tax

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEW … WORLD
Vol. 31 No. 47 43 … California, Friday, May 9, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

COL. R'CDING FEUD WASHUP NEARS

4 UNIVERSAL EXECS BEING BOOSTED

In a reshuffling of its executive-supervisory setup Universal will, for the first time, give recognition to four top executives who heretofore have had no screen credit. Men are Milton H. Feld, Jack Gross, Milton Schwarzwald and Joe Gershenson (Joe Sanford).

Realignment was made during recent studio conferences participated in by J. Cheever Cowdin, Nate Blum-

♥ Continued on page 7 ♥

Norman McLeod Signed To Metro Contract

Norman McLeod yesterday was signed to term director deal at Metro, contract being arranged on phone from New York where McLeod is looking at the stage play, 'Panama Hattie,' which he is slated to pilot for the screen. He is due to arrive here today or tomorrow.

Grayson, Beatty Team On WB 'Rubber'

Charles Grayson has been assigned to write adaptation on 'King Rubber' at Warners, in collaboration with Wilbur M. Beatty, M. Coates Webster and Barry Trivers, authors of the original. Alan Hale cops featured role in 'Rubber.'

Advisor for 'R.A.F.'

Flight Lieut. Laurence Worall, on sick leave from his R.A.F. base in England, arrived here yesterday by air to serve as technical advisor with the advisory council on 20th-Fox's 'A Yank in the R.A.F.'

Metty Lenses 'Uncle'

Russell Metty will lens the Erich Pommer production at RKO, 'Unexpected Uncle.' Al d' Agostino gets the art director assignment.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	207
Major studio calls	418
Artists Casting Bureau	211
FK Studio Service	21
Tinsman Casting Agency	7
Total	864

McCAREY FIXES 'QUEER PEOPLE' FOR HUGHES

'Queer People', the Garrett and Carroll Graham yarn about film folk, is being prepared for a screen treatment by Leo McCarey at the Howard Hughes production menage. Several years ago McCarey was working on the yarn for Hughes when suddenly all activity ceased. Hollywood producers brought this about by convinc-

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Heisler Gets Termer

Stuart Heisler, now directing 'Among the Living' at Paramount, has been signed to a new term contract by the studio.

REOPENING OF PLANT HINTED FOR MONDAY

The month-old strike at Columbia Recording Corp. appeared nearing a settlement yesterday, as company executives reopened negotiations with the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union. The two groups spent three hours discussing seniority provisions in the proposed contract, and then recessed their meeting until 1 p.m. today. The offer of the company representatives to make certain concessions with reference to seniority rights of workers led to the belief that a deal might be set today that would permit reopening of the plant on Monday.

Attorney Homer Mitchell and

♣ Continued on page 7 ♣

Outstanding Personalities To Laud Jack Benny Tonight

Double industry salute, equivalent to the Navy's 21 guns, tonight will be given to radio's top comic, Jack Benny. Affair in Biltmore Bowl, a testimonial to his 10th year on the airlanes, will bring out leaders and outstanding personalities of the film and radio business. It will be the year's best dressed turnout if the thousand or more respect the sartorial dictum.

Ranged along the speakers' table with Benny will be some 40 personalities, headed by Niles Trammell NBC prexy, and Frank Freeman, bespeaking the sentiments of the film

★ Continued on page 13 ★

Maltese Given 5-Year Schlesinger Pact

Michael Maltese has been handed five-year term contract as story and gag man at the Leon Schlesinger cartoon plant where he came up from the animation ranks.

Betty Blythe Assigned 'Puddin'' Chore

Republic yesterday signed Betty Blythe for a character role in 'Puddin' Head.' Company returned to the lot after five days on location. Also lined up for the Judy Canova starrer were the Sportsmen, a male quartet on the Woodbury hour, and King's Men, of the Fibber McGee and Molly airshow.

Hopkins Talks Deal

Miriam Hopkins flew in from New York yesterday ahead of schedule to discuss a new picture deal. Actress will spend the summer here at her Beverly Hills home.

H'd Correspondents Asked To Meet SPDC on Preems

The Studio Publicity Directors Committee has sent a wire to the Hollywood correspondents suggesting that the two groups get together to talk over the writers' demand that pictures be previewed here before they are screened elsewhere. It is probable that a luncheon-meeting will be arranged, at which time the Directors Committee will explain the steps they have taken to remedy the situation. These steps include the submission of a letter to the major companies by Y. Frank Freeman asking that they cooperate with their Publicity Directors Committee by backing up the committee's recommendation that productions be previewed here first.

PRODUCERS GIVE SWG PROPOSALS

Counter-proposals were submitted to the Screen Writers Guild by the Producers last night at a meeting of the two negotiating committees held in the board room at the Producers Association headquarters. It was agreed that these proposals would be taken back to the Guild for consideration of the SWG executive committee, and that another

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Hearing Set Today on Disney Complaint

American Federation of Labor tops meet today with Walter Spreckels, labor contact for the Walt Disney Studio, to discuss settlement of certain problems of the Screen Cartoonists Guild pending the National Labor Relations Board hearing on unfair labor practice charges filed against the company. The SCG will be represented by Aubrey Blair, Herbert Sorrell and Attorney George E. Bodle. The NLRB hearing is set for Monday (19).

Raymond, MacDonald Teamed for 'Smilin''

Gene Raymond will play opposite Jeanette MacDonald in Metro's 'Smilin' Through', which started yesterday as a Victor Saville production, Frank Borzage directing.

Berle Heads Out

Milton Berle planes today to New York where he will open personal appearance itinerary at the Paramount theatre next week.

Arlen Joins 'Nocturne'

Harold Arlen is collaborating with Robert Rossen and Edwin Gilbert on adaptation of Gilbert's original, 'Hot Nocturne', at Warners.

PREVIEWED

SCATTERGOOD PULLS THE STRINGS
(RKO)

(Preview on page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Gabriel Scognamillo art director on Metro's 'New York Heart Beat'.

Jimmy Anderson will be assistant director on 'Unexpected Uncle' at RKO.

Monogram will preview I. E. Chadwick's 'Redhead' at Talisman studio Monday.

Charles Boyer and Pat Paterson head east tomorrow for week's vacation in New York.

Claudette Colbert, Dr. Joel Pressman and the Milton Brens yachting off Catalina Island.

Oscar Oldknow returned yesterday from Atlanta and other points for National Theatre Supply Co.

L. A. de Angelis bowed okay with his still on the cover of the May issue of International Photographer.

Charles P. Skouras and Fox West Coast execs return today from theatre inspection tour to San Diego.

Walter Abel arrives from short rest in San Francisco today to await his next assignment at Paramount.

Victor Schertzinger has renewed his copyright on the song, 'Marcheta', written by the director back in 1915.

Leonard Finch and Joe Leighton given advancements in KNX publicity department. Tamara Andreeva is off the staff.

Phil Regan Superchiefed for New York yesterday and goes from there to Atlantic City to sing at the Variety Clubs convention.

Dixie McCoy, RKO script clerk, leaves for Selma, Ala. (20), to attend graduation of her son, William, from the Air Cadet station there.

Paramount has scheduled 14 days of off-the-lot shooting for 'Sullivan's Travels', picking up hobo shots with principals Joel McCrea and Veronica Lake.

Associated Press's Hub Keavy goes off the Hollywood beat temporarily to do series of AP articles on Boulder Dam, Boulder City, Las Vegas and Imperial Valley.

Bill Jordan got in yesterday from Florida to prepare for reopening of his Bar of Music nitery (22). Room will be enlarged to accommodate 100 more than its former capacity.

Louis S. Kaye, gag writer for Bob Hope, has completed an original musical story titled 'College Savages', and yarn is currently under submission to Universal for possible purchase.

Benny the Gouge sez—Sometimes a play title means what it says. For example, it's 'Very Warm For May'.

Hollywood Inside

THE entire current issue of the 'Hollywood Merry Go Round' is devoted to an analysis of the bill of particulars in the Willie Bioff income tax case, with special emphasis on its relations to pending negotiations between the Producers and studio unions of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The 'Merry Go Round's Watchman' first asks 'Why has the Painters' representative (Herbert Sorrell), operating without his International's support and as an autonomous union, been able to complete deal after deal with the Producers that have proven highly satisfactory to his membership? What have the powerful IA locals (representing an economic strength of membership second to no organized group in the studios) and operating through the business agents committee, not done so well in closing a new deal for their membership.' After asking a few additional questions as to why the IATSE locals have not been able to set a new deal, the 'Watchman' reviews the Bioff bill of particulars, and then continues: '(Exclusive and confidential). It is reported that immediately upon the rendering of the wage and hour decision, this week, by the Federal Government that the International Alliance will enter into negotiations for the unions, probably in the east. It may be another 10% farce. Immediately it will be nullified by cuts that will eliminate its effect. Will the International attempt to negotiate alone (as in the past) by cooling the heels of the local representatives outside? Is the deal in the making now in the east? (by the gift method).' IATSE tops have been unsuccessful in their efforts to identify the 'Watchmen' and his sponsors of the 'Hollywood Merry Go Round.'

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WESTERN WOMAN, a new 24-page magazine edited by Ruth Waterbury, will make its debut on June 12 and will be published every two weeks thereafter. Ann Daggett is associate editor. Magazine will be distributed free, by the Independent Grocers of Southern California and will have an initial circulation of 350,000. Kenneth MacNeill and William Banning, Jr., are the publishers. Editorial features will be slanted for home consumption, concentrating on cooking, gardening and interesting Southern California personalities. There will also be features on radio personalities. Film reviews will be keyed to reach housewives at the same time the pictures play neighborhood, rather than first-run houses. Magazine will be class job, printed on rotogravure stock. Grocers who will distribute the magazine do 38.2 per cent of Southern California grocery business.

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BANK NIGHT frauds, extending over a period of several years, and including theatres in Orange county as well as in Long Beach, Glendale and Pasadena, have been cleared up, it is believed, by the arrest at Santa Ana of six youths, all of whom were at one time or another employed by the Milt Arthur Fox-West Coast operated theatres there and in Anaheim and Fullerton. Confessions are claimed by the police to have elicited the information that the sextet illegally grabbed $2,200 in bank night giveaways in Orange county, and a total of $5,600 in Southern California. James Nutt, 20, of Huntington Beach, is claimed by the police as one of the ringleaders and has admitted his participation in the scheme.

☆ ☆ ☆

CLAIM of Ben Bernie ork against the Victor Hugo restaurant in Beverly Hills, amounting to around $5,000, is being fought in bankruptcy court, contention being made that Bernie has no valid claim against the nitery. Contract entered into with the maestro called for his personal presence at the spot at all times. It appears that Bernie put a substitute band there on the nights of his broadcasts, which, the restaurant people contend, is a violation of the pact and invalidates the agreement. Victor Hugo bankruptcy matter is before Referee Hugh F. Laugharn, with probability it will be some weeks before matters are threshed out. Night spot, in the meantime, has been shuttered.

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RECORDING of 'The Great American Broadcast', opening next Wednesday at Loew's State and Grauman's Chinese theatre, is being ethered over KFWB for total of five and one half hours, over 10-day period, in addition to three other nabe stations for grand total of 13 hours and 45 minutes. This is first time that outside theatres have been able to buy time over the Warners radio. Other stations included in the hookup made by George Watters are KFVD, KIEV and KRKD. In addition both the Columbia and National Broadcasting companies have installed displays at the Chinese and State, showing the inception of broadcasting from its earliest days down to the present.

☆ ☆ ☆

RKO is being deluged for art on Gloria Swanson who is making her re-entry into films in 'Father Takes a Wife.' The Duchess in stills gives plenty of layout latitude for mags and papers. Life and Look have garnered layouts with fan mags also hot on the trail for art. Studio to date had 22 important interviews on the re-glorified star and stress being laid on the fact the gal doesn't look a day over 30 and is a glamour type the public will crave to see.

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FILM grosss in 25 key cities on current week show a gain of approximately $100,000 over similar week a year ago, according to VARIETY estimates. Total take on current stanza is figured at $1,572,400, for 176 theatres, as compared with $1,480,000 a year ago garnered in 169 theatres. Broadway grosses, based on 13 theatres, grossed $289,500 this week as against $286,900 a year ago, from 12 houses.

☆ ☆ ☆

WALT DISNEY PRODUCTIONS has completed sale of its old studio and property on Hyperion boulevard to the William T. Thompson Co., manufacturers of vitamins. Sale price was reported to have been around $75,000. Disney occupied the studio for more than 10 years before he moved out to his cartoon plant in Burbank in January, 1940.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In days of old
When knights were bold
A king was high and snooty.
He sat alone
Upon his throne
And did his royal duty.

In days gone by
He sat too high
For movie folks to hire,
But now the flack
Will offer jack
And regal jobs by wire.

★ ★ ★

If Carol of Rumania ever comes to Hollywood looking for a king role in the pictures, the casting directors will give him the once-over and say, 'He ain't the type.'

★ ★ ★

Geographers in the vicinity of Lone Pine have named a mountain peak after Harry Sherman, and the next thing you know, there will be a saddle on it.

Film stars are growing so publicity conscious that they demand top billing in a phony feud.

Brian Donlevy put on a stag party to open his new home and there was not a rough-house in the house, showing that heavies are not so heavy in their leisure hours.

★ ★ ★

The Yankees and Rebs grew excessively hot
As they fought on the Twentieth-Century lot
In the War of the States, but so great was the heat
That they laid down their weapons and beat a retreat.

★ ★ ★

Vic McLaglen and Eddie Lowe, who won the last war, are teaming up as Marines in the next one. The situation is well in hand.

★ ★ ★

Marquees won't have enough esses if RKO films Eugene O'Neil's new cycle, 'A Tale of Possessors Self-Dispossessed.' When the film titlemakers have finished the job, it will probably come out 'Boogie Woogie.'

Sam Goldwyn is planning a sequel to 'The Little Foxes.' 'The Big Wolves.'

John Doe is about to have further adventure, which explains why he didn't jump off the roof.

★ ★ ★

An actor on a diet sought to trim his manly frame
And resurrect the youthful lines that brought him wealth and fame,
And in his next production he was in a banquet seat
And had to eat and eat and eat and eat and eat and eat.

★ ★ ★

'That Uncertain Feeling' demonstrates that it is possible to glamourize a hiccough.

★ ★ ★

Goldwyn office is getting a lot of suggestions for a new tag on his strip-tease drama, 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen', which is too long, even for a Main street marquee. Best offering to date is 'What's Coming Off Here?'

Preview

★

Scattergood Pulls the Strings

(*Drama*)

RKO Radio production. Cast: Guy Kibbee, Bobs Watson, Susan Peters, James Corner, Emma Dunn, Dink Trout, Monte Blue, Carl Stockdale, Paul White, Fern Emmett, Lee 'Lasses' White, Ann Shoemaker, Gordon Hart, Howard Hickman, Earl Hodgins, Rex, dog. Directed by Christy Cabanne. Assistant director, John E. Burch. Produced by Jerrold T. Brandt. Screenplay by Christy Cabanne and Bernard Schubert. Based on Clarence Budington Kelland's 'Scattergood Baines' stories. Photography, Jack Mackenzie. Musical score, Constantin Bakaleinikoff. Film editor, Desmond Marquette. Previewed May 8. Running time: 69 mins.

This is a simple, folksy, country-philosophy type of drama which has been geared for the dual bill audience, and, as such, will fill the bill nicely as a programmer in the secondary runs. Christy Cabanne rates credit for a workmanlike job in piloting a none-too-meaty screenplay into acceptable and often absorbing theatre.

Most notable weaknesses are in the romantic interludes where Susan Peters and James Corner, juve leads, have been permitted to struggle valiantly but vainly with inane chatter. For the rest it's a story of the small-town sage who plays friend, counsellor and benefactor to the entire community. In this magnanimous character delineation Guy Kibbee conducts himself with urbanity, skill and commendable restraint.

In the second of this series (six in all are scheduled for delivery), young Bobs Watson displays remarkable trouping ability as the freckle-faced kid vagabond runaway from a state home for boys. Two of his scenes are standout tear-jerkers; one with Guy Kibbee on a fishing spree on the banks of a quiet stream when the youngster's voice reaches a high-pitched tremelo, and again when he catches up with the fugitive father.

The homeless waif motif should register strongly in the lesser situations for which the film is aimed. Yarn unfolds with boy being given a home by the kindly Scattergood, who then proceeds to straighten out a homicide rap on which kid's father was framed. The man who plays God at the same time takes a hand in a youthful romance, showing a visionary young inventor that though color-television idea may be a remote financial payoff, there's gold in a chemical by-product that removes freckles and other facial blemishes.

In supporting role as Bobs' father Monte Blue contributes a first rate performance. He shows as a valuable cast asset. Others who appear to advantage in minor assignments are Emma Dunn, Dink Trout, Paul White, Fern Emmett and Carl Stockdale.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles, 10; Hollywood, 8.
San Francisco, 6; Portland, 2.
Sacramento, 8; Oakland, 3.
Seattle, 9; San Diego, 1.

Thousands Jam El Capitan For 'Citizen Kane' Preem

Over 3,000 persons milled around and into El Capitan theatre last night for the local premiere of the Orson Welles-RKO production, 'Citizen Kane', while hundreds of bleacherites on the stands around the lobby and across the street ogled the players and patrons. General traffic was held off the block by corps of cops. Knox Manning presided at the mike, broadcasting from the lobby over KECA national hookup on NBC, and newsreels purred.

Orson Welles, escorting Dolores Del Rio, and George Schaefer, prexy of RKO, had in their party the King Vidors, John Barrymore, while Charles Chaplin, Marlene Dietrich, who were to have been with the Welles party also, sent last-minute regrets.

Gloria Swanson, escorted by Dan Winkler, received the biggest burst of applause. Hedda Hopper was among the first to bespeak the mike. Mickey Rooney came with Sheila Ryan, getting in on turn-in tickets. Prominent were Matty Fox and Carole Landis, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph I. Breen, Bob Hope, Herbert Wilcox and Anna Neagle, Philip Reed and Helen Vinson, the four Rogells, Sid, Albert and their wives; Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Armour, Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, Busby Berkeley and Claire James, Joseph Cotten, Harry Shannon and wife, Buddy Swann, Olivia de Havilland and Franchot Tone, Ted lewis, Sonja Henie and her husband, Dan Topping; Vic Orsatti and Frances Neal, Leland Hayward and Margaret Sullavan, Leatrice Joy, Rufus LeMaire, William LeBaron, Al Lichtman, J. R. McDonough, the Charles Laughtons (Elsa Lanchester) and John Royal and Lenore Corbett, Adolphe Menjou and Verree Teasdale, Burgess Meredith, Leo Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Edington, Billy Gilbert, Anne Shirley and John Payne.

Others at opening included Niles Trammell, Dorothy Lamour and Bentley Ryan, Ben Hecht and his wife, Allan Marshall and Mrs. Marshall, Lupe Velez and John Shelton, Simone Simon and Raymond Hakim, Jane Wyatt, Collier Young, Jane Withers and Buddy Pepper, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Zimbalist, Marguerite Roach, Gail Patrick, Judith Anderson, Dave Hempstead and wife, Ronald Reagan and Jane Wyman, Herman Mankiewicz and party, Flora Robson, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Jane Darwell, Lynn Bari and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Lanfield, Jack Briggs, Bernard Herrmann, June Storey, Henry Travers, Patricia Morison, Wendy Barrie, Fortunio Bononova, Helen Wills, Nat Goldstone, Virginia Vale and Charles Smith, Jesse Lasky, Jane Woodworth and Gunther Lessing, John Swallow.

Aids Korda Pic

Lt. Commander Jack Bolton, USN, has been engaged by Alexander Korda to act as technical advisor on naval sequences in 'Illusions.' The troupe, consisting of principals and 300 extras, worked yesterday at the Columbia ranch in the valley, doing troop movement scenes.

Morris Tops 'Ghost'

Wayne Morris will top cast for Warners 'The Smiling Ghost', mystery tale by Philip Wylie and B. A. Bergman, which Lew Seiler will direct.

McCAREY FIXES 'QUEER PEOPLE' FOR HUGHES

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

ing Hughes it was not screen subject matter as well as a harmful thrust against industry leaders and their methods of operation.

However, recently the files were dusted off and McCarey got mulling around with the script ready to put it into work shortly, unless again the studio pressure from outside is brought to bear from within. Hughes has releasing deal with 20th-Fox and it is not known whether 'Queer People' under its original title or another is listed among forthcoming releases.

20th-Fox Signs Deal With Police Guild

A three-year contract has been inked by 20th-Fox Studio and the 20th Century-Fox Police Guild. The deal calls for wage increases for all Guild members, retroactive to Jan. 2, 1941. Salaries are based on a sliding scale, according to the length of employment of each officer. All regular policemen not employed in a supervisory capacity are eligible to membership.

RKO Dickering Duo For 'Journey'

RKO is dickering for either Fred MacMurray or Robert Montgomery to play the male lead opposite Michele Morgan in the French actress' first picture on the lot, 'Journey Into Fear.' Joseph Cotten is already set for a top spot and production is slated for the end of the month.

Ted North in 'Rio'

Ted North gets the romantic lead opposite Cobina Wright, Jr., in 20th-Fox's 'Charlie Chan In Rio.' Victor Jory, Harold Huber, Kay Linaker, Hamilton MacFadden, Iris Wong, Leslie Denison, Truman Bradley, Richard Derr also were added to cast.

Heading East

Gabriel Pascal
Harry Engel
Robert Arden (AA)
Howard Strickling
Elliott Gibbons (AA)
George Fisher (SF)
Milton Berle
Charles Boyer
Pat Paterson
Phil Regan
Paul Eagler
John Eckert

In from the East

Jimmy Walker (SF)
Oscar Oldknow
Miriam Hopkins (AA)
Norman McLeod
James Haven
Gordon Douglas (SF)

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

CARY GRANT, through his agent, Frank W. Vincent, recently purchased the show place estate of the late Gene Stratton Porter in Bel Air. . . . Estate covers vast acreage and the main house is one of the most pretentious in the subdivision . . . Report has it Grant will present the property to Barbara Hutton as a prenuptial gift. . . . Marjorie Cummings, wife of the Metro producer, is now designing costume jewelry of iron. . . . Just completed job whereby Gene Raymond will get horseshoe cuff links studded with gold nails as gift from his frau, Jeanette MacDonald, for their fourth wedding anniversary. . . . Rex Cole is carrying small vial in form of fishbowl filled with water and couple fish under his coat lapel. Idea was concocted by his young daughter. Fish are length of finger nail and as broad as a sliver but keep alive.

Lewis Howard reported for a draftee role yesterday in Universal's 'Radio Revels of 1942' just after he had been given his physical examination by his own draft board.

LOCKHART MARTIN, who stands seven feet four inches in his stocking feet, has been engaged as doorman at Grauman's Chinese theatre by Charlie Skouras. Martin has been adorned with a doorman's hat, 12 inches high, making his height well over eight feet. He was formerly employed by Fox Intermountain at Denver theatres where his unusual height drew considerable attention. . . . William Farnum will recite 'Somebody's Mother' before the Elks lodge Sunday night, occasion being annual tribute of the B.P.O.E. to mothers the world over. . . . Jane Wyman and Ronald Reagan hosted party at Victor's in Beverly Hills last night.

For the first time in 17 years, Elliott Paul, fictioneer now on Metro's writing staff, has not had his annual novel published. Too busy on studio scripts.

PARAMOUNT made good use of modern transportation and communications systems to get a necessary okay on six costumes for Paulette Goddard in 'Nothing But the Truth' without holding up production on the picture. When Arthur Hornblow, Jr., producing, left for New York he had okayed all but six of the 25 costume changes actress has in film. Tuesday, when it was discovered gowns would be needed for Thursday's shooting, stills were taken of the outfit and airmailed to New York. Hornblow received them Wednesday a.m., telephoned his okay the same day and Miss Goddard appeared before the cameras in the gowns yesterday. . . . Clark Gable and Carole Lombard, traveling in a pick-up truck, are off on two weeks vacation through northern California, Oregon, and part of Nevada, camping and fishing. They will also scout for possible large ranch buy. . . . Exhibition of watercolors by Harold Gaze, Australian artist, for the British and American Red Cross, opens for two days tomorrow at 8212 Sunset Blvd.

Mayer To Manhattan For Physical Examination

Louis B. Mayer trains east today to have a physical check-up made in New York and possibly to undergo a minor operation. Mayer was to have made a talk in behalf of the industry at the Jack Benny dinner tonight, but Y. Frank Freeman will now appear instead.

Going east with Mayer is Laudy Lawrence, Metro's European manager, who has been here on conferences. Howard Strickling also accompanies.

Schlesinger SCG Unit Mull Pact Setup

Members of the Leo Schlesinger unit of the Screen Cartoonists Guild have called a meeting for tonight at Guild headquarters to discuss the progress of contract negotiations with the company. It was reported a majority of the animators favor taking a strike vote to authorize their negotiators to order a walkout when, and if it is deemed advisable.

Kelly, Pallos Out

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists general sales manager, and Stephen Pallos, New York representative for Alexander Korda, planed east last night via American Airlines. Kelly has been here for the past three weeks talking over the UA convention product announcement with Murray Silverstone and Pallos has been huddling with Korda on release of 'Illusions', now in work. Silverstone is expected to remain here until next week.

Bob Kessner Weds

Bob Kessner, on leave from the Fox-West Coast first run exploitation department here for a year's service in the U. S. army, arrived in town yesterday from Ft. Benning, Ga., where he has been stationed as a first lieutenant for past three months. Kessner has been transferred to Camp Roberts, near Paso Robles, Cal., and reports there first of the week. He took time off yesterday to get married to Billie Mercer, non-pro.

Ratoff Starts Pic

Gregory Ratoff today launches his initial production for Columbia release, 'Tonight Belongs to Us' as producer-director. Loretta Young and Conrad Veidt, Eugenie Leontovich and Dean Jagger head the cast. Company is working at RKO-Pathe studio.

Interviews Hopper

Hedda Hopper will be interviewed on KFI tomorrow at 4 p.m. on 'Women in National Defense.' Walter O. Fuller, prez of National Assn. of Manufacturers, will propel the questions.

Linkletter's New One

Art Linkletter inaugurates a new quiz program, 'Who, What, Where and Why?' at KNX Monday for the Columbia Pacific network.

Carolina Pines

YOUSAH!

Delicions, delectable Fried Chicken, Ham, Prime Ribs, Steaks, Chops, etc. Served in the gracious atmosphere of the Old South.

7315 Melrose Ave.
WY. 9122

Trammell Sez Much Ground Yet To Be Covered in Ascap Setup

Admitting that some progress has been made toward a settlement of the broadcaster-music fight, Niles Trammell, NBC president, yesterday told a press conference at the Ambassador hotel that 'we're still not together'. He added that both the National Assn. of Broadcasters committee and that representing the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers are making a sincere effort to settle the four-month-old controversy without animus or chip-on-shoulder attitude.

Trammell declined to hazard a guess on when Ascap music would be back on the major nets but indicated that there was still much ground to cover before a settlement would be reached. He said that the music matter would occupy considerable of the time of broadcasters at the St. Louis convention next week.

Boycott of radio news by downtown dailies, especially coverage of the Jack Benny testimonial dinner tonight, drew a rebuke from Trammell. He said he couldn't understand why a dinner in honor of a celebrity who has given his time and talent to so many benefits wasn't worthy of news coverage. He declared that such an attitude by the press toward radio has nowhere else been evident.

> Niles Trammell and Frank Freeman struck up a fast friendship at yesterday's luncheon. Both Georgians, they were attracted by each other's accent. 'Finally someone who speaks my language', exalted Freeman as he put his arm across Trammell's shoulder.

Contemplated divorce of radio stations from their newspaper ownership and operation prompted the remark from the chain head that they are doing an excellent job of running their plants and he had never known of an instance where they imposed their editorial policy on dialers to their stations.

That television will be retarded by the lack of facilities necessary to manufacture of receiving sets and transmitters was belief of Trammell. He said national defense orders have priority over materials needed to make television commercially possible.

Trammell was guest at a luncheon yesterday attended by 50 film executives. He made off-the-record reference to the Federal Communications Commission's monopoly report and hinted 'what happens to us might happen to you'. Other speakers were L. B. Mayer, H. M. Warner, Frank Freeman and Don Gilman.

Arden East, Talking 'Casts to Europe

Robert Arden, KFWB commentator, airs east today to talk over a deal for short wave broadcasts to Europe in six languages. He will wire material daily to KFWB for continuation of his period.

Marin's Night Out

Director Edwin L. Marin is scouting Los Angeles boxing and wrestling arenas for locations and technical detail for scenes for Metro's 'Ringside Maisie', Ann Sothern starrer.

a.m. Dailies

Okay KFVD Tower Plan—

After listening to protests from residents of Laurel canyon, City Council yesterday adopted unanimously planning committee recommendation granting zone variance for frequency modulation broadcasting tower on Lookout mountain. Council members promised to visit Laurel canyon before voting on ordinance authorizing Standard Broadcasting Co. to build the tower for KFVD.

Nelson Eddy Cleared—

Jury in Superior Judge Charles F. Burnell's court yesterday returned a verdict clearing Nelson Eddy, stepson Sidney Franklin, Jr., and boy's mother, Mrs. Ann Franklin Eddy, of responsibility for traffic injuries that caused Helen Lynd, actress, to sue singer for $8,723.

Harry Langdon Injured—

Harry Langdon, film comic, suffered bruised shoulder and back injury when struck by a truck yesterday. Wife and six-year-old son escaped injury.

PRODUCERS GIVE SWG PROPOSALS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

meeting of the two groups would be held Tuesday.

The following joint statement was issued by the Producers and the Guild representatives:

'Representatives of the Screen Writers Guild met with the Producers committee to continue negotiations for a contract. The Producers presented counter-proposals which the Guild representatives are taking back to the executive board for discussion. A further meeting between the two groups was set for Tuesday evening, May 13.'

The demand will be taken up at the meeting of the SWG executive committee Monday night (12). If the proposals are not considered acceptable, the board has the authority to reject them without even submitting them to the general membership which is insisting that all speculative writing be eliminated and that all flat deals under $5,000 be abolished. The Producers had countered with an offer of a wage minimum of $50 per week, with the SWG demanding $150.

Metro Terms Gangers

Spanky MacFarland and William Thomas, of Metro's Our Gang group, have been signed to new term contracts.

MAX REINHARDT WORKSHOP
Now Casting

A FESTIVAL of 8 PLAYS Directed UNDER THE PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF DR. REINHARDT

Enrollments being accepted
6040 Wilshire Blvd. Phone WE. 9105

Reorganization of 4A's Off AF of L Program For Wash. Session

Washington, May 8. — Nothing about the two-year-old proposal for reorganization of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America into one big union is on the agenda for the American Federation of Labor Executive Council meeting here Monday (19), but it can be brought up by anybody interested. No word of such suggestion has been received here so far.

William Green, AFofL prexy, has received numerous communications about the extra situation in the Screen Actors Guild, but nobody at AFofL headquarters will say what will be done. The complaints and requests have been referred to various individuals for 'study'.

Green, however, in a telegram to Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, stated he had requested Meyer L. Lewis, AFofL western director, to contact him, 'investigate the complaint and report to me'. It is reported that the complaints are based on the extras' demands for full voting privileges in the Guild.

It was stated here last night that Meyer L. Lewis had instructed Aubrey Blair, AFofL Hollywood organizer, to discuss the situation with Kenneth Thomson and other Guild officials. Blair was expected to contact Thomson today or the first of next week.

Ratner Changeover

New York, May 8.—Victor Ratner resigned as director of sales promotion for Columbia Broadcasting to join Lord & Thomas here. Frank Stanton will probably head both the promotion and research departments and is reported in line for a vice presidency.

Title Changes

'Honeymoon In Havana', 20th-Fox, to 'Week-End In Havana'.

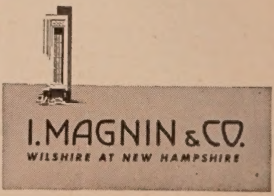
Choose your

Mother's Day gifts

in cool comfort

at Magnin's . . .

air-conditioned



I. MAGNIN & CO.
WILSHIRE AT NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW BEAUTY

SUPERB photography distinguishes modern screen productions. Dramatic lighting and interesting camera angles receive stimulating support from the high quality and unvarying uniformity of Eastman negative films—each an expert in its field. Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., *Distributors*
Fort Lee Chicago Hollywood

PLUS-X
for general studio use

SUPER-XX
when little light is available

BACKGROUND-X
for backgrounds and general exterior work

EASTMAN NEGATIVE FILMS

Jock Whitney Outlines Plans for S. A. Goodwillers

New York, May 8.—Trade paper editors were lunched today by Jock Whitney for an off-the-record roundtable on the problem of his committee in dealing with the South American situation. He introduced Kenneth Macgowan, who is handling non-theatrical production for the State Department, which recently supplied projectors to all its reps in South America. Whitney starts a tour of the Latin countries in June and will talk to local execs of American film distribs there.

Jesse Jones to Attend Variety Clubs Sesh

Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce and chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Commission, among his other government jobs, has accepted the Variety Clubs invitation to attend the Atlantic City convention and banquet night of May 17. Announcement has just been made of Jones' acceptance by Carter Barron, chairman of the Washington dignitaries committee. Barron also announced that Sen. Tom Connolly of Texas would attend the convention and be one of the principal speakers on the dais the night of the banquet.

Eagler, Eckert Head For Miami's 'Uncle'

Paul Eagler and John Eckert, special effects cameramen for RKO, trained for Miami yesterday to do background footage on 'Unexpected Uncle.' Eagler, Eckert and their camera crew will remain in Florida two weeks.

Decorators Sesh Offed

Contract conference scheduled yesterday between Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact, and the Society of Motion Picture Interior Decorators was postponed indefinitely because Henry Grace, Society prexy, was unable to attend. The Decorators are asking for contract revisions which include an up in wages.

Gaumont Files Suit

New York, May 8.—Irving Gaumont, author, filed a $250,000 plagiarism suit against Warners in U. S. District court today. He charges plagiarism of his scenario, 'You've Got to Swing It' in company's 'My Love Came Back.'

Births

SON, nine pounds, to Mrs. Paul Webster, Wednesday at Cedars of Lebanon. Father is one of the authors of the musical revue, 'Jump For Joy'.

DAUGHTER, six pounds, 11 ounces, to Mrs. Leon Birnbaum, Wednesday, at the Cedars of Labanon. Father is a music cutter at 20th-Fox.

Superb Cuisine
No Cover Charge
Grace Hayes Lodge
PETER LIND HAYES
• HIS ORCHESTRA •
• MARY HEALY •

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Medico of Painted Spring'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Lambert Hillyer	May 5
'Texas'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	George Marshall	May 9
'Smilin' Through'	Metro	Victor Saville	Frank Borzage	May 8
'Wanderers of the West'	Monogram	Robert Tansey	Robert Hill	May 8
'Among the Living'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Stuart Heisler	May 5
'Kansas Cyclone'	Republic	George Sherman	George Sherman	May 9
'The Gay Falcon'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Irving Reis	May 5
'The Outlaw Trail'	RKO	Bert Gilroy	Edward Killy	May 9
'Charlie Chan In Rio'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Harry Lachman	May 8
'Radio Revels of 1942'	Universal	Joseph G. Sanford	Harold Young	May 8
'I, James Lewis'	Universal	Frank Lloyd	Frank Lloyd	May 9

11 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Mr. Wise Guy'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	May 15
'City Limits'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	May 17
'Motorcycle Squad'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	J. G. Bachmann	Al Kelly	May 12
'Gambling Daughters'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	T. H. Richmond	Max Nosseck	May 15
'Sullivan's Travels'	Paramount	Paul Jones	Preston Sturges	May 12
'Look Who's Talking'	RKO	Allan Dwan	Allan Dwan	May 12
'Charley's Aunt'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Archie Mayo	May 12
'21 Men and a Girl'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	Ray McCarey	May 12
'Wild Geese Calling'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	John Brahm	May 16
'Flying Cadets'	Universal	Paul Malvern	Erle Kenton	May 12
'King Rubber'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	Ben Stoloff	May 15

15 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Richard Thorpe	Preparing
'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Army Hostess'	Monogram	William Lackey	Unassigned	May 25
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	June 3
'Desperate Cargo'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	John T. Coyle	Unassigned	May 20
'Billy the Kid' Western	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sam Newfield	May 30
'Dildo Cay'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 19
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	William Pine and William Thomas	Unassigned	May 24
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Unassigned	May 26
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	May 27
'Remember the Day'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Unassigned	May 26
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 10
'Almost An Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 19

Davis, Morales Set For Col 'Panama'

Joan Davis and Carmen Morales were signed at Columbia yesterday for 'Girls From Panama,' which goes into production next Thursday. Miss Morales set through the Leo Morrison office. Studio is looking for another femme to play the role originally intended for Lois Andrews, who was forced to withdraw from the cast after being set to be co-featured with Jinx Falkenberg. Charles Barton will direct and Wallace MacDonald produces.

Hill Directs 'West'

Robert Hill has been signed to direct 'Wanderers of the West', first of four Tom Keene westerns Robert Tansey will produce for Monogram's current season. Picture starts work at Prescott, Ariz., (13) with Betty Miles, holder of the title of California's All-Around Cowgirl, in the femme lead opposite Keene.

WB Still Winners

Warners annual still photographic award winners will be announced today at studio luncheon, with Errol Flynn presenting the prizes. Awards will be for color, production, action, fashion, idea and informal. Judges are Lloyd Bacon, William Keighley, James Wong Howe, Ernest Haller, Scotty Welbourne and Elmer Fryer.

Authentic

A scene from 'The Golden Princess', made by Paramount in 1925 and starring Betty Bronson and Neil Hamilton, will be used for a theatre sequence in 'Birth of the Blues', depicting screening of film at the old Bijou theatre in New Orleans.

Berkeley on 'Doctors'

Martin Berkeley started yesterday at Republic to do script polishing job on 'Doctors Don't Tell' for Albert J. Cohen. Berg-Allenberg agented.

SWG, Vic Shapiro in Publicity Setup

The Screen Writers Guild is dickering with Vic Shapiro to take over the job of handling Guild publicity. It is understood the deal has been tentatively set, with the signing of a contract hinging upon Shapiro getting his release from David O. Selznick.

'R.A.F.' to Point Mugu

Director Henry King takes Tyrone Power and Betty Grable, together with others in cast of 20th-Fox's 'Yank In the R.A.F.', to Ventura beach at Point Mugu for three days location.

BIG MOTHER'S DAY FEATURE
Sunday at CALIENTE
2 HANDICAPS FOR CHAMPIONS
THRILLING 2-Mile STEEPLECHASE
12 RACES • 5 FEATURES • FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Columbia Recording Strike Washup Seen by Monday

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

General Manager Paul E. Crowley restated the position of the company favoring departmental seniority instead of plantwide seniority, but offered to make concessions regarding layoffs. The union argued for plantwide seniority, contending that was the only way in which the rights of the employes could be protected.

In opening the meeting Attorney Mitchell stated that the company was ready to do its best to reach an agreement with the union and get the plant reopened. Union tops said it appeared for the first time since the walkout started that the company was really trying to get together with its employes who have been picketing the plant since April 11.

If the seniority matter is settled today, the two groups will then have to take up the question of wage demands. It was generally agreed, however, that the biggest hurdle to get over was the seniority question. The union is demanding the 55 cents per hour minimum be tilted to 75 cents, but has indicated a compromise could be arranged if the other contract provisions are settled amicably.

Negotiations for the union are being handled by William Elconin, international representative of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers, and a committee composed of Robert Kennedy, Ray Williford, Mat Vidaver and Robert Green. H. C. Parker, Paul Jones, Paul Husbands, George Smith and Tony Blake sat in on the session as union observers for the rank and file membership.

The meeting reopening negotiations after a stalemate of two weeks was arranged by Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator. Fitzgerald is making every effort to get the two groups together so the plant can be reopened in time to furnish distributors with May and June releases of Columbia recordings.

Although both sides expressed hope that an agreement could be reached today, the union went ahead with plans for a monster picket demonstration in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Saturday night. The union also has indicated a secondary boycott of CBS air sponsors and agents will be started next week if the strike is not settled by that time.

20th Terms Forde

Eugene Forde has been signed to a term directing contract at 20th-Fox, effective after he completes work on the current 'The Dead Take No Bows.' Deal was set through the Berg-Allenberg agency.

Hageman on Orig

Dr. Richard Hageman, musical director for the Frank Lloyd Productions, will compose an original score for 'I, James Lewis', forthcoming Lloyd picture. Two new Hageman songs will be included.

FOUR UNIVERSAL EXECS ARE BEING BOOSTED

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

berg, William A. Scully, Cliff Work, Matty Fox and other execs.

Feld will concentrate on the studio's biggest pictures. These include Abbott and Costello films, the Mayfair productions and 'Mermaid In Distress'. Abbott and Costello, through 'Buck Privates' showing at the box office, have become one of the biggest things on the Universal lot. Studio, under new plans, will concentrate on keeping their forthcoming pictures in the hit class.

Feld is working with Jules Levey on the Mayfair productions, 'Hellzapoppin', with Olsen and Johnson; 'Hold On To Your Hats', the Eddie Cantor musical, and 'Butch Minds the Baby'. Vaughn Paul's first Universal production, 'Mermaid In Distress', now is ready for the cameras, although a starting date has not been set. Paul, Glenn Tryon and Alex Gottlieb are associated with Feld under the new setup.

Jack Gross, with George Waggner and Joseph Bernhard, Jr., is responsible for a larger number of big-budgeted productions. 'Never Give a Sucker an Even Break', comedy for W. C. Fields, is the first of these to go before the cameras. 'Bad Lands of Dakota', 'The Yukon Trail', 'The Ghost of Frankenstein', 'The Wolf Man' and 'Captive Wild Woman' are also included in the Gross part of the program.

Schwarzwald, in collaboration with Ken Goldsmith, will handle the Hugh Herbert pictures, the Dead End Kids-Little Tough Guys group, and a number of musical romance films.

Gershenson, until now an associate producer, has been upped to a supervisory job and will work with Paul Malvern, Marshall Grant and Will Cowan. 'Idea' pictures, Johnny Mack Brown westerns and two-reel musical shorts, will be made by this production unit.

Writers under Ben Pivar are working on scripts for seven pictures starring Dick Foran, Leo Carrillo and Andy Devine. Henry MacRae is preparing two remaining 1940-41 serials and the first of the 1941-42 serials. 'Riders of Death Valley', for 1940-41, is already in release, and shooting will be finished on 'Sea Raiders' this week.

All the new supervisors will continue to clear through Universal's studio executive committee, which includes Dan Kelley and Martin Murphy.

Three New Plays Set For Pasadena

Three new plays are slated at the Pasadena Community Playhouse, beginning with 'A-Lovin' and A-Feudin',' by Erik Barnouw and Ethel Richardson, May 13-24. Others are 'Whistling For a Wind', by DeWitt Bedeen, June 10-14, and 'Manana Is Another Day', by Theodore Apstein and Dwight Morris, June 17-21.

RKO Winding Up Two Top-Budget Pix

RKO completes production on two of its top-budgeted films tomorrow, 'Tom, Dick and Harry', the Ginger Rogers starrer being directed by Garson Kanin, and 'Before the Fact', Alfred Hitchcock feature co-starring Cary Grant and Joan Fontaine.

Vorhaus Gets 'Smith'

Bernard Vorhaus has been assigned to direct 'Hurricane Smith' at Republic. Robert North will be associate producer, with shooting to start end of this month.

Bezerides at WB Mon.

A. I. Bezerides reports Monday at Warners to script for Jerry Wald. Berg-Allenberg set deal.

Different Scouting

Harold Melniker, former executive at Central Casting Corp. is now working as a talent scout—for the United States Army. Writing from the classification section of the Ft. MacArthur Reception Center, Melniker states: 'I am in what may be termed the talent scouting section of the Army. Now, however, we really look for mechanics, lathe operators, truck drivers, machinists, radio operators, etc., who can really do these things.'

Haven Crew Returns

James Haven, directing second unit on 20th-Fox's 'Weekend in Havana' (formerly 'Honeymoon in Havana'), yesterday returned by plane with Technicolor crew from Cuba with background footage.

Waldo Tops 'Trail'

Janet Waldo is set for the femme lead opposite Tim Holt in 'Outlaw Trail' at RKO. Picture starts shooting today under the direction of Edward Killy. Bert Gilroy is producing.

HEAT DELAYS WAR

Because he felt that the heat would make his players listless in battle scenes scheduled for 20th-Fox's 'Belle Starr', Director Irving Cummings yesterday delayed clash of 500 extras as Union and Confederate soldiers. Cummings will shoot around these scenes until weather cools.

◇

Weather also brought an innovation to the stage where 'Sun Valley Serenade' troupe is working at 20th. Director H. Bruce Humberstone installed a 'decompression' chamber between the hot outside and low temperature set to ease players through without danger of catching colds.

TROPICS HOLLYWOOD SUNSET & VINE
COMPLETE Dinner $1 ENTERTAINMENT • COCKTAILS
★★ ALL STAR SHOW ★★
DANCING EVERY NIGHT

Highest Paid Execs Listed by U. S.; Mayer Topper

Washington, May 8.—For the third consecutive year Louis B. Mayer rates as the highest paid American industry or business executive, with other film personalities near the top of the list. Annual report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission shows that Mayer's $697,048 was $8,677 more than the Metro exec received in 1939.

Next in line was Eugene G. Grace of Bethlehem Steel, who drew a measly $478,144. Hunt Stromberg, with $332,267, came in fourth, and Nicholas M. Schenck, paid $318,881, was fifth.

Other big salaries included: W. C. Fields, $255,000; Deanna Durbin, $209,833, and Bing Crosby, $150,000. Many film companies have not as yet reported.

Rename Hannan, Smith To Editors Board

Prexy Edmund D. Hannan and Fred Y. Smith have been re-elected to the board of directors of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors as representatives from Metro. Other board members elected from the major studios are Paul Weatherwax and Phil Penderton, Paramount; Les Millbrook and Sam Beetley, RKO; Robert Joseph and William B. Murphy, 20th-Fox; William O'Hara and B. Weldon Hancock, Columbia; William B. Holmes and Kenneth Martin, Warners; Louis Sackin and Richard Steenberg, Universal.

All of the returns have not been received from the independent studios, which also select members to represent them on the Society board. These will be completed by the first of the week. The Society meets next week to select officers for the next year, with indications that the membership will insist on Edmund Hannan retaining the presidency.

Dorothy Sebastian Set For Rep 'Cyclone'

Dorothy Sebastian has been signed by Republic for a character role in 'Kansas Cyclone.' Picture starts today. Lynn Merrick will play the romantic lead in the Don Barry western. George Sherman is producing and directing.

Goodwins Gets 'Ready'

Leslie Goodwins will direct and Howard Benedict produce 'The Marines Are Ready', feature for which RKO is dickering with Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe to play the leads. James Edward Grant is now working on the story treatment.

Rep Shifts Sked

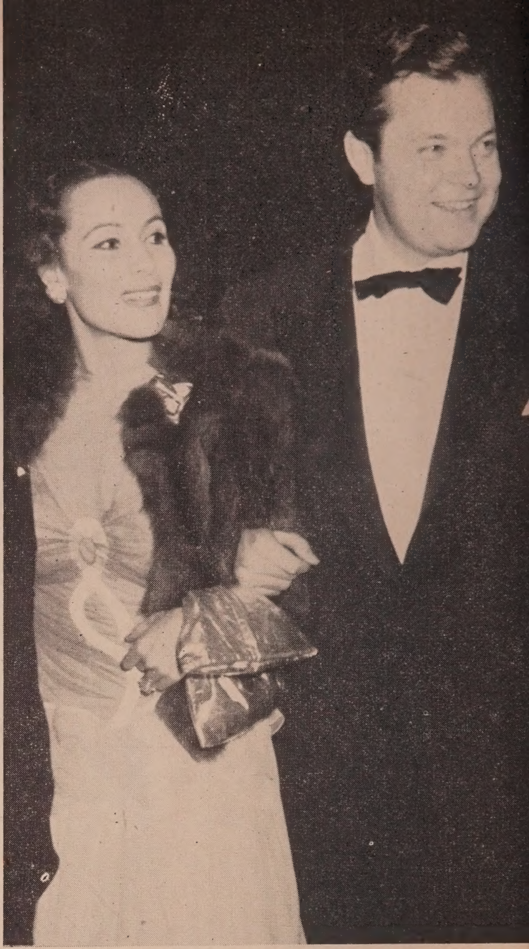
Republic has set back 'Milkman's Matinee' and will first prepare, for 1940-41, 'Newspapermen Are Human', original by Michael Fessier. 'Newspapermen' will start shooting first week in June.

FOR SALE—BEACH HOME
Two story stucco. Furnished, 9 rooms. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths, large 2 story living room. Lot 50x350. On private beach, double garage. $7000.
DOUGLAS MURRAY
30732 Roosevelt Highway
(9 miles from Malibu)

"CITIZEN KANE" CARRIES HOLLYWOOD BY LANDSLIDE

Anna Lee, blonde and vivant.

Veree Teasdale and Adolphe Menjou. A study in sophistication.



Dolores Del Rio smiles with the hero of the day, Orson Welles, writer, producer, director and star of 'Citizen Kane'. It was Welles' first motion picture; the one 'they' said he'd never make; the one that took a year of preparation before a camera turned. Those who saw it last night at El Capitan hope he doesn't wait a year before making his next.

Hedda Hopper. Reporting and enjoying it.

Sonja Henie and Anne Shirley, two of the most winsome little women.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Laughton (Elsa Lanchester).

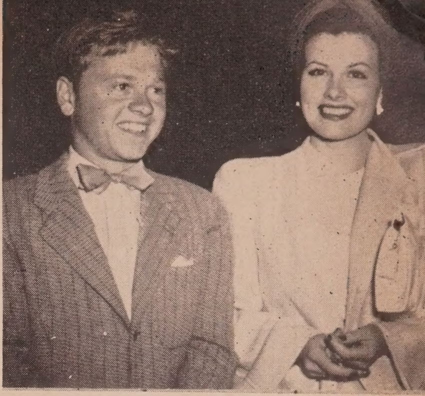
Frances Neal and Vic Orsatti. Frances is an RKO Radio starlet.

Bob Hope. He'll write his own caption.

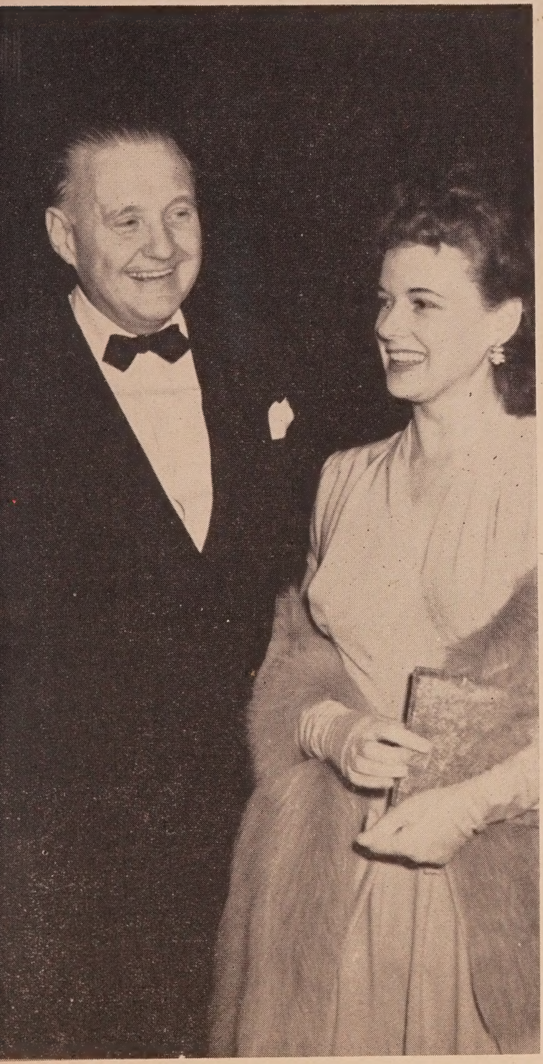
hn Barrymore emoting over the mike.

Glorious Gloria Swanson acknowledges her share of cheers.

Jesse Lasky renewing acquaintances.



Effervescent Mickey Rooney and piquant Sheila Rya



George J. Schaefer, president of RKO Radio pictures, tells Dorothy Comingore, leading woman of 'Citizen Kane', that her career is off to a terrific start.

Songbird Dorothy Lamour. What sarong with this?

John Shelton and Lupe Velez. Lupe was too mod to make a radio talk.

THEY CAME, SAW, WERE CONQUERED BY WELLES

The combined brains, beauty and talent that have made Hollywood the capital of entertainment, turned out last night for the premiere of Orson Welles' first picture, 'Citizen Kane'. Some were skeptical. Some were downright pessimistic. Some were sympathetic but doubtful on arrival. But when they left, after viewing the screen sensation of the new decade, all of this was changed and the vote was unanimous.

They agreed, with one voice:

'IT **IS** TERRIFIC!'

Here you see a pictorial story of the glittering opening; the Four Hundred of Hollywood, arriving for the epochal event.

—Advertisement

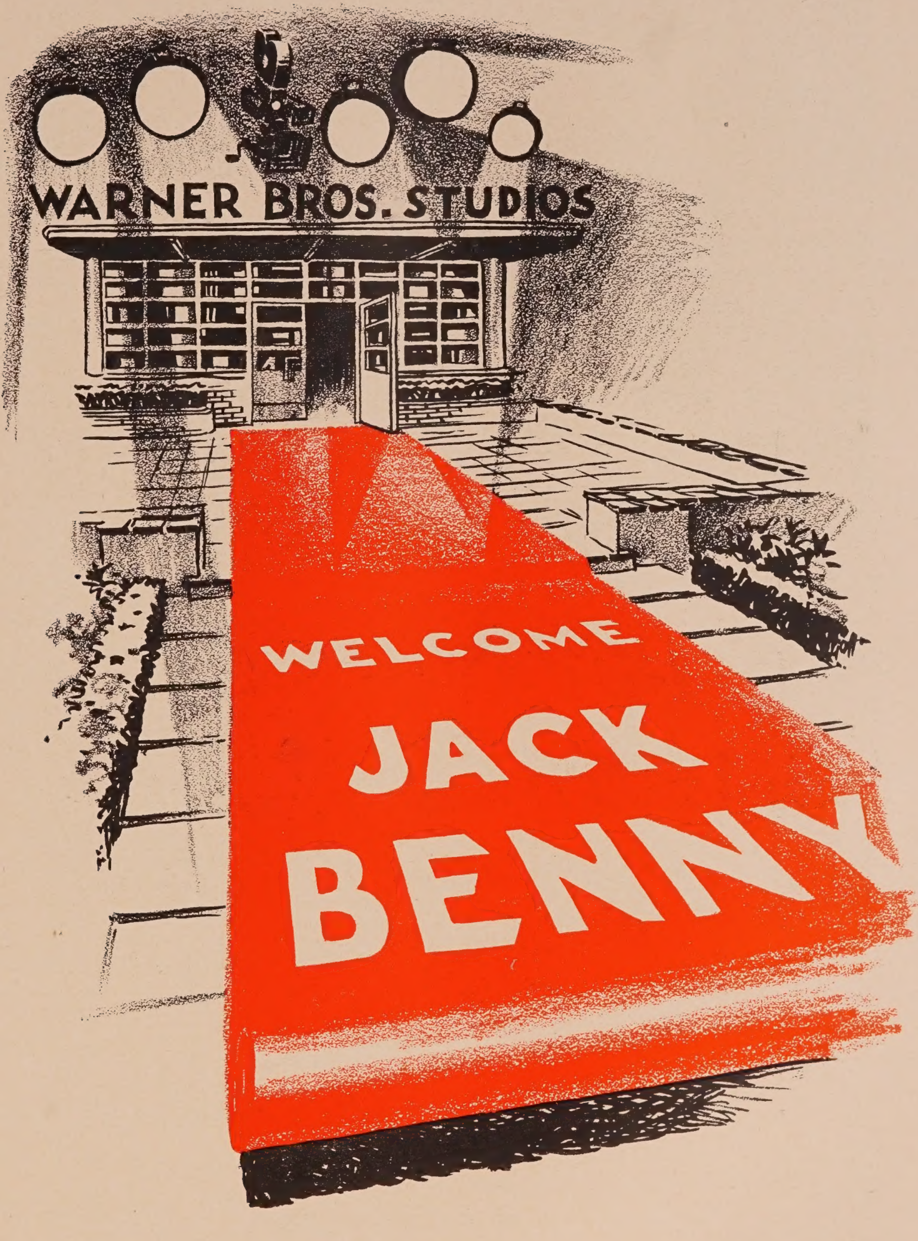
Paramount Congratulates

JACK BENNY

on His 10th Year in Radio

One of Paramount's Favorite Sons . . .
Fiddle Player Extraordinary . . .
Outstanding Screen Star . . .
Nation's Number One Radio Favorite . . .

Dear Jack: Any opinions expressed above are strictly those of Paramount Pictures, and 129,999,999 other Americans. Up to press time, Fred Allen still refused to talk.


WARNER BROS. STUDIOS
WELCOME
JACK
BENNY

His Greatest Role!
Jack Benny
as Charley's Aunt

From 20th CENTURY-FOX . . .

FOR NEXT SEASON!

Astor, Majestic Merge Under Latter Name; Roth Boosted

Astor Distributing Corp. and Majestic Pictures, both independent outlets, have merged with the new company to be known as Majestic, and operated jointly by Sam Decker and Lou Goldstein. Decker has bought out the interests of Hi Peskay and Harry Denny in Majestic and will hereafter, with Goldstein, function as an indie distributor in the territory.

Pat (Patricia) Roth, who has been with Majestic for several years, has been promoted to office manager and head booker of the merged companies. Distribution offices will be located at the Majestic exchange, 1960 Vermont.

Peskay, who retires from Majestic, has no immediate plans, but expects to announce a new connection shortly.

Art Directors Pact Sent to Producers

A proposed basic agreement between the Producers and the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors has been sent to the heads of the major companies for approval. It is understood the contract recognizes the Society as collective bargaining representative for the directors, requires directors and assistants must be members of the Society, provides for screen credits and a guarantee of first week's employment.

Buck Jones Will Do Eight for Mono

Buck Jones' series of 'Rough Riders' westerns for Monogram during 1941-42 will total eight and company is planning to give group higher budgets than usually accorded its oater series. Scott R. Dunlap, who will produce, is lining up two other western players to appear with Jones in the series.

Lee Mason Arrives on 'Needles' Revue Run

Lee Mason has arrived here to handle the advance and publicity for the summer run of 'Pins and Needles', musical revue, opening Friday (16) at the Biltmore theatre. Attraction is first 'summer' show at pop prices to be booked into the ace legit house here in number of years.

Set Gibson, Miljan

Wynne Gibson and John Miljan are set for 'Motorcycle Squad', which Al Kelly will direct for Producers Releasing Corp. J. G. Bachmann produces.

Anniversary SHOW
STAGE · In PERSON
The Brazilian Bombshell
Carmen MIRANDA
40 · COMPANY OF · 40
2 · ORCHESTRAS · 2
A HOT SHOW AND A COOL THEATRE (Air-Conditioned)
SCREEN
JOAN BLONDELL
DICK POWELL in
"MODEL WIFE"
A Universal Picture
NO ADVANCE IN PRICES
PARAMOUNT
• FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND •
Direction Fanchon & Marco
6th & HILL VA-2041
Starts THURS. "I WANTED WINGS"

Outstanding Personalities To Laud Jack Benny Tonight

★ Continued from page 1 ★

biz. Rudy Vallee presides as toastmaster. Speeches are promised in light vein, with the guest of honor to be twitted by the biggies and intimate friends of the sprocket and kilocycle.

Host for the evening, NBC, will eschew a broadcast from the Bowl, allowing that too much speech-making doesn't make for too-good listening. However, one hour before the festivities get under way the chain will give out with a half-hour broadcast, signing in at 6:30 p.m. on KFI. Pickups will be made in New York to insert Alois Havrilla and Ed Thorgerson, first announcers to herald Benny's entry into radio; Amos 'n' Andy, Eddie Cantor and Ole Olson, the hellzapopper. From Gary, Ind., the Quiz Kids will flip a few posies at their pal, Jackie. Comedy highlight of the show will be the pickup from Benny's Bevhills home, where Rochester will be dressing the master for his big night out. Hollywood's contribution will be tributes by Claudette Colbert, Herbert Marshall, Trammell and Don Gilman.

After Freeman and Trammell have taken care of the serious business of lauding the accomplishments of radio's top funnyman and filmdom's front rank comic, Benny will be at the mercy of several masters of the witty saying. Among them will be Bob Hope, W. C. Fields, George Jessel, George Burns, Gracie Allen, Jim and Marian Jordan (Fibber McGee and Molly), Edgar Bergen and Mary Livingstone.

Radio's counterpart of an Academy Oscar will be presented Benny by spokesmen for three groups associated with Benny's career. Filmdom's gift will be tendered by Freeman, NBC's by Trammell, and his sponsor (Jell-O) by Colby Chester, board chairman of General Foods. All will be in the nature of a surprise.

Outpouring of well wishers will be predominated by picture people, with only NBC officials and chain performers in the aerial contingent. Every major advertising agency will be represented, many of the execs making the trip from New York for the biggest social event ever auspiced on the Coast by radio.

Music for the anniversary dinner will be directed by a dozen or so maestros who wield a stick on NBC programs here. Phil Harris, tune dispenser for Benny's airshow, will be missing due to a band commitment out of town. Feuding Fred Allen is sending a proxy, his own idea of regaling Waukegan's first citizen. There'll be no comeback by Benny, for one can't talk back to a pancake.

Clay Morgan, assistant to Trammell, handled the arrangements for the dinner.

Ill in Pix

GEORGE PLUES, driver of a six-horse stagecoach, got only bruises when he was thrown clear of coach as it turtled four times downgrade as it struck boulder at Iverson ranch during scene on Universal's 'Rawhide Rangers'.

TOM GRADY, RKO prop man, was taken to General Hospital yesterday for observation after collapsing from the heat.

Jeffrey Lynn Tops WB 'King Rubber'

Jeffrey Lynn has been assigned to a top role in 'King Rubber' at Warners and reports in from an eastern visit (14) with picture starting the next day. Ray Enright will direct. Warners has set starting dates on three other films, 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough', rolling (26), 'Background to Danger', June 16, and 'The Constant Nymph' on the same day.

★ NOW! ★
MERLE OBERON MELVYN DOUGLAS
in Ernst Lubitsch's
THAT UNCERTAIN FEELING
with BURGESS MEREDITH • Released thru United Artists
50 STARS! HARRIET PARSONS' Chinese Garden Festival
Companion Feature "RIDE ON VAQUERO"
with CESAR ROMERO as the CISCO KID
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE - LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND 7th and BROADWAY
GENERAL ADMISSION 30c to 1 40c to 6 WEEK DAYS

Planted

20th-Fox

John Elliott, John Miller, Steve O'Brien, Laura Treadwell, Sarah Edwards, Fern Emmett, Myra Marsh, Clara Blandick, 'Private Nurse'.

Gilchrist Stuard, Richard Fraser, 'Man Hunt'.

James Flavin, 'Belle Starr'.

Tom London, Don Costello, 'The Last of the Duanes'.

RKO

Billy Bevan, Frank Reicher, Joe Barnard, 'Father Takes a Wife'.

Metro

Irving Bacon, Harry Fleischman, 'Barnacle Bill'.

Lana Turner Due In From NY Monday

Lana Turner is due back at Metro Monday from New York for tests in 'Honky Tonk.' Hugh Boswell has been made assistant director to Jack Conway on the picture.

Garfield West Sat.

New York, May 8.—John Garfield leaves for the Coast Saturday via Twentieth Century to start work on 'Hot Nocturne' at Warners in June.

Warners Will Release Five Features During June

Warners will release five features in June. These include reissue of 'Devil Dogs of the Air', starrer for James Cagney and Pat O'Brien, out June 7.

Others are 'Shining Victory', co-starring James Stephenson and Geraldine Fitzgerald, same date; 'The Gentle People', with Ida Lupino, John Garfield, Thomas Mitchell and Eddie Albert, June 14; 'Passage From Hongkong', featuring Lucile Fairbanks and Keith Douglas, June 21; and 'Underground', anti-Nazi picture, with Jeffrey Lynn, Philip Dorn, Kaaren Verne and Mona Maris, June 28.

Lindsley Parsons' Next Will Be 'City Limits'

Next production for Lindsley Parsons at Monogram will be 'City Limits', now being written by Norman Leslie and slated to roll (17). Parsons also has two other 1941-42 features in preparation. Harvey Gates is doing the screen play on 'Isle of Lost Men', based on the magazine story by Frederick L. Nebel, which is set to start June 3, and Edmond Kelso is writing 'Sweet Sixteen', to start June 20.

20th Allocates 150G's To Blurb 'Sand'

Raising budget for advertising to highest figure on any campaign during the past three years, 20th-Fox has allocated $150,000 to exploit 'Blood and Sand.' Campaign will utilize as one of its features the eight bullfight posters which Carlos Ruano Llopis, Spanish artist, painted for Darryl Zanuck. First time Llopis ever has done any commercial work.

Gordon Douglas In at Roach for 'Falls'

Gordon Douglas checked in at Hal Roach lot yesterday from the east to begin preparations on 'Niagara Falls', which he will direct. Picture will roll early in June, with Marjorie Woodworth, Tom Brown, ZaSu Pitts and Slim Summerville in top roles.

Brissac for 'Foxes'

Virginia Brissac was signed yesterday for 'The Little Foxes', Samuel Goldwyn production which has been in work for the past 10 days under the direction of William Wyler. Casting of Miss Brissac completes the filling of the featured roles in the picture.

Kenton Directs 'Cadets'

Erle Kenton will direct Universal's 'Flying Cadets', first for Paul Malvern on that lot. Shooting starts Monday. Cast is headed by William Gargan, Edmund Lowe and Peggy Moran.

Taurog Edits 'Kid'

After two weeks vacationing in New York, Norman Taurog returned yesterday to handle final editing on Metro's 'Billy, the Kid.'

FOR BRITISH WAR RELIEF
GENE LOCKHART'S
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It's Delightful (Every critic)
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"CITIZEN KANE"

SOUND RCA SYSTEM

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Copy (2)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 48 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, May 12, 1941 5 Cents

MUTUAL, ASCAP DEAL SIGNED

JOE BREEN, RKO HEAD JOB SET

The Joe Breen deal to go to RKO as the studio operating head is set. Studio, however, is not announcing deal until Breen concludes his job as director of the Production Code Administration of the Association of Motion Picture Producers.

Breen was accepting congratulations at the Jack Benny dinner from executives of other studios and asking them for their cooperation on his getting into a new venture.

'Kane' Admish Appears Too High Downtown; El Cap Biz So-So

'Citizen Kane' at the advanced scale of $1.50 and $1.10 top at night and 75 cents for matinees seems to be a little too much for the patrons of the RKO-Hillstreet theatre and at the El Capitan trade has been just fair. Picture on three days at the RKO downtown house did around $2,700 with the Sunday take for reserved seats being only around $850. The El Capitan got off to a $2,700 start on Thursday while its premiere grabbed around $1,000 on Friday, with Saturday being over $1,600. Yesterday, with the weather as opposition, the take was around $1,300.

Al St. John Spotted

Al St. John has been set to play the partner of Buster Crabbe in the group of features to be made by Sam Neufeld for Producers Releasing Corp., under title, 'Billy the Kid Series.'

Reties Ronald Reagan

Option on contract of Ronald Reagan has been lifted by Warners. His next assignment is 'Kings Row.' Studio has also hoisted option on Sophie Rosenstein's dramatic coach pact.

Lee Bonnell Upped

Lee Bonnell, RKO contract player, is upped to the romantic lead opposite Lucille Ball in 'Look Who's Talking.' Picture rolls today, with Allan Dwan producing and directing.

English's Mesquiteers

Jack English will direct the next Republic film for the Three Mesquiteers, 'Gangs of Sonora.'

Chas. W. Koerner Gets O'Connor's RKO Post

Charles W. Koerner, currently western division manager for RKO, will succeed John J. O'Connor as general manager of RKO theatre operations and leaves tomorrow to take over the New York post. Appointment was made Saturday by George Schaefer.

Tom Gorman who has been in

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

Spot Georgia Rollins

Paramount has signed Georgia Rollins for 'Sullivan's Travels.' Actress recently played the lead locally in 'Desire Under the Elms', legiter.

TUNES WILL RETURN TO NETWORK MAY 13

St. Louis, May 11.—Mutual network stockholders late today agreed to accept the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers contract, and Ascap music will be back on those airlanes beginning May 13. Agreement, countering earlier inconclusive action which threatened to balk negotiations, was reached after 86 stockholders voted affirmatively and 46 against.

By its provisions Mutual will pay 3% of program revenues for the next four years, and 3½% from then on until 1950.

Individual stations are left free to

★ Continued on page 8 ★

SEEK CHAPLIN FOR 'YORKSHIREMAN'

Frank Capra and Robert Riskin are dickering with Charlie Chaplin to play the lead in 'The Flying Yorkshireman'. Deal will be signed this week, it is expected, between the Capra-Riskin combine and Frank Lloyd, for the rights to the story.

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

RADIO SCRIBES SESSION ON SWG STRIKE IDEA

An emergency membership meeting of the Radio Writers Guild has been called for 7:45 o'clock tonight at the Roosevelt hotel to discuss the relation of air scripters to screen writers in the event that the SWG takes a strike vote. Officers of the SWG will appear before the radio writers to explain the situation and their efforts to get a new contract with the major companies covering wages and working conditions for film writers.

Simultaneously, it was stated that

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

Belita Speaks, Too

Belita, English skating star with 'Ice-Capades of 1941', has been given a speaking role when the picture goes into production at Republic.

Sisk At Par Today

Robert Sisk takes up his new duties today as an associate producer at Paramount.

BIZ WILL GUEST LA NAVY TOPS

The navy chiefs of staff of 11 Latin American countries now in the United States for a survey of defense industries will be guests of the motion picture industry Saturday (17). They will visit 20th-Fox in the morning, where Harry Brandt, William Goetz and Darryl F. Zanuck will be in charge of the entertainment.

The visitors will go to Metro for lunch, and will be given a banquet by the Navy Department that night.

♣ Continued on page 7 ♣

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, May 11.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Intermezzo	Schubert
My Sister and I	BMI
Amapola	Marks
Things I Love	Campbell
Maria Elena	Southern
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane
San Antonio Rose	Berlin

Team de Havilland, Raft For Warners 'Night'

Olivia de Havilland and George Raft will be co-starred in 'All Through the Night' at Warners. Vincent Sherman, whose option has been lifted by the studio, will direct. Leonard Spigelgass, who did the original with Leo Rosten, also will script.

Lewis Allen To Reach Par This Week

Lewis Allen, who directed the Helen Hayes legiter, 'Ladies and Gentlemen', checks in this week at Paramount to begin his contract there as a director, co-director and dialog director.

Maddux in 'O'Hara'

Jean Maddux of the vaude team of Maddux and Clark, joins the cast of 'Bullets for O'Hara' at Warners.

Benny's 'Aunt' Lenses

'Charley's Aunt', starring Jack Benny, will roll today at 20th-Fox under direction of Archie Mayo.

Signs Mickey Eissa

Mickey Eissa has been signed by Harry Sherman for Paramount's 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte.'

MG Tests Gale Storm

Gale Storm is being tested for role in new Andy Hardy film at Metro.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting Corp.	171
Major Studio Calls	251
FK Studio Service	58
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	486

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Hobart Bosworth back from Sacramento visit.

Ray Noble and his orchestra in from Chicago.

Cedric Gibbons en route to Honolulu for a two-week vacation.

Ed Estabrook celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary over the week-end.

Gene Meredith planes in today from NY where he was in 'Hellzapoppin'.

Arthur Hornblow and Myrna Loy are due tomorrow from their NY vacation.

Press preview of Metro's 'Love Crazy' will be held tonight at the Academy theatre.

Louis Schaffer, manager of 'Pins and Needles', in tomorrow from New York for opening at Biltmore Friday.

Dorothy Babb, formerly with Metro, is being tested for the role of Paula in 'The Constant Nymph' at Warners.

Universal has handed out term acting contracts to Robert Paige and Richard Davis. Paige goes into 'San Antonio Rose'.

Robert Fucillo, motion picture editor from Reuters New York office, is doing the studios for the next two weeks.

Dead End Kids threw a party Friday at Universal for the crew and cast of 'Sea Raiders' upon completion of the picture.

Nedda Harrigan is back here for the summer from New York where she played name lead in 'Charley's Aunt'. Play closed last week.

Lieut. John Farrow of the Royal Navy has returned here for short furlough with his wife, Maureen O'Sullivan. He has been on convoy duty for seven months.

Columbia used Abe Roth, local sports figure, as referee and technical expert on fight scenes shot at the Hollywood Legion Stadium Saturday for 'Heaven Can Wait'.

RKO is looking for a story in which to team Gloria Swanson and Adolphe Menjou. Players never have been teamed, although they once were top stars together at Paramount.

Paramount is considering using Allan Jones as the straight romantic lead in 'We're In the Navy Now', with the warbler's pipes to function only for dialog and no songs. Jones has just removed 16 pounds of weight.

Benny the Gouge sez—They are dusting off the old script of 'Queer People', a tale about Hollywood folk, who couldn't be half as queer as the tourists, even if they tried.

Hollywood Inside

NEW simplified single sound track developed for broader roadshowing of 'Fantasia' will not require the elimination of the various sound amplifiers that are installed in theatres to give the sound full play. When Fantasound was first developed by Disney engineers, concert feature carried eight separate tracks, requiring roadshowing in only a few houses that could be closed for a two-week period while necessary installation took place. Now that a single track sound has been perfected, the equipping of a theatre to play the picture is only an over-night job. Walt Disney first tried out the newer development for the run of the picture in Minneapolis at the Minnesota theatre. Screening there proved single sound track could display the advantages of Fantasound without loss of reproduction qualities and opened the way for Disney to close a distribution deal with RKO to handle future roadshow engagements in nearly every one of the country's theatres.

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ATTORNEYS are trying for an amicable settlement of L. Wolfe Gilbert's controversy with 20th-Fox over the use of 'Ride On Vaquero' as the title of the studio's current release. Back in 1929 as a songwriter at Fox, Gilbert and Abel Baer dished up a tune, 'Ride On Vaquero' for 'Romance of the Rio Grande.' Gilbert raises the point that while the song is the studio's property, the title applies only when used with the music and cannot be legally utilized as the title of a picture without permission of or compensation to the composer. Studio contends ownership of the title and all else contrived by Gilbert while on the studio payroll becomes its property. Songwriter was under contract to the publishing house at the time and farmed out for the studio job.

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ACTOR who is one of the town's most athletic gentlemen has been incurring the displeasure of a group of stunt men who resent his rough house tactics during takes. Stunt men, hot over the fact that the actor knocked out one of their number recently, are preparing their revenge, although the beef may cool off before the denouement. Seems the actor, suddenly anxious to prove he is a tough guy, smashed an extra much too hard during a gang fight scene. After that extras were not used, with stunt men being substituted for battle shots. Trouble arose when the actor, after he had been carefully coached, unwound a haymaker right on the stunt man's button. Victim claims he was double-crossed and his fellows feel the same way.

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'JOURNEY INTO FEAR', which David Hempstead planned for immediate production at RKO, has been set back and will not be made (if at all) until Michele Morgan's first picture, 'Joan of Paris', has been finished. George Schaefer okayed Hempstead's decision to set 'Journey' back because the background of the story is in the Balkans. Present conditions there might change matters so much that the film, when made, would be historically inaccurate and untimely. Ben Hecht has finished his treatment of the story. 'Joan of Paris' is also a war story, taking place after the Nazi occupation of Paris.

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CHINESE THEATRE patrons Friday night were thrown into an uproar of laughter when a gang of college fraternity boys invaded the house and staged an impromptu show while 'That Uncertain Feeling' was being screened. Just as Melvyn Douglas points a gun at Burgess Meredith (one of the tense scenes in the picture), the college lads, engaged in an initiation ceremony, trooped up and down the aisles, clanking a chain and wearing odd, sheeted costumes. Then they walked across the stage of the theatre, silhouetted against the screen. Frat boys took over the house for at least five minutes.

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HARRY SHERMAN is currently garnering exterior footage on three Hopalong Cassidy westerns in order to speed up his program for Paramount and eliminate unnecessary overhead involved in making three separate jaunts to distant locations. Producer now has 'Secret of the Wastelands' in work at Lone Pine and the additional footage being taken is for 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte', next Hopalong, and 'Timberwolves', slated as the third. Triple filming is also permitting producer to take advantage of weather now prevalent in that sector and avoid costly delays that might result later in the season.

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HOTTEST costumes (to wear) in any current picture are the 1900-model clothes in Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Little Foxes.' Technicians have defeated the recent terrific heat on sound stages where the film is shooting by building an air-cooling system. Outside the stage there is a pile of coke and above it is a huge quantity of ice. Ice water drips down on the coke and air is blown through the coke by a wind machine into a canvas tube which extends inside to the stage. Device has kept heavily-padded, corseted costumes from wilting between takes.

H'wood Film $1,300 Suit Hits Goldberg

Hollywood Film Enterprises has filed suit against J. S. Goldberg in Superior court, claiming $1,300 due under one-year written agreement involving marketing of 8 and 16 mm. films. Goldberg recently took action for $50,000 against Hollywood Film Enterprises alleging breach of oral contract for an additional year after written agreement expired. S. S. Silverton is attorney for Hollywood Film.

Frank Lloyd Selects 'Lewis' Locations

'I, James Lewis', Frank Lloyd production for Universal, will do sequences at two other studios as well as two long location hikes. Lloyd will use the tank stage at Paramount for a number of his scenes and the street set at 20th-Fox for others. Location jaunts include Lake Tahoe and the Catalina Isthmus. Fritz Colling will be second assistant director on the film.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

When hemale stars put on a feud
The war is loud but seldom rude.
The boys preserve their quietude
While flacks put on their stuff.

But when the gals put on a spat
And battle over this or that
In yonder movie habitat,
It isn't any bluff.

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Men fight boisterously and calm down when the heat subsides. They never can achieve the cool rage of a pair of feminine feudists.

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Marquee on the New Lincoln theatre:
'She Couldn't Say No.'
'Here Comes the Navy.'

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Versatile actress is Dorothy Lamour, who wafts from 'King and Queen of the Jungle' to 'Angels in Furs.' An angel would look swanky in a sarong trimmed with ermine tails.

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Ruth Warrick goes to work today in 'True to Form' and also true to spelling.

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Speaking of names, the most tempestuous to blow into Hollywood in recent years is Gale Storm.

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Field day for electric bulb putter-oners:
'The Life and Stories of Hans Christian Andersen.'
'Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell in the Navy.'

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Those contented cows you see out in the meadows won't feel any more contentment when they learn that butter jumped a nickel a pound over the week-end.

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Don Terry, once an amateur knuckle champ, is handing daily boxing lessons to Stirling Hayden, in case that feud with Errol Flynn emerges from the verbal stage.

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'21 Whistlers' may go over on the screen, but any old scribe will tell you that it is a jinx to whistle in a newspaper office.

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Even though the Devil has been fooling around Hollywood with Miss Jones and Daniel Webster, there is hope for regeneration. Now comes 'God In His Heaven.'

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Latest in feminine appurtenances are formal shorts for evening wear. Marlene Dietrich started something when she broke out with those trousers.

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To date, La Dietrich has not been seen about town with Baron Hubert von Pantz.

'King Rubber' has nothing to do with the sight-seeing bus business.

Gene Tierney is allergic to smoke. And as 'Belle Starr' the gal draws her trusty rod and shoots it out with the U. S. Cavalry.

Gene Raymond finally gets a role in a Jeanette MacDonald picture—and loses the gal.

NBC Side Show

Martha Tilton did all the singing with the band—and plenty good.

'Love In Bloom' was sawed away, after the Benny technique, while the band rested.

Spotted dancing to Gordon Jenkins' music—Paul Rickenbacher and Lolly Parsons.

Hedda Hopper was virtually mobbed by the photogs. Gals gave her headgear a double take.

NBC orders on the party were 'go first class all the way.' Ask anyone who was there if they didn't top that.

Flowers from well-wishers were strewn all over the bowl and overflowed into the foyer in regimented profusion.

Prexy Trammell bouqueted Hal Bock, Joe Alvin and Frances Scully of the NBC publicity staff for a job well done.

Clay Morgan handled the whole affair with barely a squawk. That should call for a merit badge or something.

It was easily a 90% picture turnout, which should make the industry cognizant of their radio friends when they toss a party.

Those comics must have savvied fast when Bob Hope cracked, 'Radio is hard on the hair. Your forehead and Crossley go up together.'

Jell-O was not served. Those toothsome morsels were pretty tough to follow. Probably Clay Morgan couldn't think up a fancy name for it.

Don Gilman spent most of his time at the speakers' table standing, mitting the couples as they danced by. Is there anyone that guy doesn't know?

Colossal was the word for the gifts showered on 'The Bee' man. The birthday cake had to be wheeled in and two huskies bore the case of silver service.

Autograph hounds caught the celebs coming out at 1:30 a.m., and had a field day. Kay Kyser and Ginny Simms had to beg off after finger cramps set in.

Benny just couldn't play straight for his writers, Bill Morrow and Ed Beloin. After accolading them for being terrific writers, he flipped, 'I introduced them just to see if they could stand.'

Downtown sheets boycotted the Benny dinner as 'un-newsworthy'—but not socially. The biggies and their columnists were out in force. NBC-ites took it big and gave them choice locations.

Trammell and Sidney Strotz, NBC program chief, planed out Saturday for broadcasters' conclave in St. Louis. Other out-of-town visitors dribbled back to their home bases over the weekend.

Jimmy Walker's presence was a real surprise. The hand they gave him must have made him feel pretty good. He returned the gesture by remarking, 'I'm one fellow who knows all Hollywood isn't synthetic.'

Jack Benny Paid Homage Via Serious Tribute, Flip Banter

The kilocycles and the sprockets got together last Friday night in Biltmore Bowl to pay homage to one of their favorite sons, Jack Benny, entering upon his 10th year as a topflight giggle-getter. Serious tribute vied with flip banter for one of the most sentimental and hilarious evenings of this or any other year. Benny's radio pals, all past masters of the quip, paid their respects in the way they knew best, to the howling delight of 1,200-some stiff-bosomed guests.

It wasn't all persiflage, however, for there was the serious business at hand of glad-handing and well-wishing the nation's Sunday night cheerer-upper, embarking on another decade of spreading laughs among a war-worried populace. Such notable sentimentalists as Jimmy Walker, George Jessel, Niles Trammel, Don Gilman balanced off the evening against the onslaught of the zaneys and the blending of the two made it a memorable event.

NBC hosted the party, about $25,000 worth, but NBC Prexy Trammell must have felt well repaid when Benny levelled with 'I hope I'm with NBC the rest of my radio career.' In many minds that put at rest any possibility of him skipping over to any other network. When a man makes that kind of a statement in a mellow mood the blue chips can ride along with it. Benny never sounded more sincere.

MIRACLE OCCURS

Hollywood said it couldn't be done, but the miracle happened. It was a dress-up affair down to one careless bulb-popper. Along the speakers' table were ranged the white ties, all others turned out in tuxes. Clay Morgan, aide to Trammell, who handled the arrangements, proudly presented his minority report. The odds were all against a 100% dress affair, considering the unseasonable heat, but there they were, and there are pictures to prove it.

When Gilman tapped for order and gave a facetious accounting of Toastmaster Rudy Vallee, the crowd all knew they were in for a fast ride the rest of the way. Vallee didn't let the tempo sag for a minute, flipped 'I'm here largely to see that NBC gets the check—payment at the source.' He trade-lasted Benny for letting others of his cast bask in the spotlight and then called up Edgar Bergen, who forthwith unpacked Charlie. How the old vaude bookers would have winced to see that opening act. After a few exchanges with the dummy, Bergen cracked, 'Yes, I was in vaudeville with Benny. We were the ones that weakened it so Bob Hope could make the kill.' Charlie had the next line. 'It's not Chase & Sanborn that keeps you awake, Bergen, it's Jell-O'. Bergen passed it off with 'the crown rests on the head it fits best,' but Charlie served notice 'we'll steal it if we can.'

Jim and Marian Jordan (Fibber and Molly) were next up, and whammed the mob with 'anyone who can parlay a fiddle, Fred Allen and a polar bear into a career deserves a dinner.' Quipped Molly, 'all NBC did for us on our 10th anniversary was to start signing our contracts with ink.' When Fibber remarked that Benny was to have his own network, Molly shot back, 'they've got to give one away to someone, don't they?' Trady and timely and the mob ate it up.

VALLEE GETS CHUCKLE

Vallee cuts himself in for a laugh when, on introducing Colby Chester, board chairman of General Foods, he quipped, 'a sponsor is the man who pays for the radio program his wife runs.' Chester didn't mind it as much as being introduced with his front name last. George Burns and Gracie Allen directed their sally at Hilliard Marks, brother of Mary Livingstone. Tossing a glance at the 220-pounder, Gracie jibed, 'now there's a kid who could use a good dinner.' George said he knew him when he was a baby, that he looked like Arthur Lyons—about 10% of him. Sam Lyons took a ribbing as 'interpreter for Benny's father.'

Next called up was Bob Hope, who wanted to know if the order of appearance had anything to do with the Crossley. 'I had the choice of sitting at the speakers' table or being put in the men's room but I don't get along so well with the CBS gang,' he cracked. There weren't a half-dozen Columbians in the room. He then wowed them with 'Benny is a very generous guy. I saw him giving away dollar bills, the same day that Hearst went to see 'Citizen Kane'. He bowed off by saying that 'when bigger laughs are manufactured Rochester will get them.'

JESSEL DEADPANS

A roar swept through the Bowl when Vallee classified the next speaker as 'the man who has done so much for the youth of America.' The crowd at once sensed that it was George Jessel. He took it big and dead-panned, 'those who have been reading the papers know that I have been particularly busy this year.' He then went serious and paid high tribute to the Benny program for the tolerance of many races and creeds on the program. 'That's what makes it a great show and this a great country,' he exulted. 'Long may it live and long may it laugh at Jack Benny.' The mob gave him a tremendous hand.

Surprise guest was Jimmy Walker, onetime New York's hizzoner. Called to the dais by Jessel, he flipped, 'I've turned out to be a buttonmaker,' referring to his new job with the needle trade. Shunning the glaring spotlight with 'I hate those lights,' he struck a serious note when he

● Continued on page 7 ●

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

RECEIVER for John Barrymore, debtor, is a big task. Not alone must Sam Miller, who has the job, keep track of incoming and outgoing coin, allowances to Barrymore, etc., but he must also keep track of Barrymore's attorneys. Since the court has been administering Barrymore's financial affairs, he has had a score of attorneys. Miller said he cannot keep track of the number but it is close to 100. On Saturday he was notified that Roland Rich Woolley and Hiram Casey no longer will front for Barrymore, as Earl Moss and Gordon Leroy were just chosen to replace them.

Baby Sandy made a recording of three nursery rhymes and the platter was sent to her 89-year-old grandmother, at Brimfield, Ill., as a Mother's Day gift.

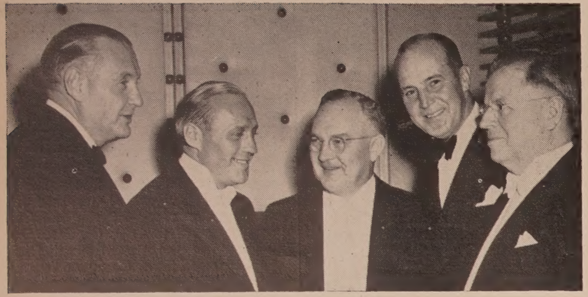
ARTHUR MARX, son of Groucho Marx, and Edgar Ward, Jane Wyatt's husband, were entrants in the 51st annual Pacific Coast Men's Doubles tennis tournament played at the Santa Barbara Biltmore over the weekend. Helen Wills Roark played in exhibition mixed doubles. Constance Bennett, Gilbert Roland and Margery Cummings were among those going up for the event. . . . Olympe Bradna will be married Wednesday to Douglas Wood Wilhoit in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Beverly Hills. Small formal wedding will be attended by members of the two families only. Mrs. James Canby III will act as matron of honor, and her husband will be best man. . . . Jane Withers, Freddie Bartholomew, Buddy Pepper, Joe Brown, Jr., June Carlson, George Ernst, Marvin Stephens and others have made a newsreel clip plugging sale of National Defense bonds. They also made radio transcriptions for the same purpose.

Harry Peale's new song, 'You've Gone', written in collaboration with Allien Lair, will be sung over KFI tonight at 11:30 by Dave Marshall. Peale is RKO studio cashier.

MONTHLY luncheon meeting of the Motion Picture Mothers Inc. will be at the Hollywood Athletic Club today with Mrs. Daisy Seiler, mother of Phyllis Brooks, reading from Maurice Maeterlinck's 'Mary Magdalene.' . . . May Robson was given title of 'America's Most Intelligent Mother' by the American Women's Congress in a ceremony at player's home yesterday. In token she was handed bouquet made up of flowers from each of the 48 states.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
Represents . . .
BURT KELLY
PRODUCER
Under contract Paramount

NBC GOES TO TOWN FOR JACK BENNY



Fighting Mayor Fletcher Bowron shakes hand of Jell-O's greatest salesman. Approving looks belong to George Schaefer, RKO biggie, left, Fred Beetson, Hays office rep, and Y. Frank Freeman, Producers' ass'n prexy.

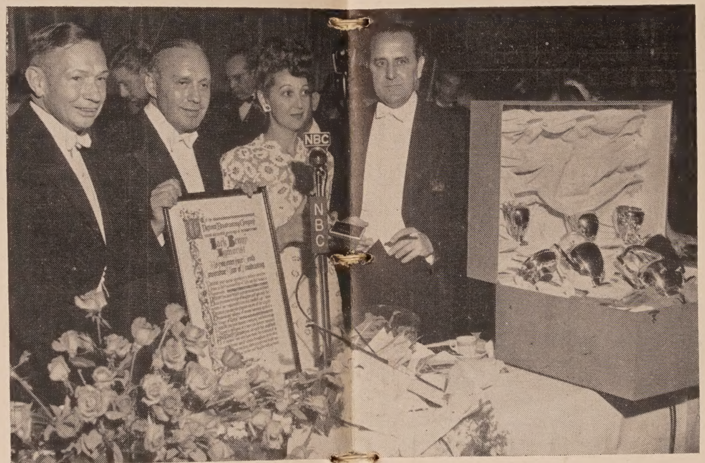
Round of laughs is on Niles Trammell's ass't, Clay Morgan. As eye travels, Tom Harrington, Young & Rubicam v.p. in charge of radio; L. N. Brockway, also Y & R v.p.; Charles G. Mortimer, v.p., General Foods, and Colby Chester, General Foods chairman of board.

Lovely Irene Rich shoots a picture but it isn't of her escort, KFI-KECA boss, Earle C. Anthony.

Everybody's enjoying Jack Benny's gag at the head table except Rudy Vallee. He's too busy getting ready for next intro as toastmaster. As if you didn't know hilarity runs from "Bee Man" Benny to Trammell, to Mary Livingstone, to Rudy to Don E. Gilman.

Fibber McGee: "What did NBC give US on OUR tenth anniversary?" Molly: "They started signing our contracts with ink!"

Bob Hope: "Benny's my favorite among the older comedians."



NBC Prexy Niles Trammell plays Santa Claus to Waukegan's first citizen with gold keys to Radio Cities, ritzy scroll and princely silver service as tenth anniversary gifts. In usual order are Don E. Gilman, J. B., Mary L. and Niles T. at Biltmore Bowl head table.

Darryl Zanuck looks over talent under NBC banner.

Charlie McCarthy to Edgar Bergen: "Bergen, it ain't Chase & Sanborn that keeps you awake at night. It's Jell-O!"

NBC coast to coasted Bennys (plus Joanie) from library of Benny home.

Dottie Lamour and John W. Swallow, NBC western program chief, having fun, too.

Bertha Brainard, lovely mgr. of NBC's program and talent sales, with Bob Burns.

Prof. Kay Kyser and Ginny Simms dance together as usual.

Mary L's fond look is for handsome Toastmaster Rudy Vallee.

John Royal, NBC's international division v.p., sits with Leonora Corbett.

'Kane' Players Get Buildup at RKO; Comingore Set

RKO, after the players have been built up by 'Citizen Kane', is lining up top roles in other pictures for Dorothy Comingore, Ruth Warrick and Joseph Cotten. Likewise, the studio is pushing other fresh talent ahead.

'Unexpected Uncle', which starts this week under Tay Garnett's direction with Erich Pommer as producer, will be Miss Comingore's next. Actress is then slated to go into 'Valley of the Sun', with James Craig. Craig played his first top role in 'Kitty Foyle.'

Studio has Cotten lined up for two. Ruth Warrick, another Mercury Player, is scheduled first for 'True to Form' and next for 'Two On An Island.' Michele Morgan, French star, makes her American debut in 'Joan of Paris', which David Hempstead will produce.

Warners Buys Play, Also 'Jook' Original

New York, May 11.—Warners bought, without its having had a legit presentation, a comedy of a band working in a Jersey nitery, and variously titled 'Big Boy Blue', 'Soothe the Savage Beast' and 'Opus 802.' Play was partially set for Broadway production last fall. Authors are Edwin Gilbert and Elia Kazan. Latter collaborated on revising play after Gilbert had sole credit while it was being readied for Broadway. Warners also bought 'Jook Girl', an original by Theodore Pratt dealing with the swampland niteries in Florida known as 'Jook Joints.'

Sam Ledner Named As Par Terp Supervisor

Sam Ledner has been signed by Paramount as dance supervisor. Ledner has been general stage manager for B. G. De Sylva's three musicals in New York, 'Louisiana Purchase', 'Panama Hattie' and 'Du Barry Was a Lady.'

Heading East

Rowland Brown (TWA)
Dave Sigal (SF)
Jules White
Tom Harrington (TWA)
William Thomas (TWA)
Niles Trammell (TWA)
Clay Morgan (TWA)
Sidney Strotz
Norma Squires (UP)
M. S. White (AA)
W. B. Bissinger (AA)
Harry Brandt (SF)
Lew Fields (SF)
Mr. and Mrs. E. Crosby (UP)
Sam Coslow (UP)
Louis B. Mayer (SF)

In from the East

Robert Fucillo
Alan Mowbray (UA)
Edmund Lowe (TWA)
Ray Noble (UP)
Spyros Skouras
Leo Taub
Arthur Hornblow
Myrna Loy
Lieut. John Farrow
Nedda Harrigan
Gene Meredith

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

Pending resumption of relations with Ascap and the networks, following is an analysis of the combined plugs on major networks as clocked on New York key stations: NBC (WEAF and WJZ) and CBS (WABC), computed for the week of Saturday through Friday. (May 3-9). Total represents accumulated performances on these major networks from 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Until Ascap returns to the air, there will be no notations of filmusical or legit song excerpts.

Title	Publisher	Total
Amapola	Marks	36
Maria Elena	Southern	36
My Sister and I	BMI	31
Things I Love	Campbell	30
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane	25
No. 10 Lullaby Lane	Warren	25
It All Comes Back to Me	BMI	23
G'Bye Now	BMI	23
Walkin' By the River	BMI	22
Two Hearts That Pass in the Night	Marks	22
Wise Old Owl	BMI	21
Time and Time Again	London	21
With a Twist of the Wrist	BMI	20
Intermezzo	Schubert	20
South of North Carolina	Porgie	19
Look At Me Now	Embassy	18
Because of You	BMI	18
Let's Get Away From It All	Embassy	16
Perfidia	Southern	16
There'll Be Some Changes Made	Marks	15
For Want of a Star	Marks	15
Ida, Sweet as Cider	Marks	15
Romantic Guy, I	Nationwide	15

Coast League Baseball Results

Sunday Doubleheaders

Los Angeles, 1-6; Hollywood, 13-1.
Oakland, 4-7; Sacramento, 5-6.
San Diego, 1-5; Seattle, 4-2.
San Francisco, 10-2; Portland, 9-4.

Saturday Scores

Los Angeles, 8; Hollywood, 4.
Oakland, 5; Sacramento, 4.
San Francisco, 6; Portland, 0.
San Diego, 9-11; Seattle, 7-0—(doubleheader.)

Friday Games

Los Angeles, 3; Hollywood, 1.
Sacramento, 10; Oakland, 1.
Seattle, 5; San Diego, 4.
Portland, 5; San Francisco, 4.

Blair At Xtras Meet

Aubrey Blair, Hollywood organizer for the American Federation of Labor, has been invited to attend the meeting of the Extras Advisory Council tomorrow night at 1753 Highland. Harry Mayo, chairman of the Council, sent a wire to Blair congratulating him on his appointment by the AF of L to investigate the extras setup in the Screen Actors Guild, and suggesting he could get first hand information by attending the session.

Del Ruth At Work

Roy Del Ruth returns to Metro today, after a bout with the flu, to resume work on 'The Chocolate Soldier.' Nelson Eddy will make wardrobe tests and special recordings today.

Trio For 'Texas'

Andrew Tombes, Addison Richards and Edward McDonald have been signed to play two-gun killers in Columbia's 'Texas.'

Jules White East

Jules White left Saturday for New York to line up his 1941-42 Columbia shorts program.

SEEK CHAPLIN FOR 'YORKSHIREMAN'

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

Negotiations for the yarn have been completed save for inking the contract.

Lloyd had planned to use Charles Laughton for his production of 'The Flying Yorkshireman', but that arrangement failed to work out. Story, a fantasy, would be a natural for Chaplin.

Meanwhile, Capra and Riskin have not yet signed with either Warners or Sam Goldwyn (both heavy bidders for their services) for their next picture.

Spyros Skouras In On Greek Relief

Spyros Skouras planed in from New York over the weekend, on Greek War Relief matters. He was accompanied by his aide, John Healy. National Theatre prexy expects to remain here better part of a week.

RCA Sets Divvies

New York, May 11.—Quarterly dividends on outstanding shares of Radio Corporation of America $3.50 Cumulative Convertible First Preferred stock and outstanding shares of 'B' Preferred are respectively 87½ cents per share and $1.25. Dividends are for period from April 1, 1941 to June 30, and will be paid July 1 to stockholders of record on June 6.

Color Metro's 'Through'

Natalie Kalmus and Henry Jaffa have been made the color photographic experts on 'Smilin' Through' at Metro.

Tuneup 'Minstrel'

Moe Jerome and Jack Scholl will write the music and lyrics for 'Minstrel Days', Warners Technicolor short.

WB Reties Max Steiner

Max Steiner, musical director and composer, has been given a four-year contract by Warners.

Small's 'Lady,' Korda's 'Illusions' Move To Goldwyn Lot

Edward Small's 'International Lady', under direction of Tim Whelan, moves over to the Goldwyn lot for three days' shooting. Martin Kosleck, through arrangements with David Hempstead, has been secured by Small for a character role.

Alexander Korda's 'Illusions', with headquarters also on the General Service lot, has likewise shifted to the Goldwyn lot due to cramped space.

Nick Castle Receives U Term Contract

Nick Castle, dance director under contract to 20th-Fox for the past five years, has signed a term deal at Universal and his first chore under the new ticket will be the handling of the song and dance routines for the Andrews Sisters in 'Oh, Charlie', and then 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', another Abbott and Costello comedy. Castle has done the dance direction on two recent pictures at Universal on loan from 20th-Fox.

Betsy Blair Optioned By 20th In NY

New York, May 11.—Betsy Blair, who played lead in William Saroyan's 'The Beautiful People', has been optioned by 20th-Fox. She will be tested here with prospect of term contract. Spotted by Saroyan in a 45th street bistro, her total previous experience has been a bit dancing role in 'Panama Hattie', which she left to join 'People.'

Schlesinger Deal Nears

A deal between Leon Schlesinger and the Screen Cartoonists Guild appeared a step nearer today, following action of the Schlesinger Guild unit in agreeing to make certain concessions in their demands. Members of the unit at a meeting Friday night voted to make certain reductions in the higher brackets in an effort to speed up an agreement.

Arthur Up For 'Susie'

Sam Wood is reported seeking Jean Arthur for the lead in 'Miss Susie Slagle's.' Director is in Baltimore hunting locations for the Paramount picture.

Beavers in 'Wild Wind'

Louise Beavers will have a top supporting role in Cecil B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount.

Story Buys

Universal has bought a magazine story, 'Temporarily Yours', by Duane Decker and Charles O'Neill.

Columbia has bought 'Candy Takes a Job', magazine yarn by Elizabeth Dunn.

HOLLYWOOD HERE I AM

Am in the forties, travel light, good appearing and wash my neck often. Spent 20 years in big-time vaudeville writing, producing and managing successfully. Am keen judge of talent and don't ooze with larceny. Will take sunshine and dime-a-dozen oranges to get my Florsheim's on the ground—then look out. Don't pass me by. (Props—3 lead pencils and a tin cup.)

Box 12 Daily Variety

Benny Paid Homage Via Serious Tribute And Flip Banter

● Continued from page 3 ●

remarked, 'Time was when people couldn't see me, but now I want to see them.' After paying his respects to Benny and Mary Livingstone as a lovely couple, Walker begged off by saying he was waiting for his wheel chair.

Vallee got himself in solid at the City Hall by having Fletcher Bowron take a bow as 'the best mayor L. A. ever had.' Trammell followed, recalling that 18 years ago he was peddling receiving sets here. He lauded Benny and his cohorts for 'making the country laugh when it needed it most,' and then brought the evening's honor guest to the mike. The crowd rose as one and gave him an ovation that lasted fully two minutes. It was an hour past midnight and Benny laid it on for a hilarious windup.

'I want to thank NBC for inviting so many comics to speak,' he sparked. 'There have been eight up here and I'm standing on Milton Berle. Why do they have to louse up a guy's testimonial? I'd like to say that I wasn't discovered by Vallee, Gus Edwards or anyone else. I was found under a rock in Waukegan by Arthur Lyons. His brother Sam said I looked good for 10 years on the radio and we've all been eating since, only it's more becoming on Arthur.'

LAUDS SHOW MEMBERS

Benny called on members of his show to take bows and lauded each for his work. Speaking of Rochester, he said, 'there's one picture he won't steal and that's 'Charley's Aunt''. He's not in it.' Mary Livingstone had to beg off from saying a few words, a sporting gesture inasmuch as the others didn't do any talking.

Gifts were showered on Benny as the festive evening came to a close. Frank Freeman, on behalf of the Producers Association, gave him a watch; NBC presented him with a silver service, the master keys to all NBC studios in New York and Hollywood, and a scroll. Timepiece bore the inscription, 'To Jack Benny—in appreciation of his services to humanity.' Freeman added that the sentiment is engraved on all our hearts.

It was radio's first big social outing here and gave the others something to shoot at. It won't easily be topped, east or west.

Virginia Sale's Sked

Virginia Sale will do two performances of her 'One Woman Show' tonight for trainees at Camp Callan, San Diego. She will follow with performances at Fort Rosencrans, Camp San Luis Obispo and Fort MacArthur.

Holden Tops 'Port'

William Holden goes into the top role in 'Channel Port' at Paramount. Picture, with Fred Kohlmar as associate producer, rolls July 1.

Title Changes

'The Gentle People', Warners, to 'Danger Harbor'.

Paramount's 'Dildo Cay' to 'Bahama Passage'.

RADIO SCRIBES SESSION ON SWG STRIKE IDEA

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the conference between the Producers and the SWG has been moved forward to tonight instead of tomorrow night. The SWG executive board will meet earlier in the day to consider counter proposals that were submitted to the scriveners last week. The general belief is that these counter proposals will be turned down. This was indicated by the fact that the SWG continued with its plans to sound out the membership on the advisability of taking a strike vote if the Guild demands are 'not reasonably met' by the Producers.

A special membership meeting of the SWG has been called for Monday night (19) at the Roosevelt hotel. The board has requested 'every member to be present and be prepared to express himself fully on this critical issue'. Because of the emergency, telegrams were sent to members of the Radio Writers Guild urging them to attend tonight's session.

If a strike vote is taken, the SWG probably will appoint committees to contact other guilds and unions to seek their support. These would include crafts affiliated with the Hollywood Guild Council, which was sponsored by the film writers. Vic Shapiro and Milt Watt now are handling publicity for the SWG.

'Fibber' On Top

'Fibber McGee and Molly' is now the No. 1 airshow in both the Crossley (C.A.B.) and Hooper reports. Johnson wax comedy show landed in the top position on the latest C.A.B. release with a point and a fraction to spare.

BIZ WILL GUEST LA NAVY TOPS

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

Y. Frank Freeman will preside at the Metro lunch, with E. J. Mannix acting as studio host. The luncheon will be industry wide, with representatives attending from the various studios.

Lieut. Commander A. J. Bolton has been assigned by Rear Admiral C. A. Blakely to ast as liaison officer between the industry and the Navy during the visit of the foreign Navy chiefs. They will be accompanied by Admiral A. T. Beauregard, of the United States Navy.

Solons, others to Attend Variety Club Sesh

Atlantic City, May 11.—Cabinet members, 10 U. S. senators and a score of mayors will be among those outside of show business who'll be here for convention of Variety Clubs opening (15). Exhibitors from all over the country will make up one of the heaviest contingents.

Stanley Rauh Writing 20th 'Cadet' Musiker

Stanley Rauh will do the screen play on 'Cadet Girl', an original musical by Robert Carson, for production by Sol M. Wurtzel at 20th-Fox. Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger have been assigned to do the songs for feature.

Lamour Given 'Furs'

Following 'King and Queen of the Jungle', Dorothy Lamour's next picture, Paramount has cast her in 'Angels in Furs.' Lester Cole is writing the screenplay. Actress will have a Honolulu vacation first.

Collab on 20th 'Heart'

Robert Ellis and Helen Logan are working on the script for 20th-Fox's 'A Right to the Heart.' Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger will do the songs for the musical which William LeBaron will produce.

Chas. W. Koerner Gets O'Connor's RKO Post

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

charge of RKO theatre operations in Chicago, it is said, will take over the Koerner post here.

Koerner started in pic biz in the northwest in 1914 as an exhibitor and in 1919 joined the Jensen and Von Herberg outfit in Seattle. For six years he handled distribution of First National in the Portland and Montana area. In 1925 he acquired interest in the George Mann circuit of northern California and was its general manager until the Hughes-Franklin circuit took over the houses in 1931, with Koerner becoming personal representative of Harold B. Franklin and going with the latter to RKO that year.

First he was division manager of RKO southern territory and later handled theatres in northern New York from the home office, afterward taking over the New England territory out of Boston. It was from there he was brought out here two years ago to succeed Cliff Work who went to Universal.

Koerner has made no choice as film buyer to succeed Fred Meyers, who resigned with O'Connor.

Schaefer will tender Koerner a farewell stag dinner tonight at the studio with executives from the plant and local exhibs attending.

Frisco Exhibs Co-op In Citizenship Week

San Francisco, May 11.—Frisco exhibs are cooperating 100% in a citywide Citizenship Week drive sponsored by Mayor Rossi's Citizenship Week committee, with 34 houses running special trailers and distributing free citizenship booklets. Approached with a request to handle 25,000 of the pamphlets, the exhibs got together and offered to dispose of 100,000, which sent the committee back to its presses in a hurry. Theatremen point out it's just another evidence of show-business willingness to help in any and every way which may be of benefit to the national welfare.

Kohn Reaches 20th

Ben Grauman Kohn checks in at 20th-Fox today to do the screenplay on 'Hot Nocturne' after finishing 'American Empire' for Harry Sherman at Paramount.

Universal Holds Last Of Regional Meets At Studio May 23

Universal will hold the third and final of a series of regional exchange men's meetings at the studio May 23-24, with delegates from all western division exchanges attending. F. T. Murray, Universal branch operations manager, will preside. Also at the conference will be J. J. Jordan, home office contract sales manager.

Branch operations executives, office managers, exchange bookers, district bookers and traveling auditors from the eastern division last Friday and Saturday attended the first of the series of meetings in Atlantic City. Preceding the one here there will be a conference for midwestern and southern region representatives at Chicago May 16-17. Murray and Jordan will be at all meetings.

THREAT OF DISNEY STRIKE OFFED

Threat of an American Federation of Labor strike at the Walt Disney Studio was eliminated over the weekend when Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, agreed to discuss problems of the Screen Cartoonists Guild with a Guild grievance committee pending the National Labor Relations Board hearing set for Monday (19). The deal was set at a conference between Spreckels, Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

Sorrell and other union tops expressed the belief that the SCG and other crafts would experience little difficulty in reaching an amicable agreement with the company so long as the negotiations are handled by Spreckels. He said that Spreckels has been entirely fair with the unions and that his appointment as labor contact undoubtedly averted a strike and saved the company the expense of a walkout.

The NLRB hearing is on a complaint charging that Disney and other company executives sponsored a company union in the Federation of Screen Cartoonists. If the board upholds the SCG accusation, the Guild will immediately demand recognition as the exclusive bargaining representative for all Disney cartoon workers.

Ill in Pix

JAMES KINNEY, machinist at Technicolor plant, was bowled over by the heat Friday, treated at Hollywood hospital and then taken home to recover.

GEORGE GLASS, downed by a cold, at home in bed.

ELLEN DREW bedded with ptomaine.

FOR SALE—BEACH HOME

Two story stucco. Furnished, 9 rooms. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths, large 2 story living room. Lot 50x350. On private beach, double garage. $7000.

DOUGLAS MURRAY
30732 Roosevelt Highway
(9 miles from Malibu)

Col. R'cdg Parleys On Tomorrow for New Wage Minimums

Columbia Recording Corp. and its striking employes have reached a tentative agreement on seniority rights of workers, and are preparing to resume negotiations tomorrow on minimum wage demands of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union. After a four-hour discussion Saturday, it was agreed that the union would draw up a seniority clause that would give the company entire control of its plant and at the same time protect the employes.

The company had complained that plant-wide seniority would not permit it to move men from one department to another in emergencies and would give the union control of the plant. Union tops said the clause would be drawn so as to give the company the control it desired.

The wage situation was taken up briefly Saturday, but the two groups were unable to get together. The union had offered to prune its demand for a 75 cents per hour ceiling to 65 cents, but company officials would not go above 1.7 cents per hour increase from the current 55 cents minimum. They said pay for holidays, however, would bring the increase up to approximately four cents per hour. Both company and union officials stated that progress was being made, and expressed the belief that the two groups would get together this week on a deal that would permit reopening of the plant which has been closed since April 11.

Obituary

CISSY FITZGERALD

Cissy Fitzgerald, 68, former Broadway star and one of the earliest film players, died May 5 in Ovingdean, near Brighton, Eng. As a stage star she played under the management of Charles Frohman and Charles Dillingham on Broadway. As a screen actress she made her initial appearance in 50 feet of film to help out Thomas A. Edison when he was trying to perfect a motion picture camera. Later she acted in a number of two-reelers for J. Stuart Blackton, pioneer producer, and subsequently produced pictures of her own in Miami and Hollywood. Among her stage starrers were 'The Gaiety Girl', 'The Foundling', 'On and Off', 'The Belle of New York', and others. On the screen Miss Fitzgerald appeared in more than 100 films of varying lengths. Among them were 'The Winsome Widow' and 'The Diplomat' for Fox Movietone; 'Laugh, Clown, Laugh' for Metro, and other features, including 'Painted Angel', 'Social Sinners' of Tuxedo Talking Comedies. In private life she was Mrs. Cissy Tucker.

PEGGY SHANNON

Peggy Shannon, 31, was found dead yesterday in her home, 4318 Ervin avenue, North Hollywood, by her husband, Albert C. Roberts, studio worker, when he returned from a fishing trip. Death probably was natural, but an inquest will be asked.

MUTUAL, ASCAP DEAL SIGNED; BACK MAY 13

★ Continued from page 1 ★

make separate agreements for local broadcasting of Ascap.

Previous ballot had showed 61 to 40 in favor of the agreement. While this constituted a majority of those who actually voted, it did not represent a majority of the 175 affiliates, and the matter, therefore, was up in the air until decisive action was taken at today's late afternoon meeting, following many hours of speeches and debate.

It had been assumed then that no action would be taken until the convention of National Association of Broadcasters meets Tuesday at the Jefferson hotel.

Dissenters to the ratification of the music pact were led by John Shepard, III, prexy of the Yankee and Colonial networks, and Hulburd Taft, Jr., owner of WKRC, Cincinnati. They declared there was no necessity to hasten the negotiations with Ascap. Proponents were headed by W. E. MacFarlane of Chicago, prexy of Mutual, and McCosker. 'It's the best music tax proposal I ever heard of,' McCosker said.

MacFarlane, who also is v.p. of Mutual's Chicago outlet, WGN, declared that Mutual 'had a responsibility to its listeners and advertisers to bring all catalogued music back to radio.' He added, 'I disagreed with the viewpoint that you can eliminate the best music from the air and not suffer. The suffering may not be immediate in dollars and cents, but the entire industry suffers from the loss of prestige.'

Mutual's meeting two days in advance of the NAB opening was frankly admitted as an effort to beat NBC and CBS to a settlement of the industry's wrangle with Ascap.

CHARGES SMOKE SCREEN

In a prepared speech, MacFarlane said 'Mutual will be charged at the convention with trying to sell the radio industry down the river. This is dust to blind the eyes of listeners, advertisers and radio talent. It also is a smoke screen behind which NBC and CBS seek to retain the tremendous profits from their own affiliates.'

MacFarlane told reporters after the futile meeting this morning that failure of Mutual members to sign the Ascap contract was, in effect, a victory for NBC and CBS. John G. Paine, general manager, and E. C. Mills, chairman of the administrative committee of Ascap, were in the same hotel awaiting an invitation to appear before the Saturday session. The meeting had just gotten under way when a dance orchestra in an adjoining room struck up 'God Bless America', an Ascap tune. Identity of the person who engineered the gag was not learned, but the Mutual crowd, who heard every note, apparently didn't like it.

NAB CONFAB OPENS TUESDAY IN ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, May 11.—Nineteenth annual convention of National Assn. of Broadcasters opens Tuesday at the New Jefferson hotel. Monday is reserved for preliminary meetings symbolic of the need for networks to get together with their affiliates on the Federal Communications Commission report and still unsolved Ascap situation. Networks may try to hurry through a settlement with the Society to get this issue out of the way. Edward Klauber, exec v.p. of CBS, is huddling here with Ascap's E. C. Mills and John Paine at Klauber's invitation. Both networks have extremely large delegations here.

As to which is the more serious problem for the convention, the government or the Ascap one, comment is 'which hurts most when a man with a toothache gets hit by a falling brick'? An ironic situation confronts the convention in that one of the scheduled speakers is Chairman James L. Fly of the FCC, chief author of the drastic proposals which has shaken broadcasting to its roots.

Advance opinion is that the convention will probably not approve the request for $250,000 to set up a special public relations fund although the view is spreading in the radio business that the trade has done an inadequate job in protecting itself against Washington bureaucrats by selling itself harder and more intelligently to the general public and more particularly to organized groups of citizens.

Estimates of possible registration at the conclave run as high as 900, probably setting an all-time record. Delegates are scattered all over town, with cliques more marked than usual and the Mutual network, which had indorsed the government report, suffering from some lack of universal industry popularity.

Soph Very Much Alive

New York, May 11.—Reports circulated in New York that Sophie Tucker had died were checked by Associated Press in Frisco, where she is current at the Bal Tabarin. Called at her hotel, Sophie replied that she was very much dead until she was awakened by the call. Rumor started because of similarity in name with Cissy (Fitzgerald) Tucker, English actress, who died in London.

Leo Taub in From East On Legit Hegira

Leo Taub is back from a flying trip to New York and Chicago where he went to look over current legit attractions that might be suitable to bring here for runs at George Shafer's Hollywood Playhouse. At the same time he conducted preliminary negotiations to install Shafer's production of 'Gas Light' in a Broadway theatre early next fall, after which the English meller will be taken on a tour of Canada.

Woodbury In 'Panama'

Joan Woodbury has replaced Lois Andrews in Columbia's 'Girls From Panama', which will roll this week. Charles Barton will direct and Wallace MacDonald produce.

Disney, Rooney, Garland Heading China Aid Group for Orphans

Walt Disney, Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland have pledged active participation in the campaign of United China Relief for Young China being conducted by the American Committee for Chinese War Orphans and by the China Aid Council, both coordinating efforts in the $5,000,000 campaign.

Disney has accepted the chairmanship of the campaign, and has agreed to exploit some of his film cartoon characters in the work.

Young Rooney and Miss Garland will direct the China Stamp Club efforts. They will soon broadcast an appeal to American children in behalf of that club, and will give badges and other tokens to stamp club members who sell certain amounts of stamps during the campaign to provide shelter, clothes and food for China's 300,000 war orphans.

PICKFORD, ROGERS ANSWER SUIT

New York, May 11.—Mary Pickford and Charles 'Buddy' Rogers have filed answer in Federal court here to the $300,000 suit in which Arthur T. Michaud and Jules V. Pappe charge that Rogers breached a 10-year managerial contract with them. Miss Pickford is named because she is alleged to have persuaded her husband to abandon the pact, offering him better opportunities in Hollywood.

Defendants' answer sets up general denial and asserts specifically that the challenged contract could be cancelled in case Rogers' earnings during 1939-40 were less than $24,000. Rogers also seeks $4,500 in counter claim, saying plaintiffs had agreed to pay him $5,000 weekly minimum.

University Film 'Sin' Ends At Fine Arts

'No Greater Sin', University Films, Inc., production, with William Nigh directing, wound up Saturday at Fine Arts studio. Jeffrey Bernerd produced. Leon Ames and Luana Walters have the top roles. Eddie Golden, head of the company, leaves for New York Wednesday to arrange details on the release.

Chas. Hall At Roach

Charles Hall joins the Hal Roach production staff as set designer on the new streamlined features latter will produce for United Artists release. His first chore will be on 'Niagara Falls.'

'Sand' Preem May 28

'Blood and Sand' (20th), will be given its Los Angeles preem at Loew's State and Grauman's Chinese theatres week starting May 28.

a.m. Dailies

Haley's Mother Injured—
Jack Haley's mother, Mrs. Ellen F. Haley, 70, received a broken leg when she fell on walk in front of her son's home. She was taken to Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE
Vol. 31 No. 49 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, May 13, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

NAB ENDORSES NEVILLE MILLER

3.1% EXTRAS EARN $150 MONTHLY

Only 220 extras, or 3.1% of players eligible to accept jobs earned an average of $150 or more per month in the industry in 1940, it was disclosed yesterday in a special report to the Screen Actors Guild by Central Casting Corp. This group earned $375,675, or 78% of their total income, through Central; $81,579 or 17% through direct casting by studios, and $25,077 or 5% in the

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Par, Astaire Deal Nears Ink for Crosby Pic

Negotiations between Paramount and Fred Astaire are close to inking for co-starring spot with Bing Crosby in the Irving Berlin musical, 'Holiday Inn'. Mark Sandrich will produce and direct. If Astaire deal goes through he would go over to Paramount after finishing in Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich', which is slated to start (19).

Report Pelton Agrees On SMPID Move

Demands of the Society of Motion Picture Interior Decorators were discussed yesterday at a conference between Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact, Henry Grace, Society prexy, and Attorney George E. Bodle. It was reported that Pelton had agreed to bring the Society requests to the attention of the Producers at their next meeting.

Ruby Elzy Spotted

Ruby Elzy set at Paramount to play the wife of Eddie Anderson in 'Birth of the Blues'.

Whorf Reaches WB

Richard Whorf checked in at Warners yesterday to await his first assignment.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	163
Major studio calls	146
FK Studio Service	55
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	370

WELCOME BACK ASCAP

First Ascap music on a major regional network since Dec. 22 of last year will be heard tonight at 9:15 p.m. over KHJ on a remote from Casa Manana dancery in Culver City, where Jack Teagarden's orchestra is current. Mutual network has picked the music of Jan Garber in Chicago to welcome back the Society's catalog to that web at 10 p.m., Chicago time. Program will not be heard here. Mutual and Don Lee stations will be back on regular Ascap schedule after the breakin, without benefit of fanfare or ballyhoo.

SAG LISTS NEW A AND B MEMBERS NAMED IN MONTH

Marlene Dietrich, Gracie Fields, Ozzie Nelson and Jack Teagarden were among the new Class A members admitted by the Screen Actors Guild during the past month. Other Class A applications approved were Patricia Collinge, Dan Duryea, Clyde (Red) Foley, Pat Friday, Helen H. Holmes and Teresa Wright.

Nine new Class B members were approved, six Class B Minor, and four Class B Special. The new Class B members are Sonia Darrin, Sally Ann Davis, Helen Donovan, Betty Hayward, David Byrne, Julia Otho,

◆ Continued on page 6 ◆

Nimms Reps Republic On Editor Board

Ernest Nimms has been re-elected as Republic representative on the board of directors of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors. Other board members elected from the independent field are W. Donn Hayes, Robert Crandall, Jack Ogilvie, Bert Jordan, Richard Currier. Election of new board members will be ratified at a meeting Thursday (15).

Bagnall Goes East

George Bagnall left for New York by plane last night for quick business trip in the interests of Alexander Korda. He returns Friday.

Ian Hunter Returns

Ian Hunter is back from Monterey personal appearance for the British War Relief.

KAO NET PROFIT TAKES SLUMP

New York, May 12.—Keith-Albee-Orpheum net profit, after all charges excepting the excess profits tax, was $236,679 for the first 13 weeks ended April 5, as against $312,452 in a similar period last year, or $3.72 on preferred stock as compared to $4.86 of last year.

Actual profit, before depreciation

● Continued on page 7 ●

Richmond, Moore Set For PRC 'Squad'

Kane Richmond and Pauline Moore are set for the leads in 'Motorcycle Squad', J. G. Bachmann production for Producers Releasing Corp., which goes before the cameras today at Talisman studio. Al Kelly directs and others in the cast include Wynne Gibson, John Miljan, Robert Homans and Mary Gordon.

Lawton Lenses 'Maisie'

Charles Lawton will lens Metro's 'Ringside Maisie.' Florence Bates gets featured role as mother of Robert Sterling in 'Maisie.'

KUYKENDALL APPOINTS MPTOA CONFAB GROUPS

To handle specific problems for the 21st Annual Convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at the Ambassador hotel here June 9th to 12th, 11 special committees have been appointed by E. L. Kuykendall, president. These groups will supplement the activities of the Committee on Convention Arrangements and will function to direct the confabs, the social arrangements and organization affairs.

They are: Credentials and Rules—

★ Continued on page 6 ★

IMPLY VOTE AS RAP ON MUTUAL

By BOB LANDRY

St. Louis, May 12. — National Association of Broadcasters board met here tonight and voted 24 to 1 for an endorsement of the actions of NAB's paid president, Neville Miller. Only dissenting vote was cast by Fred Weber, general manager of Mutual.

Voting was an implied censure of Mutual for making its deal with the American Society of Composers, Au-

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

SCG Approves Strike Vote at Schlesinger; Meet Set Today

The Screen Cartoonists Guild at a meeting last night approved the strike vote of the Leon Schlesinger unit of the Guild, and set up machinery to take care of picket lines, publicity, etc., if a walkout is ordered. Negotiating committee representing the two groups meet at 1 p.m. today, with each side reported ready to make certain concessions in

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Canova, Summerville Ill

Republic had to shoot around Judy Canova and Slim Summerville in 'Puddin' Head' yesterday. Actress was laid up with a cold and Summerville had a bad leg. Both are expected back today.

John Royal Breezes

John Royal, vice prez of NBC's international division, planed out to New York yesterday and then proceeds to St. Louis for convention of National Assn. of Broadcasters.

Forde Gets 'Whistlers'

Eugene Forde will direct '21 Whistlers' as his first under new term contract, for Producer Ralph Dietrich at 20th-Fox. Marjorie Weaver has top femme spot.

PREVIEWED

LOVE CRAZY
(MG)

REDHEAD
(Mono)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Joe Pasternak returned to the Universal lot yesterdav.

George Stevens back yesterday from fishing trip to June Lake.

Charles Laughton fills the guest spot on Chase & Sanborn Sunday.

Janis Carter had option picked up at 20th-Fox after new test Saturday.

Cal Howard has joined Metro cartoon staff as gag and story unit head.

E. D. and Nan Blake celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary today.

Rufe Davis back from Childress, Tex., where he was guest at Panhandle Celebration.

Andrews Sisters and Al Donahue's orchestra follows Glenn Miller into the Palladium (23).

Illness of Lucille Ball with a sinus attack delayed start of 'Look Who's Talking' at RKO yesterday.

Tony Sharrabba and Ann Harriett will do the warbling at Bill Jordan's Bar of Music opening (22).

Al O'Keefe, Universal western district manager, left Sunday for a swing around U Coast exchanges.

Christopher Curtis, from the Broadway musical, 'All In Fun', is up for a test at Warners next week.

Ronald Reagan and Jane Wyman playing golf for a dollar a hole and putting winnings into their baby's bank.

Patricia Morison airs for Memphis tomorrow to be the Hollywood representative at the Cotton Carnival there Friday.

Commodore Frank Morgan presided over shindig of Emerald Bay Yacht Club at Christian's Hut, Balboa, Saturday night.

William Randol of Col. Jason Joy's staff at 20th-Fox, planes east tomorrow to attend Associated Harvard Clubs meet in Baltimore.

Harry Sherman will press preview the Hopalong Cassidy western, 'Pirates On Horseback', at the California studios Thursday at 8:30 p.m.

'Hollywood Revels', N.T.G. revue, has been booked into the Orpheum for week beginning May 21. Will double out of the Florentine Gardens with new line and acts.

Benny the Gouge sez he saw Jock Lawrence following his own shadow along the hallway of the Producers building last night to see if he could detect whether it were tipping off reviewers as to where sneak previews are being held. After an hour Benny says Jock gave up his task in despair when he lost track of the shadow in going out the front door on the boulevard.

Hollywood Inside

SENSATIONAL developments in the United States Government's income tax investigation centering around Willie Bioff are scheduled within the next two or three weeks. Officials here admitted yesterday that 'something hot' is on the griddle, but said they were not in a position to discuss the developments at this time. It was learned, however, that U. S. officials have been interviewing a large number of guild and union leaders in the film industry, including Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, Herbert Sorrell, business representative of the Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and that an effort had been made to contact Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, now in the east for conferences with international heads of studio unions. It also was learned that agents of the Internal Revenue Bureau were trying to locate a former employe of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes who acted as private secretary to Bioff and Harland Holmden when the IATSE maintained elaborate International offices in the Taft building. It was reported that the new developments centered around statements said to have been made in the east recently by a top in the industry.

☆ ☆ ☆

WILLIAM F. GREEN, prexy of the American Federation of Labor, is reported to be somewhat peeved over the refusal of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America to accept his recommendation that Ralph Whitehead be retained to help reorganize the American Guild of Variety Artists. Green is understood to have even stated that Whitehead's salary would be paid by the AFofL. It was shortly after the AAAA had turned thumbs down on Whitehead thaat Green requested Meyer Lewis, his western director, to make an investigation of the extra setup in the SAG. Whitehead was national secretary of the American Federation of Actors, which had to be scuttled by the AAAA in order to get rid of Whitehead when the AFA charter was jerked and AGVA organized to take its place. Lewis has designated Aubrey Blair, Hollywood AFofL organizer to investigate complaints that the SAG is controlled by 1,100 members and that 8,000 Class B members are denied a vote. The SAG apparently is not perturbed over the action, taking the position that the extras themselves voted to designate the SAG board of directors as their collective bargaining representative.

☆ ☆ ☆

MARY LEE, young Republic contract player who has been appearing in the Gene Autry features and on his Wrigley radio show, 'Melody Ranch', has been withdrawn from both. Reason behind withdrawal of young singer from the air program is understood to be failure of agency to offer a larger salary and refusal of studio to allow her to make the frequent road trips required by Autry for his personals and during which out-of-town broadcasts are staged. It is believed agency producing the show would have come forth with the double coin sought by Miss Lee's representatives if studio clearance for road trips could have been set, but Republic is reported to feel Miss Lee is growing up too much to continue playing the little girl singer in the Autry westerns and her continuance on the broadcasts would serve to confuse fans if she didn't appear also in the films. Studio has plans of building Miss Lee into a solo name and the first step was the divorcement from the Autry features and a number of vehicles are now in preparation for her. Autry returns to town tomorrow after a six-week jaunt, which ended with last Sunday's broadcast from New York. During the tour he used guest femme vocalists in the various towns.

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PRODUCTION MANAGER WILLIAM KOENIG at 20th-Fox has found that for the Westwood plant, at least, production efficiency declines when over eight pictures are in work at once with present facilities. This 'economic speed' for the studio will be maintained as nearly as possible during the spring and summer shooting schedule, although currently nine features are before cameras, and a 10th is slated to roll Friday. This is highest production peak at 20th since November of 1938. Although new ones are starting, several on the current working list will finish shortly and hold the average down to around eight. Shooting are 'A Yank in the R.A.F.', 'Sun Valley Serenade', 'Charley's Aunt', 'Dance Hall', 'Charlie Chan in Rio', 'Dressed to Kill', 'Private Nurse', 'Last of the Duanes.' 'Wild Geese Calling' goes in Friday. Coming up are 'Remember the Day' and 'Cadet Girl', both to start (26); 'We Go Fast' and 'Lone Star Ranger', 'Marry the Boss' Daughter' and '21 Whistlers', the four set for June 2, and 'How Green Was My Valley' on June 9.

☆ ☆ ☆

ELMA GOODWIN has been nominated for re-election as president and business representative of the American Federation of Labor Office Employes Union 20798. Nominations will be continued at the meeting Thursday (15), with the election scheduled for the first meeting in June. Mrs. Goodwin is now negotiating a contract for clerical workers and casting directors at Central Casting Corp.

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'IN THE NAVY' will be the final title for the Abbott and Costello picture at Universal. First handle was 'They're in the Navy', but that conflicted with Paramount's current 'We're in the Navy.' Universal finally arranged with Par for part of their title after considering 'Abbott and Costello in the Navy' and having to discard that because equal billing has to be given Dick Powell.

☆ ☆ ☆

RADIO took another page from the book of their rival dailies by offering a reward in connection with the apprehension of a fugitive. Management of KFI-KECA yesterday announced that $250 will be given the person whose information results in the arrest within 30 days of the desert slayer of three persons. First time such an offer was made by a Coast station.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

THE ASCAP AND THE MUTUAL
ARE WALKING HAND IN HAND
LIKE RE-UNITED BOY AND GAL
THEY FROLIC ON THE STRAND
WHILE MUSIC LOVERS JUMP FOR JOY
THROUGHOUT THE HAPPY LAND.

★ ★ ★

Chief casualty of the music war was a gal named Jeanie who was warbled so often that her light brown hair turned gray.

★ ★ ★

How about a cloak-and-suit drama for Gloria Swanson and Adolphe Menjou With Jimmy Walker as technical advisor.

After that superheated feud, Eddie Robinson is going to cool off in 'Klondike.'

Nobody knows who will play the top role in 'Miss Susie Slagle's.' All we know is that it won't be a gal who lisps.

★ ★ ★

You don't have to know how to pronounce 'Dildo Cay.' It has been changed to 'Bahama Passage', thereby starting another controversy. Some call it BaHAHma and some pronounce it BaHAYma.

★ ★ ★

It's easy enough to be pleasant
When getting a lot of laughs,
But the thesp worth while
Is the one who can smile
When hounded for autographs.

★ ★ ★

It may be annoying to be stalked by autograph hunters, but it is more annoying not to be.

★ ★ ★

We have had merry murders and happy homicides on the screen, and now comes 'The Smiling Ghost.' This is an era of hilarious horrors.

★ ★ ★

'Manpower' has been publicized so powerfully that the title ought to be changed to 'Flackpower.'

Martha Raye's definition of 'man power' is 'Wham', which has plenty of horse power but sounds too much like canned meat.

This town is full of competent radio thesps who out-act widely press-agented film stars on the air every night in the week. You hear them but you don't hear of them. And some of them make plenty of dough in their obscure way.

★ ★ ★

'True to Form' is a story about race hosses—not about glamour gals.

★ ★ ★

Unless the title is changed, '21 Men and a Girl' is likely to be picketed as unfair to the rest of the girls. No girl has a right to monopolize that many dates when the town has more femmes than males.

Now and then a casting director hits the jackpot. George Murphy, who plays a prize fighter in 'Ringside Maisie', really can handle his dukes. And you never hear about him getting into phoney feuds.

Film Previews

Love Crazy

(*Farce Comedy*)

Metro release of a Pandro S. Berman production. Stars William Powell and Myrna Loy. Features Gail Patrick, Jack Carson, Florence Bates and Sidney Blackmer. Supporting cast: Sig Rumann, Vladimir Sokoloff, Donald MacBride, Sara Haden, Kathleen Lockhart, Fern Emmett, Joseph Crehan, George Meeker, Clarence Muse and Elisha Cook, Jr. Director, Jack Conway. Screnplay, William Ludwig, Charles Lederer and David Hertz; based on original story by David Hertz and William Ludwig. Photography, Ray June. Musical score, David Snell. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Paul Groesse. Film editor, Ben Lewis. Previewed at the Academy theatre, Inglewood, May 12. Running time: 100 mins.

Those disciples of sophisticated comedy, William Powell and Myrna Loy, here turn to broadest farce, the screwiest assignment they ever have had, and romp on it for heavy laugh payoff. It's a coin picture because of the names and the content, which is antidotal for the encircling gloom.

Script by William Ludwig, Charles Lederer and David Hertz from the original by Hertz and Ludwig, hesitates at nothing, no ancient gag or daffy twist, to capture a laugh. Powell and Loy, under direction of Jack Conway, demonstrate that there is still plenty of paydirt in the oldest screen routines if given the slightest renovation. Powell clowns his role with relish and resourcefulness. Miss Loy counters with a straight romantic complement which even works up a bit of tearful sentiment, in her best manner and the customary urbane behavior. Gail Patrick as a bored and venturesome wife; Jack Carson as a willing respondent to Miss Loy's jealous endeavors to retaliate upon her husband for conjectured peccadillos; Florence Bates as an intrusive mother-in-law, lend top support in richly written roles, and Sidney Blackmer, Sig Rumann, Vladimir Sokoloff, Donald MacBride and Sara Haden skillfully make their parts important.

The story adds a deft variant on the current mode to unravel the drama backward. Here the narrative starts with Powell and Miss Loy preparing to celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary by repeating what they did on their bridal night—only starting retrospectively. They emerge from the boudoir to eat their dinner in reverse courses. Circumstances quickly get them involved in matters which pile up one frustration upon another in slapstick anecdote and acceleration. Powell gets stuck in a balky elevator with a former sweetie, now the wife of an apartment neighbor. The results—one of the most hilarious episodes in the picture—starts a train of jealousies and suspicions which lead to the divorce court. In order to delay the divorce action, Powell takes frantic steps and is finally persuaded by his attorney to simulate mild insanity. He lands in a booby hatch, instead of his wife's custody, as he had planned.

■ Continued on page 7 ■

Redhead

(*Drama*)

Monogram release of an I. E. Chadwick production. Features June Lang and Johnny Downs. Supporting cast: Eric Blore, Weldon Heyburn, Anna Chandler, Frank Jaquet, Zarova, Baron Emerson, Harry Burns, Donald Thompson. Director, Edward Cahn. Associate producer, Herman Wohl. Screenplay, Conrad Seiler and Dorothy Reid; from novel by Beth Brown. Photography, Andre Barlatier and Benjamin Kline. Film editor, Carl Pierson. Musical director, Paul Sawtell. Previewed May 12. Running time: 64 mins.

This is a mild programmer which will have to rely chiefly on the performances and relative name values of June Lang and Johnny Downs to pull through in the lesser situations for which it is geared. Production is hampered by uninspired yarn which Edward Cahn's direction fails to hurdle.

Assets are the two leads, with Miss Lang registering photographically and Downs making the best of a clumsily written role as the ne'er-do-well son of a rich industrialist.

Whether in Beth Brown's original or in the screen treatment the yarn is intrinsically colorless. It's the story of the drunken wastrel turned loose with warning never to darken the door of the ancestral home again. He inadvertently prevents the heroine from jumping to her death and marries the girl, who thereafter proceeds to mold him into a solid, reliable citizen.

Eric Blore, as the family retainer sent forth by the well-meaning father to keep an eye on the young couple, makes a minor part important. Weldon Heyburn, as the middle-aged family friend, has distinctive delivery which should send him into more substantial assignments after more studied grooming.

Marriage sequences are quickly resolved into the familiar formula of the wife who plays hard to get because it was just a business arrangement whereby they were to split 20 grand which boy's father was to buy her off with. When payoff doesn't jell girl makes a deal on her own but finds romance instead. Rather abrupt is the manner in which a gigantic steel rolling plant is suddenly introduced in the vicinity of the dilapidated little hamburger stand which is first pictured situated at a wayside remote from all residential or industrial activity.

This and other sequences give ample indication that script needed much additional polishing before cameras began to turn. Andre Barlatier and Benjamin Kline turn in a first rate photographic job on June Lang.

Soundmen Confer

Members of International Sound Technicians Local 695 met last night to discuss groups new Constitution and By-Laws. The pending Wage-Hour decision and Producer negotiations also were reported to have been touched on.

Industry Accolades Chas. W. Koerner On New Post

A farewell dinner was tendered last night by George Schaefer to Charles W. Koerner, who leaves here tonight for New York to assume the general managership of the RKO circuit, succeeding John J. O'Connor. There were about 80 exhibitors and studio executives present at the dinner, given at the RKO studio.

Schaefer extolled the virtues of Koerner, feeling he was the best man in the organization to take over the post vacated by O'Connor. Koerner answered by saying he would try to substantiate Schaefer's faith in him.

'Kane' Gets 7G's in Chi; Shifts to 2-a-Day

Chicago, May 12.—After less than a week with a gross of around $7,000, 'Citizen Kane' was scheduled to do an el foldo at the RKO Palace theatre tonight. It will stick on two-a-day policy couple blocks further east at the Woods theatre, where its first week take will approximate around $8,000.

Team Parker, Arlen

Jean Parker will be teamed again with Richard Arlen in the third Pine-Thomas production for Paramount, 'Flying Blind.' Frank McDonald will direct.

Warwick, O'Keefe Set

Ruth Warwick and Dennis O'Keefe have been assigned to feature spots in 'Weekend For Three' at RKO.

Heading East

Charles Boyer
Sir Cedric Hardwicke (AA)
John F. Royal (TWA)
Leonore Corbell (TWA)
George Jessel (TWA)
H. Pate (TWA)
R. Usher (TWA)
Marjorie Woodsworth (UP)
Pat Paterson
George Bagnall
Felix Van Newman
Gladys Mensh
Charles McCarthy
William Gehring
William Sussman
William Kupper
Herman Wobber (SF)
Walter Pidgeon

In from the East

Bill Hay (AA)
Freeman Gosden (AA)
Charles Correll (AA)
Richard Marvin
Mr. and Mrs. Maxie Rosenbloom (TWA)
Jose Iturbi (TWA)
Lana Turner (UA)
John Charles Thomas (UA)
Rags Ragland
Otto Klemperer (UA)
Rufe Davis (SP)
Joe Pasternak

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

AFTER years of inactivity at plucking away at her favorite instrument, the cello, Connie Boswell got down to some serious practicing for the concert spot on Kraft Music Hall Thursday. Instead of developing callouses from the feverish warm-up the best she could raise were nice, large water blisters. There will be another artist in the concert spot, with la Boswell devoting her talents to non-blisterous warbling. . . . Harvard Lampoon broke a precedent of 65 years by inviting its first annual dinner guest from Hollywood—Marjorie Woodward, Hal Roach actress. She was dubbed by the Harvard fun-pokers as 'the most promising beauty in Hollywood', and trained east last night to attend the Spring dance Thursday. Miss Woodward will be able to parley with the lads, since she was before coming to films a drum majorette at USC.

Edgar Bergen's flip young assistant, Charlie McCarthy, popped off after the Chase & Sanborn broadcast at the San Diego Naval Base Sunday and spent the night in the brig. Commandant released him the next morning.

SIDNEY JUSTIN, assistant to Jack Karp in Paramount's legal department, has been drafted and will leave the studio within the next week or 10 days for his year's service in the Army. . . . Charlie Foy's Supper Club went western last night with 'Cowboy Night.' . . . Jerry Lester and Maxine Lewis were master and mistress of the Rancho and guests included George Tobias, Big Boy Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Goff and John Carroll. All guests had to be attired in western regalia to gain entrance. . . . Don Castle tossed a party for Martha O'Driscoll last night at the Hollywood Tropics.

Isobel Lennart, secretary to Director H. C. Potter, has been injured three times in auto accidents during the past 10 days. In each case she was a passenger, and her injuries were slight.

WILLIAM J. (JACK) HOPE, songwriting brother of Bob Hope, and Gay Raymond, singer, were married Sunday at Las Vegas. . . Joe Norden, of the Universal flackery, hopped over to Las Vegas over the weekend and was married to Phyllis Jean Harbaugh, non-pro. . . . Tim Whelan will host the 30 members of the advance course of cinematography at USC today on the set of 'International Lady', which he is directing for Edward Small. . . General Service studio now has an executive dining room with the conversion of the old Richard Rowland bungalow into an eatry by Edward Small.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .

JOAN DAVIS
"Sun Valley" (20th)
"Oh Charlie" (Universal)

Under contract
20th CENTURY-FOX

Only 3.1% of Extras Earn Average Of $150 Monthly

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

independent field. The group earning $150 or more was composed of 120 dress extras, 17 cowboys, 64 character extras and 19 standins.

Those earning $200 or more per month were composed of 58 dress extras, 10 character, seven cowboys and two standins.

A breakdown of Class B earnings in 1940 disclosed there were only nine Guild members who earned between $2,500 and $3,000. Only 268 earned from $1,000 to $1,250; 155 from $1,250 to $1,500; 104 from $1,500 to $1,750; 52 from $1,750 to $2,000; 28 from $2,000 to $2,250, and 17 from $2,250 to $2,500.

Since 1933 there have been only two years, 1934 and 1936, when the pickings were as slim for the extras as in 1940. A comparison of job placements and earnings since 1934 follows:

1934......	219,856	$1,984,697.54
1935......	278,486	2,571,293.64
1936......	268,436	2,420,453.55
1937......	294,307	2,986,372.89
1938......	264,268	2,848,445.68
1939......	294,432	3,124,671.64
1940......	228,342	2,529,766.00

Extras reaped a golden harvest in April of this year, but the job placements began to fall off early in May.

Representatives of the SAG meet with Producers Friday night (16) to complete negotiations covering reclassification of extra brackets. These reclassifications, together with recommendations of the Standing Committee to eliminate casuals, is expected to result in pruning about 2,000 players from the eligible list. SAG tops expect this to result in more work for the regular extras, with the result that there will be a substantial increase in their annual earnings.

Ragland In for Pic

Rags Ragland, who appeared in the stage version of 'Panama Hattie', arrived here yesterday to prepare for a repeat of his character in the picture at Metro.

Pidgeon Trains Out

Walter Pidgeon has trained for Atlantic City to attend convention of the National Association of Variety Clubs next weekend.

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, to Mrs. Erskine Johnson, Sunday at Hollywood hospital. Father is the radio film chatterer and newspaper columnist. Baby has been named Ronald Erskine.

SON, weighing eight pounds, two ounces, was born yesterday to Mrs. Albert Ashworth at Monte Sano hospital. Father is in camera process department at Metro.

SHADRACK BOYS
ARE HERE AGAIN
AT
PIRATES' DEN
335 N. La Brea • WY-9245
NO COVER CHARGE

GRAINGER SEES UPSWING AFTER 13-WEEK REP TOUR

James R. Grainger, president and general sales manager of Republic Pictures, arrived at the studio yesterday for a 10-day stay after a tour of all key cities. Grainger said he had seen substantial improvement in the picture business during his 13-week swing over the circuit.

Before leaving New York Grainger conferred with Joseph Bernhard, vice-president and general manager of Warner Bros., and C. E. Bond, chief film buyer for Warners, on principles governing a deal for the 1941-42 product between Warners and Republic. Warners, Grainger said, would handle the pictures on a nationwide basis.

During his tour Grainger contacted Warners district and zone managers on the coming season's product and closed deals for a Warners circuit of more than 200 theatres in the Pittsburgh, Washington, Albany and Buffalo territories. He also announced that Republic had made other deals with the Butterfield Circuit of 128 theatres in Michigan; the Publix Richards-Saenger Circuit of Mississippi and Louisiana for 110 houses, and the Fox Inter-Mountain group, with 103 theatres in Denver, Salt Lake and Butte territories.

Grainger will confer here with Lou Halper, in charge of Warners Coast territory; Charles Skouras and Larry Kent, of the Fox West Coast circuit, and Harry C. Arthur, of the Fanchon-Marco theatres. Grainger said the advance sale for Republic's 1941-42 product is the heaviest of any year.

Berg-Allenberg Plea On Tax Refund Given Hearing

Plea on behalf of Phil Berg-Bert Allenberg was heard before Superior Court Judge Frank G. Swain yesterday to change procedure in action which has been taken to compel the California Employment Commission, et al., to act on claim for interest on tax refund which was granted several months ago. Attorneys Lloyd G. Rainey and Paul C. Jones, representing Berg-Allenberg, having secured refund of taxes, contend that interest which accrued on monies which had been tied up should also be repaid.

Plaintiffs asked to change action against commissioners to one against the California Employment Commission. Judge Swain has taken request to amend complaint under consideration.

Richard Marvin In On 'Premiere' Checkup

Richard Marvin, radio head of William Esty agency, gets in today from the east to check up on 'Hollywood Premiere'. Decision is expected to be made on continuance of the program with an added budget for guest talent or a complete washup at the close of the first quarter next month.

Pulling 'Kane' Downtown

'Citizen Kane' is being pulled out of the RKO-Hillstreet Thursday (15) after a week's run. 'Lady From Cheyenne' (U) and 'Black Cat' (U) have been booked in. 'Citizen' continues at El Capitan. Pantages now resumes day-and-date policy with the RKO-Hillstreet.

Hardwicke East on Biz

Sir Cedric Hardwicke planed out yesterday for Washington to call on the British Embassy on personal business.

Colorful

Seven Technicolor cameras will be used on Warners 'Dive Bomber' at the San Diego Naval Base this weekend. Michael Curtiz takes cast and company to San Diego Thursday for these final location shots.

Paramount Music Dept. on Six Pix, 'Bugs' Cartoon

Paramount's music department, under Louis Lipstone, starts a siege of heavy scoring this week with six pictures lined up for final recording of music, plus the Fleischer feature-length cartoon, 'Mr. Bug Goes to Town'.

Most complicated scoring will go to 'Hold Back the Dawn', 'Skylark', 'Parson of Panamint' and 'The Great Man's Lady'. Others ready for music are 'Buy Me That Town' and 'World Premiere'.

Lueker Aids Seiler

Art Lueker will be assistant director on Warners 'The Smiling Ghost.' Picture, with Lew Seiler directing and Wayne Morris in the top role, rolls next Monday. Ken Gamet and Wilbur M. Beatty did the screenplay from an original by Philip Wylie and B. A. Bergman.

Additional 'Manpower'

Ralph Byrd has been set for a role in Warners 'Manpower.' Additional castings include the names of Faye Emerson, Georgia Caine, Isabel Withers and Brenda Fowler.

Enright's 'F.B.I.'

Ray Enright has been assigned to direct Warners 'Man From the F.B.I.' which rolls this summer. Enright first does 'King Rubber', set to go May 19.

Father and Son Film

Jack Holt and his son, Tim Holt, will play father and son in 'The Marines Are Ready', at RKO. Tim Holt is now working in the latest of his RKO western series, 'The Outlaw Trail', and may have time to complete another oater before start on 'Marines' is signaled.

Studio Grips of IATSE Will Elect Officers Thursday Night

Motion Picture Studio Grips Local 80 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes will elect new officers Thursday (15). The polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 10 p.m. Most of the incumbent officers are seeking re-election, with William Holbrook, recording secretary, being the only officer without opposition.

Robert Fleming, who is seeking re-election as president, is opposed by Harrie Dillingham and Vernon White. Thomas Moore, incumbent vice-prexy, is opposed by Walter Woodworth. Ray Schultz is campaigning against W. C. (Bill) Thomson, who is seeking re-election as financial secretary-treasurer. Thomson, however, is said to have strong backing among the rank and file membership. W. C. Barrett, Owen Crompton and Joseph Dixon will fight it out for the post of business representative. Barrett has held the office since Crompton resigned.

Players Lined Up for Hellman Accolade

First part of the special broadcast to be aired over the NBC Blue network tonight honoring Lillian Hellman and her play, 'Watch On the Rhine', will emanate from Hollywood with Bette Davis, Herbert Marshall and William Wyler participating, doing a scene from Miss Hellman's 'The Little Foxes', which Samuel Goldwyn is now producing. Broadcast goes on at 7:30 p.m. from here. Occasion is dinner being given Miss Hellman by cast of 'Rhine' at the Martin Beck theatre in New York and portions of the play will be done on the air by the cast from that end.

Buy Stowe's Stuff

Signal Oil has bought five transcriptions of Leland Stowe's war commentary for broadcast over KHJ.

Frisco Chatter

Frank Newman, manager of the St. Francis, in Dante hospital.

Walt Disney's 'Fantasia' set to carry on through 13 weeks at the Geary.

Arthur J. Kemp, CBS sales chief on the Coast, heads for the eastern agencies June 1 to peddle 20 Coast-built shows.

Charles Schlaifer of United Artists named to handle opening exploitation for Lawrence Cohen's new Newsreel theatre which kicks off in Sacramento Friday (16).

The Angel's Camp jumping frog contests will get a radio pay ride for the first time in history (17) when Bank of America sponsors a half-hour pickup on KSFO.

'Springtime For Henry' winds up a four-week run at Henry Duffy's Alcazar next week due to star Edward Everett Horton's date with 'Heaven Can Wait' at Columbia. Third week took nice $8,450, same as second stanza.

ACRE IN BEVERLY—BARGAIN
100x300, north of Sunset, level building site. Trees. Under $10,000.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

Fox-West Coast Deal On 20th Product Given Push

Fox West Coast negotiations for coming season's 20th-Fox product got under way yesterday. Herman Wobber, W. J. Kupper, western division manager for 20th; Charles and Spyros Skouras, and other Fox West Coast execs are now ironing out details. Deal is being made for full year.

Spyros Skouras, who planed in from New York last weekend, accompanied by aide John Healy, expected to pull out Wednesday.

SCG Approves Strike Vote at Schlesinger; Meet Set Today

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

an effort to reach an amicable agreement.

The Guild negotiators, however, have been given authority to call a strike, if and when it is deemed advisable in an effort to force recognition of their demands.

Jack Zander was elected financial secretary of the Guild, and Morris Gallup, warden. The Guild also voted to participate in the 'This Is America' labor program aired weekly over KFWB in an effort to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Many Coastites Attend St. Louis Sessions

St. Louis, May 12.—Although Coast broadcasters originally had not intended to attend the St. Louis convention, many seemed to have changed their minds at the last minute due to curiosity on the Ascap, Mutual and FCC rules situations. Among familiar Pacific radio faces here are Ralph Brunton, Howard Lane, Charles Myers, Art Bright, Lewis Allen Weiss, Tom Symons, G. G. Goddard and James Murphy.

National Defense Theme

St. Louis, May 12.—On Tuesday morning the theme, 'The Relation of Radio to National Defense', brings Major General Robert Richardson, Commander H. R. Thurber, FCC chairman, James W. Fly, and Lowell Mellett, director of officer of government reports, together in a panel.

20th Shifts Releases

Release date switch will have 20th-Fox 'Moon Over Miami' out on July 4 instead of June 13, and 'Man Hunt' on June 13 instead of June 27. 'Dance Hall' will be released July 18.

Van Newman Out

Felix Van Newman of Gloria Pictures trained to New York yesterday to complete final releasing details on 'New Wine', which United Artists will distribute in July.

Wallace Addresses Confab by Phone

St. Louis, May 12.—Vice President Henry Wallace is not coming to the broadcasters convention Tuesday but instead will deliver his address from Washington by telephone wire. It was feared his presence might prevent him from voting on an important tie in Washington.

NAB ENDORSES MILLER; RAP SEEN AT MUTUAL

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

thors and Publishers and praising the Federal Communications Commission's recent order against the big networks.

There is talk around that several of the stockholders, including Lewis Allen Weiss, may resign from NAB by Thursday, and any possible developments along this line are being closely watched by those gathered here for the 19th annual convention of the Broadcasters.

NAB board extended Miller's contract as paid president until July 1, 1944, after voting approval of his work in the interests of the organization.

The Stephen Early letter to Alfred J. McCosker, chairman of the Mutual network board, conveying the praise of President Franklin D. Roosevelt to Mutual's attitude in welcoming the FCC's proposal, already has caused a lobby sensation among those who knew about it in advance of the NAB convention's formal opening tomorrow. Naturally the ultimate disposal of the NBC Blue network is causing endless conjecture here. Various investment syndicates are reported interested, but Sales Manager Edgar Kobak is encouraging the present stations on the Blue to take it over and run it on the Mutual style, rather than have it pass to outsiders not in the radio business.

Fred Weber reports that 102 stations have now okayed the Ascap agreement and he hopes for 140 to be in the lineup for the big resumption of Ascap music next Monday.

Mutual Decision Dram Prolog

St. Louis, May 12.—Mutual network and its leaders provided the 19th annual National Association of Broadcasters convention with a dramatic prolog by ratifying its contract with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers by a vote of 86 to 46, with John Shepard of Boston and Hulbert Taft of Cincinnati reversing their positions. This action depressed the convention and left NBC and CBS somewhat embarrassed as they had issued public statements they would not sign with the Society unless they got better terms than those accepted by Mutual.

Mutual will begin dance remotes Tuesday and Saturday night there will be a full hour Ascap salute, the last half from Hollywood.

Meanwhile the convention is further depressed and confused by the full implications of the new Federal Communications Commission orders. NBC prexy, Niles Trammell, today presided over a meeting of 200 affiliates at Jefferson hotel, while William Hedges explained traffic problems, engineering difficulties, added expense and probable loss of station-break advertisements if stations in general are to constantly shift from network to network. Period of chaos in time selling is feared, with the bigger conservative advertisers who like things clearly marked well ahead possibly staying off the air this fall. Situation might possibly favor spot business as, theoretically, after the 90-day period it would be easier to clear local time than to clear a network.

Ascap Directors Say MBS Price Minimum

New York, May 12.—Board of directors of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers today unanimously passed a resolution declaring that the contracts between the Society and Mutual Broadcasting System and its affiliated stations represent the minimum terms which Ascap will accept from any other radio network and their affiliates. Under any and all circumstances these terms constitute the Society's minimum offer, the Ascap directors declared.

Prexy Gene Buck of Ascap pointed out that the Mutual contracts provided everything that the radio industry had repeatedly demanded during the negotiations and that the new pact represents a substantial saving in music cost to the broadcasting stations.

Thomas' Strawhatter

Frankie Thomas will produce and star in 'Concert Tour', summer legit at Woodstock, New York, shortly after he finishes his role in Universal's 'Flying Cadets.'

BMI Will Announce Reduction in Rates At Wed. Sesh

St. Louis, May 12.—Board of directors of Broadcast Music, Inc., will announce a reduction of rates for BMI subscribers at Wednesday's session of the NAB convention. Exact terms have yet to be approved by the board. New plan will provide for both blanket and per program arrangement for payment of music.

Indications are that the per program plan will be half the figure Ascap gave Mutual, namely 10% on commercial business plus 1% for sustaining service.

Geo. Jessel Attending NAB Convention

George Jessel planed for New York yesterday, returning here in two weeks. He will speak at the closing session of the National Association of Broadcasters at St. Louis Thursday (15) and then goes back to New York to be toastmaster at the dinner the City of New York is giving (19) in honor of Lord and Lady Halifax.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Universal)

'Flying Cadets'
Dir.: Erle Kenton
Asst.: Seward Webb

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

'Motorcycle Squad'
Dir.: Al Kelly
Asst.: John Burch

ROOKIES ON PARADE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

U.S. ARMY CAMP 45 MILES

BOB CROSBY • RUTH TERRY
GERTRUDE NIESEN • EDDIE FOY, JR.
MARIE WILSON • CLIFF NAZARRO
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director • Screenplay by Karl Brown, Jack Townley and Milt Gross • Original story by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin

Actors Guild Lists New A, B Members During Month

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

Saretta Raye, Francine Rogers, Craig William. Class B Special applications approved were Ruth Felt, Norman Lind, Connie Mack and Clark Ross. New Class B Minors admitted to membership are Cliff Broughton, Bradley Hail, Louisa Mendoza, June Shannon, June Wilson, Robert Loren Mueller.

The following 63 Class A Junior applications were approved: Michael Ames, Jane D'Armand, George Backus, Yvette Bentley, Billy Black, Perry Botkin, Ralph F. Brewster, Patricia Burton, William Cabanne, Carmela Cansino, Maxine Canterbury, Gerald Cavin, Dena Coaker, Nick Condos, Steve Condos, William G. Conway, Philip Coolidge, Marquerite De La Motte, Harold Dickinson, Baron Emerson, Mary Virginia Farmer, Victoria Faust, Frank Fenton, (Legs) Ferrara, June Francis, Terry Frost, Parker Garvie, Jackie Gleason, Charles J. Goldstein, Richard C. P. Coogan.

Alfonso Gomez, Betty Heath, Myrtis Jean, Gloria Jean, Johnnie Johnston, Paula Kelly, Robert Langford, Mitchell Leisen, John Marriott, Paul R. Matthews, Thora Matthiason, Donna Mullenger, Doye O'Dell, Eileen O'Hearn, Douglass Ornstein, Rosario Perez, Joseph G. Pope, Dinorah Rego, Carl Leon Rodgers, Antonio Ruiz, Timmy Sabor, Clifford Severn, Jr., Don Sullivan, Lester Towne, George Townes, Milton Wallace, Leo Watson, Crystal White, Priscilla White, Catherine Winter, Pamela Wright, Helen B. Lange, Ann Lincoln.

Ben Piazza in Chicago; Koerner There Thurs.

Chicago, May 12.—Ben Piazza, RKO talent scout, in town looking for new screen personalities. Charles Koerner, new circuit general manager, is due here on Thursday to confer with Tom Gorman in charge of local houses, who is scheduled to succeed the new g.m. in the Pacific coast territory.

Planted

Paramount

Carmela Canseno, Esther Estrelle, Manuel Lopez, Harry Silver-Heels Smith, Romulo Fernandez, 'Aloma of the South Seas'.

Rod Cameron, Wilson Benge, Jack Chapin, 'Nothing But the Truth'.

Grace Hayle, Edward Emerson, Hayden Stevenson, Bert Roach, Nell Craig, Alice Keating, Betty Farrington, Besse Wade, Evelyn West, Charles Lane, Payne Johnson, Mary Thomas, Richard Keene, John Miller, 'Birth of the Blues'.

Metro

Joe Yule, Louis Natheaux, 'Race Track Story', Crime Doesn't Pay short.

Will Wright, 'The Telltale Heart', short.

Columbia

Marquita Madero, Lloyd Briggs, Rafael Storm, 'Girls From Panama'.

Charles Ray, Billy Neal, 'Heaven Can Wait'.

20th-Fox

Russ Clarke, 'Last of the Duanes'.

KUYKENDALL APPOINTS MPTOA CONFAB GROUPS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

E. M. Fay, chairman, Providence, R. I.; Morris G. Leonard, Chicago; S. J. Hyman, Huntington, W. Va.; J. R. Denniston, Monroe, Mich.

Resolutions — Herman M. Levy, chairman, New Haven, Conn.; Morris Lowenstein, Oklahoma City; Charles H. Arrington, Rocky Mount, N. C.; W. F. Ruffin, Covington, Tenn.

Film Buying Problems and Operating Policies—Arthur H. Lockwood, chairman, Boston; O. C. Lam, Rome, Ga.; L. O. Lukan, Seattle; Harold B. Robb, Dallas; James C. Shanklin, Ronceverte, W. Va.

Conciliation and Arbitration—A. C. Hayman, chairman, Buffalo; Geo. P. Aarons, Philadelphia; William G. Ripley, Longview, Wash.; Benjamin Pitts, Fredericksburg, Va.

Public Relations and Community Affairs — Mitchell Wolfson, chairman, Miami; H. V. Harvey, San Francisco; Sidney B. Lust, Washington, D. C.; M. A. Lightman, Memphis.

Legislation and Taxation—Roy L. Walker, chairman, Lampasas, Tex.; Walter Vincent, New York city; Joseph H. Brennan, Boston; Nat M. Williams, Thomasville, Ga.

Music Tax and Copyright—J. M. Hone, chairman, Seattle; A. J. Brylawski, Washington, D. C.; Irving C. Jacocks, Branford, Conn.; M. S. McCord, North Little Rock, Ark.

National Defense Activities — Lewen Pizor, chairman, Philadelphia; Ben Levin, San Francisco; Max A. Cohen, New York; M. C. Moore, Jacksonville, Fla.

Labor Relations — Fred Wehrenberg, chairman, St. Louis; L. C. Griffith, Oklahoma City; Fred Meyn, Kansas City; R. A. McNeill, San Francisco.

Radio and Non-Theatrical Competition — R. R. Biechele, chairman, Kansas City, Mo.; R. X. Williams, Jr., Oxford, Miss.; George Nasser, San Francisco; Louis H. Ansell, St. Louis.

Seniority Balking Col. Recording Strike Washup

With Columbia Recording Corp. and its striking employes scheduled to resume negotiations at 10 a.m. today, the United Electrical and Radio Machine Workers Union announced that the question of seniority rights of workers was still unsettled. It was thought the two groups had agreed on a seniority formula Saturday, but when it came down to putting it into written form it was found the company was standing pat for departmental seniority, with the union insisting on plant-wide seniority.

Both the question of seniority and wages will be taken up today. When the two groups recessed last week, the company was holding out for its offer of 1.7 cents per hour increase with pay for six holidays, and the union was demanding a hike of 10 cents per hour. The current minimum is 55 cents per hour.

Ralph Dawson, of the Los Angeles Industrial Council, stated the union would not approve any deal that did not include a 10 cents per hour raise. He said that all Congress of Industrial Organizations contracts being signed throughout the country called for a 10 cents per hour boost to meet the rising cost of living. The Columbia plant has been idle since April 11 when its 85 employes walked out.

SOEG Mull Methods

The Screen Office Employes Guild executive board met last night to discuss proposals to revise the Guild's methods of handling negotiations with the major companies. One of these would provide for centralizing all negotiations in one group instead of having several different committees.

Kellaway's Break

Cecil Kellaway gets the character lead in Paramount's 'Bahama Passage', and leaves for the Bahamas within two weeks. Assignment is actor's biggest since coming here two years ago from Australia.

Boothmen 150 Pickup Two Downtown Theatres

Following negotiations pending since last June, Projectionists Local 150, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, has moved into the Million Dollar and the Hippodrome theatres downtown, bringing these houses into the union fold for the first time in many years.

Deals have been concluded whereby union musicians, stage hands and projectionists are now installed in both these houses. Local 150 has been out of the Million Dollar for past seven or eight years, and out of the Hippodrome for at least 10 years.

In addition to swinging these downtown spots into the union fold, Projectionists also have concluded deals with the Regent, Optic, Gaiety, Art and Burbank, in the downtown sector, whereby booths hereafter will be manned by members of the IATSE local.

Brown, McHenry North On 'Draft' Preem

George Brown and Murphy McHenry planed to San Luis Obispo yesterday to talk over plans with Army officials for a preview of 'Caught in the Draft' at the Army training camp there. They return to Paramount studio today.

Merry Macs Assigned

The Merry Macs have been set at Universal for their second musical feature, 'San Antonio Rose', a Ken Goldsmith production which Charles Lamont will direct. The Macs are still working in 'Moonlight in Hawaii.'

Radio Scribes Pledge Support To SWG If Strike Comes

The Radio Writers Guild meeting at the Roosevelt hotel last night pledged its full support to the Screen Writers Guild in event the film scriveners take a strike vote in an effort to force recognition of their demands by the Producers. While the SWG negotiating committee was still in conference with the Producers, the air scripters adopted the following resolution:

'Be it resolved, that the members of the Radio Writers Guild of the Authors League of America, Inc., Western Region, meeting tonight at the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel, having been acquainted with the problems and demands of the Screen Writers Guild, Inc., in their present efforts to negotiate with the Motion Picture Producers Association hereby state that the Radio Writers Guild is in full sympathy with all the demands and conditions sought by the Screen Writers Guild and offer them our complete cooperation and support in their efforts to achieve their demands and working conditions in the motion picture industry.'

Lester Cole, of the SWG, appeared at the meeting to explain the situation, but stated that the Guilders had entered into an agreement with the Producers that nothing would be given out on the negotiations unless the two groups issued a joint statement. One RWG member asked about the attitude of the Producers, stating that the SWG demands were so modest he could not understand why the companies objected to giving them a contract.

He asked if it were true that the Producers had countered with a proposal of a minimum wage of $50 per week, when the Guild had requested $150. Upon being told there were rumors to that effect, he pointed out that publicists were paid $100 per week to publicize writers, indicating that it would be rather absurd to pay a man $100 to publicize another getting only $50.

It was stated that the Guild might have to make up a war chest in the event of a strike to get the scriveners on an economic unity. There was some criticism of efforts to divide the high and low salaried writers. It also was stated that the SWG wants control of screen credits, the RWG being told 'We don't want nepotism to run rampant as it once did, with relatives getting the screen credit.' One member said he thought the question of maximum pay was more important than a minimum wage, pointing out that a writer might be hired on a $5,000 deal and then called back for 20 weeks or more to rewrite a story.

The RWG also voted to cooperate with the Authors League in the first Western Conference of the creative writers to be held May 23-24 at the University of California at Los Angeles.

BILTMORE 5th & Grand TU. 7131 OPENS MAY 16 SEATS NOW!
Three Years on Broadway . . Completely New Show . . Original N.Y. Cast
"NEW PINS AND NEEDLES"
THE HIT MUSICAL AT MOVIE PRICES
MON. TO THURS. EVE., 50c, 75c, $1 FRI. & SAT. EVE., 50c, $1, $1.50
MATS. WED. & SAT., 35c, 50c, 75c, PLUS TAX
Music and Lyrics by Harold J. Rome . . . Sketches by Joseph Schrank

Wobber Entourage Leaving After 20th Parleys

Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox distribution head, and his division managers, William Gehring, William Sussman and William Kupper, leave for New York tonight on the Super Chief after production and policy conferences at studio with Joseph M. Schenck, Darryl F. Zanuck and William Goetz.

Palavers regarded operations of consent decree and how the first blocks of five were to be balanced and set up. Company will have 10 to 12 features ready in mid-July.

Confabs of 20th chiefs also were to set preliminaries for the annual sales convention to be held last two weeks in June.

Don Woods to Elitch's June 9 for Season

Don Woods leaves for Denver June 9 to put in a summer season at the Elitch's Gardens there. Season opens June 16 with presentation of 'Skylark' to be followed by 'The Male Animal', 'Philadelphia Story' and two other plays.

Studies Esper Move

U. S. District Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer yesterday took under further advisement petition of Dwain Esper to quash indictment on charge of transmitting lewd and lascivious records via Railway Express. Dwain seeks to have Federal charge voided to avert trial June 23.

Obituary

TED BENNETT

Funeral services for William Oscar Houghton, 68-year-old character actor known professionally as Ted Bennett, will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Pierce Brothers Hollywood chapel. Interment follows at Hollywood Memorial Park. Houghton died Sunday, and is survived by a son, William Clark.

MRS. EFFIE ENLOWS

Mrs. Effie Enlows, 73, grandmother of Martha O'Driscoll, Paramount contractee, died Sunday after a long illness. Burial will be in Tulsa, Okla., with Mrs. Freda O'Driscoll, Mrs. Enlows' daughter, and William O'Driscoll, brother of the Paramount actress, accompanying the body there.

MARGARET MILNER

Private funeral services for Mrs. Margaret Milner, 45, will be held at 9:30 a.m. today at Forest Lawn. Mrs. Milner, who died Saturday, is survived by her husband, Victor Milner, Sr., Paramount cameraman; a son, Victor Milner, Jr.; two brothers and two sisters.

Ray Harrington Rites

Funeral services for Ray Harrington, 28, composer and arranger, who died Friday of a heart ailment, will be conducted at 10 a.m. today at Reed Bros., Tapley & Geiger. Interment will be at Holy Cross cemetery. He worked as an arranger for Fred Waring and Raymond Paige. A graduate of the Santa Monica high school, his mother survives.

20 WARNERS CUTTERS SET EDITING RECORD

Warners editing department is working at full capacity, with all 20 cutters, for the first time in four years, doing an assignment. Normal number of cutters working steadily is 17. Ralf Dawson is cutting 'Manpower'; Clarence Kolster on 'Bad Men of Missouri'; George Amy on 'Dive Bomber'; Rudi Fehr on 'Navy Blues'; James Gibbons on 'Bullets For O'Hara'. These are features now shooting.

Assignments on six being readied for release include Frank Magee, 'The Flight Patrol'; William Holmes, 'Sergeant York'; Warren Low, 'Danger Harbor'; Thomas Pratt, 'Underground'; Tom Richards, 'Passage From Hongkong', and Dick Richards, 'The Bride Came C.O.D.'

On short subjects Douglas Gould is on 'Here Comes the Cavalry'; Everett Dodd on 'Miracle Makers'; Terry Morse on 'Carioca Serenaders'; Lou Lindsay on 'Salmon Fishing'; Harold McLernin on an untitled sport subject, and Lou Hesse, 'Richard Himber' musical. Norman Cerf, Rex Steele and Abe Heller are assigned to the trailer department.

GOSCH, HARRIS SELL LEGIT TO PAR

New York, May 12. — Martin Gosch and Howard Harris have sold their play, 'Hula Honeymoon', to Paramount, and leave for the Coast around June 1 to do the screen treatment. Deal calls for 14 weeks' work, with options for further pictures. Financial arrangement is complicated, but amount is understood to be around $15,000. Picture will be produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr., as a musical, probably with Bob Hope. Composer Richard Rodgers formerly had the play under option.

The Gosch-Harris radio series for Keglined, 'The Amazing Mister Smith', goes off the Mutual network in July, but another sponsor has made an offer for the fall and RKO is after the picture rights. Writers have been working on a radio treatment of the Owen Davis-Richard and Frances Lockridge play, 'Mister and Mrs. North', but no one has purchased the screen rights. Play currently is at the Belasco theatre.

Dennis Morgan p.a.'s

Dennis Morgan leaves Thursday for Chicago to make a personal appearance with Paul Whiteman's orchestra at the Amphitheatre there Saturday. He will then train to New York for a two-week stand at the Strand, where 'Affectionately Yours', in which he appears with Merle Oberon and Rita Hayworth, opens May 23.

Third Trip

Gracie Fields goes to San Francisco today for her third concert appearance in that city within the past six months. She will appear at the Civic auditorium for the benefit of war charities. Miss Fields will launch a third war loan drive in Canada (23).

KAO NET PROFIT TAKES SLUMP

● Continued from page 1 ●

and income tax, totalled $492,374, as against $560,532, but income taxes were $92,896 as against $75,660 for the previous similar period, because of an increase from 18 to 24% in the levy.

B. D. Keith, another RKO subsidiary, made a net profit, after all charges excepting the excess profits tax, of $135,157, for the first 13 weeks of the year, as against $209,455 for similar period last year.

Dolan Redoes Oldtimer

Bobby Dolan, musical supervisor on 'Birth of the Blues' at Paramount, has started work on a new arrangement for orchestra and chorus of 'St. Louis Blues', to be featured in the picture.

Eburne Works at Par

Maude Eburne reported at Paramount yesterday for her role as the boarding house keeper in 'Among the Living'.

Preview

■ Continued from page 3 ■

And from there on escape, chase and a sequence in which Powell masquerades as his own elderly sister in his wife's apartment, pile up the laughs thick and fast. Female impersonation is a pip, Powell having to yield to no one in this demonstration.

Story ends where it started—in the bedroom, as is customary with many of the Powell-Loy offerings.

Director Jack Conway puts on a hilarious show which fulfills every implication of the title. The matrimonial couple of the 'Thin Man' memory and repute lay it on thick under Conway's deft urgings. His previous Powell-Loy comedy was 'Libeled Lady'. Mistaken identity gags are good for guffaws. Operations of the lunacy commission putting Powell through the standard tests are satirical commentary on the kinship of romantic jokes and apparent mental lapses. Gags and situation finally become so screwball that even the writers couldn't find a conclusive ending—hence the refuge in the boudoir for the reconciled couple.

Pandro S. Berman garners himself a strong production credit with a sure-fire audience picture.

Ray June turns in a top job of photography to head the excellent technical support and the gorgeous presentation.

Smith, Aller Report On Anti-Labor Legislation

Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695, and Herbert Aller, business head of International Photographers Local 659, have returned from Sacramento, where they conferred with Assemblymen and Governor Culbert Olson on pending anti-labor legislation. Smith expressed the belief that the governor will veto the hot cargo and secondary boycott and closed shop bills unless the former is amended to apply only to perishable goods, particularly citrus and milk.

The governor is reported to be anxious to give protection to dairymen and farmers now being made the center of a drive by the teamsters union. The Congress of Industrial Organizations is said to be watching the situation closely, with the idea of moving in on the San Francisco teamsters of the American Federation of Labor if the hot cargo bill is enacted into law.

Fishbein Settles Suit With Moss Hart

New York, May 12.—Frieda Fishbein, play broker, has settled her Supreme court suit for $25,000 against Moss Hart out of court. Plaintiff sought 2½% of all monies earned by Hart from the production of his plays by Sam Harris. It was claimed in action that Hart has received more than $1,000,000 to date. Plaintiff contended she had set deal for Harris to produce 'Once In a Lifetime' for the playwright, and in May, 1930, signed contract with Hart for the percentage deal.

Scores 'Washington'

Scoring on W. Franke Harling's music for 'Adventure in Washington' got underway at Columbia yesterday with Morris Stoloff conducting a 75-piece orchestra.

a.m. Dailies

Coogan Transferred—
Pvt. Jackie Coogan has been transferred from the medical corps to the public relations department at Camp Roberts, Calif. Coogan is in demand as a luncheon club speaker and leads the Camp Roberts band.

Shannon Autopsy—
Autopsy was scheduled yesterday to determine cause of death of Peggy Shannon, 31, screen actress. She was found dead Sunday (11), slumped over table in kitchen of her home.

Greer Garson Decree—
Greer Garson (Eileen Evelyn G. Snelson), film actress, obtained final divorce decree from Edward Snelson, British government attache, in Superior court yesterday.

Alice Faye, Harris Wed—
Alice Faye and Phil Harris were married yesterday at Ensenada.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SEATTLE
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations
Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

The WILD WAVEY BABES ARE CALLING!

Calling YOU to the

7TH

NATIONAL CONVENTION VARIETY CLUBS OF AMERICA!

MAY 15-16-17

TRAYMORE HOTEL

ATLANTIC CITY

THREE SOLID DAYS AND NIGHTS OF FUN AND PLEASURE

...YOU will mingle in the greatest turnout of industry people ever assembled!

HAPPY EXHIBITORS!
GLEEFUL DISTRIBUTORS!
GAY PRODUCERS!

.... All at their mellowest!

APOLOGIES TO PETTY

REGISTRATION FEE
(Which includes the ENTIRE round of activities:)
$20.00 Per Person
Send checks to James Balmer, Variety Clubs of America, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS:
Write Henry Friedman,
Ardmore Theatre Bldg.,
Ardmore, Pa.

THE PROGRAM:

MAY 15th
- REGISTRATION
- BOAT RIDE & FISHING PARTIES
- PRODUCER-EXHIBITOR FORUM
- MONSTER BOXING SHOW

MAY 16th
- BUSINESS SESSIONS
- VARIETY NIGHT CLUB PARTY
- CALCUTTA POOL
- "BEAT" DALLAS PARTY

MAY 17th
- GOLF TOURNAMENT
- BOARDWALK PARADE
- VARIETY CLUB CIRCUS
- UNITED ARTISTS COCKTAIL PARTY
- CONVENTION BANQUET

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE
Vol. 31 No. 50 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, May 14, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

CONGRESS PROBE OF FCC URGED

BIG RADIO OUTFITS QUIT NAB

By BOB LANDRY

St. Louis, May 13.—Three radio outfits which control 75% of Mutual—WOR, New York; WGN, Chicago, and the Don Lee Coast network, today resigned from the National Association of Broadcasters.

Alfred McCosker, WOR prexy and Mutual board chairman, addressed NAB prez, Neville Miller, in part: 'It is now entirely clear that your

♣ Continued on page 9 ♣

Senator Plans Equal Newsreel Footage On War Questions

Washington, D. C., May 13.—Burton K. Wheeler, isolationist Montana senator, is planning to introduce legislation to force newsreels to give equal footage to proponents of both sides of controversial questions. Senator Wheeler claims newsreels have 'propagandized' to 'push America into the war.'

Loew's 'Defense Shows' For Odd-Hour Workers

New York, May 13.—Policy of putting on 'defense shows' to accommodate odd-hour workers in defense industries has been adopted by Loew's in a number of New England houses. A similar idea was previously instituted by Warners in Philadelphia.

Guesters for Vallee

Carmen Miranda does a guest turn on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airer (22). Following week's booking goes to Priscilla Lane.

Welles Draft Test

Orson Welles reports Friday to his draft board of physicians for his final examination.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	82
Major studio calls	217
FK Studio Service	5
Tinsman Casting Agency	65
Total	369

U'S $1,500,000 PROFIT SEEN FOR 6 MOS.

New York, May 13.—Although earnings statement covering the first 26 weeks of the company's fiscal year will not be out until late this month or early in June, Universal is expected to show about $1,500,000 net profit for the first six months ended last April 30. This figure compares with $1,381,001 shown in first six months of the previous fiscal year.

Profit estimate is before deductions for excess profits tax but after writing off around $300,000 for Federal income taxes.

PRESIDENTIAL MOVE SEEN IN NBC SLAP

Washington, May 13.—Congressional halt to drastic Federal Communications Commission reforms was proposed today and coincidentally a White House spokesman raised hopes the President may intervent to stave off decapitation of one NBC web and scrapping of all affiliation contracts. Sudden developments at both ends of Pennsylvania avenue flabbergasted industry watchers not currently huddling in convention in St. Louis.

Situation is more confused than ever, chiefly as a result of moves by White House Secretary Stephen T. Early to slap down Mutual, spreading

★ Continued on page 10 ★

SAG PARLEY MONDAY ON IF, WHEN STRIKE SETUP

While the Screen Actors Guild is scheduled to resume contract negotiations with the Producers on Tuesday (27), the Guild executive board has called a special meeting for Monday night (19) to sound out the membership on the advisability of calling a strike if the SWG demands 'are not reasonably met'. The session will be held at the Roosevelt hotel, with Prexy Sheridan Gibney presiding.

The two groups met Monday, with

◆ Continued on page 9 ◆

THOMSON RESIGNS AGVA POST

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, has filed his immediate resignation from the national board of the American Guild of Variety Artists, and has walked out of AGVA's Los Angeles situation. Thomson took

♠ Continued on page 9 ♠

ENTIRE TED LEWIS SHOW FOR PIC

Ted Lewis' entire show, including dancers, singers and colored comic, will be used in added scenes for Universal's 'Oh, Charley' on budget which will add around $50,000 to the picture's cost. New song numbers also will be used. Andrews Sis-

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

NY LEGIT OPENING

THE HAPPY DAYS

New York, May 13.—'The Happy Days', an innocently hopeful little play adapted by Zoe Akins from the original French of Claude-Andre Puget, opened uncertainly tonight at the Henry Miller theatre. The audience waited tolerantly through a mildly garrulous first act but alternately yawned and giggled at the final two.

It's one of the frail efforts that sprout so bravely every spring but quickly wither away and are forgotten. Naive and tender and occasionally touching or amusing, but nearly always it's a trifle pathetic. A cast of youngsters plays it strenuously and not too successfully. Diana Barrymore, daughter of John Barrymore, tries hard in one of the leads. Joan Tetzel, a radio actress, is ap-

● Continued on page 10 ●

JOHN TWIST MADE RKO PRODUCER

John Twist, for eight years a writer at RKO, has been upped to a producer's job there. His first assignment will be as producer and writer on 'Four Jacks and a Queen', his own original story. He is preparing the yarn before casting. Twist has written numerous stories for RKO, the better known ones being 'The Great Man Votes' and 'La Cucaracha', a three-reel Technicolor short in the early days of color films. His most recent writing job was 'Parachute Battalion'.

Ralph Holmes Testing For Small's 'Valentino'

Edward Small has signed Ralph Holmes, brother of Philips Holmes, for a shot at the lead in his 'In Rudolph Valentino's Day', which he plans for immediate production. Holmes has been doing stock and radio work in the east. He will be tested for the role tomorrow. Small first planned to make the Valentino story three years ago. Howard Estabrook wrote the screenplay.

Lyssianne Bernhardt In Flicker Deal

New York, May 13.—Lyssianne Bernhardt, granddaughter of 'Divine Sarah', is due in New York from France on a picture deal which Irvin Marks is negotiating. It will be an authorized film biography of Sarah Bernhardt's life and career.

Pair for Sisk

Robert Sisk's first two assignments as an associate producer at Paramount are 'Angel in Furs', starrer for Dorothy Lamour, and 'Tex Guinan.' Lester Cole is doing the screenplay for 'Angel' which will roll first.

PREVIEWED

TOO MANY BLONDES
(U)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Paul Coze is finishing a portrait of Michele Morgan.

Iris Adrian into 'Radio Revels of 1942' at Universal.

Bill Murray of the William Morris agency returns east Friday.

Bernie Smith, KFI-KECA publicity director, has whooping cough.

Ginny Simms and Kay Kyser planed out to San Diego yesterday.

Jane Frazee's next assignment at Universal is in 'San Antonio Rose'.

Jack Beekman has been held over as emcee of Hollywood Tropics floor show.

Johnny Mack Brown's next starrer at Universal is 'The Man From Montana'.

David Miller back on the Metro lot after five days in bed with a wrenched back.

Dan Totheroh has novel, 'Deep Valley', coming out this fall under imprint of Lippincott.

Jack Maas, formerly professional contact for Santly, joined Schapiro-Bernstein music publishers.

Patti McCarty planed last night for Holland, Mich., to attend the tulip festival there Friday and Saturday.

Kurt Juhn, Czechoslovakian screen writer, is in town to sell a treatment of Pierre van Passen's 'Days of Our Years'.

Merian C. Cooper left yesterday for Washington, D. C., for additional research on Walter Wanger's 'The Eagle Squadron'.

Meredith Willson planes to Detroit tomorrow night to conduct his first radio concert in the Ford summer series Sunday.

Jack Sayers chugs east today for summer duty at Young & Rubicam home office. The missus goes along, making it a vacation en route.

Peter Hayes and Mary Healy, appearing at the Grace Hayes Lodge, get featured spot in the 'Rio Rita' show which Civic Light Opera Company presents at Philharmonic auditorium (19).

Bette Davis did an el foldo yesterday from nervous exhaustion, was ordered to her home for a 10-day rest and could not appear on the NBC Blue network special program last night in honor of Lillian Hellman. She was to have been in a scene from 'The Little Foxes' with Herbert Marshall.

Benny the Gouge sez—As you watch the tourists strutting past Hollywood and Vine you realize that Shakespeare was right. Everybody is an actor, but only a few get paid for it.

Hollywood Inside

THE International heads of studio unions are shying away from holding their annual wage and conditions conference with the Producers, it was disclosed yesterday, although 20,000 film workers are pressing their business representatives to get some action on negotiations. Because of the unsettled labor conditions here, particularly in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, and because of reports that Producers are preparing to demand an eigh-hour day, the Internationals are inclined to stall the meeting in the belief that a real labor shortage may develop in the industry when the Defense Program hits its peak in June. A wire received yesterday by the business representative of a studio local from the International was reported to have quoted William L. Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters as saying: 'There is nothing of so great consequence in the motion picture industry to warrant a meeting at this time.' Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, who has been east for two weeks, also was quoted as stating that the situation among labor tops there was pretty much unsettled, and that no date had even been discussed for holding the conference. It was pointed out that union leaders still were waiting for final decisions by the Wage-Hour Division on disputed classifications of film workers, particularly soundmen, cameramen, company grips, best boys and electricians. The word has been passed around that the Producers have been told to negotiate with the locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, but to give them nothing. It was said the International hoped in this manner to keep control of its 10,000 members here and force the locals to ask the International to set deals for them. The rank and file membership, however, is opposed to this, fearing they may be handed another one of those 10% wage tilts which resulted in less money for all of them. The boys are clamoring for certain working conditions, and while they are willing to accept aid from the International, they want to sit in on any negotiations.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE film industry does not anticipate a heavy clampdown or meddling by the Government if and when war or a national emergency is declared. When comparing with experiences during the last year it is found that the situation is entirely different now. Then the industry was disorganized; today it has the Hays office which has established an unwavering policy of cooperating with the Government. In the event of a national emergency, however, key men currently serving on defense committees would go on a full-time basis. By strengthening the industry's voluntary cooperation picture executives hope to have a liaison with Government defense workers which will satisfy Washington.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT has been able to arrange first class cooperation from the Army for the local opening here tomorrow night at the Paramount theatre of 'I Wanted Wings.' While 30 Paramount stars and players absorb attention of the fans in front of the house, promptly at 8 o'clock 50 Army planes will fly over downtown Los Angeles in a series of aerial maneuvers. Ships will fly down from Paso Robles shortly before the opening. As they go over the theatre huge anti-aircraft searchlights, set up in adjoining Pershing Square, will pick them out of the darkness. Army exhibit in the nearby park includes the lights, machine guns and battle equipment, four Army tents and a pursuit plane.

☆ ☆ ☆

TIEUP of Joseph I. Breen with RKO studios is not the first approach of that company to secure services of an executive of the Hays and Producers Association group. Several years ago, Hiram S. Brown, then president of RKO, had a deal virtually set for Charles C. Pettijohn, general counsel of the Hays office, to join the company as studio head. Intervention of Will Hays personally on plea that Pettijohn was urgently needed by the major companies as legislative contact on tax matters in various states, finally persuaded Brown to seek a studio head elsewhere at the time—with David Selznick selected for the post.

☆ ☆ ☆

JOE E. BROWN will have a new set of numbers and lyrics, being written by Bob White and Chet Forrest, for 'Rio Rita' which opens fourth annual civic light opera festival at the Philharmonic auditorium May 19. Ann Ronell is writing lyrics for new compositions being prepared by Oscar Straus for John Charles Thomas in 'The Chocolate Soldier' which is to be staged week of June 2. Straus will come in from New York to conduct every performance of 'Soldier.'

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS will cash in on the Rudolf Hess flight from Germany in 'Under-ground' to be released in three weeks. When yarn broke script was changed to have Philip Dorn, one of characters, do underground broadcasting of Hess' flight. Then today new scene is inserted into picture with Frank Wilcox portraying the Hess part, which will show flight, shooting, landing, Scotch farmer, etc., and end with the Hess theme song of why he blew out on Hitler.

☆ ☆ ☆

DEAL is pending between Brock Pemberton and Columbia whereby the latter would finance summer stock tryouts and Broadway productions next season if promising shows are obtained. Little money would be required for the tryouts, but if the material looks favorable, financing of regular production would proceed without further huddling between Pemberton and the film company.

☆ ☆ ☆

COLUMBIA'S 'Free Company', which recently went off the air after the regular scheduled 13 weeks, doubled its rating during the two weeks the Hearst press was attacking it for alleged radicalism. According to the Gill survey, rating went from 2.1 to 4.5 during that period.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

If anyone in Hollywood had hired
a guy named Hess
To stunt across the seas and make
an international mess,
The movie fan would grab his hat
and amble on his way
And mutter: 'Oh, what things they
do to make a picture play!'

★ ★ ★

Truth is so much stranger than fiction that a lot of good newspapers won't print it. Not because of any political affiliations, but because Joe Public might get the idea that all newspaper writers are screwballs. Which they are not. A good reporter tells approximately half of what he knows and tries to forget the rest of it. Any of the top reporters of bygone days, like Gene Fowler, can tell honest tales so grotesque that no newspaper editor will print them. The Hess hop from Germany to Scotland is too unbelievable for a screen play. Fiction has a charley horse when it tries to spring along with fact.

★ ★ ★

Even the Hitching Post, which deals with westerns, has developed the horror habit. Two next films are:

'Tombstone Sheriff.'
'Bury Me Not on the Old Prairie.'

★ ★ ★

Milton Berle and Leo Fields claim a marathon gin rummy record, for time and distance—from Los Angeles to Chicago, 39 hours and 45 minutes, with only 15 minutes out for lunch. This is merely a claim. If any of you gin rummies know any better records, this column awaits.

★ ★ ★

'Illusions' is a good title for any film play. You never see the picture you are looking at. That is what causes the illusion of motion.

★ ★ ★

Some sights in Hollywood are cute
And some are even cuter.
A damsel in a bathing suit
Riding on a scooter.

★ ★ ★

Although she never played baseball, Gloria Warren steps up to the Hollywood plate with two strikes. Her own press agents are calling her a second Deanna Durbin.

★ ★ ★

There wouldn't be so many kids dreaming of Cinderella back in the sticks if they realized that a seven-year contract is good for six months. Your modern Cinderella has an option in her glass slipper.

Picture business is growing so big that stars are using auto-trailers for dressing rooms. Travel broadens one.

Autobiographies grow younger and younger. Next is Mickey Rooney's. What the public really wants to read is Baby Sandy, telling about 'way back when.

★ ★ ★

'Ill See You Again' is something more than a picture title. It is a hope.

Eddie Lowe and Vic McLaglen are teamed up again and the flacks are mixing carpet tacks with their morning spinach to work up another feud.

Preview

★

Too Many Blondes

(*Comedy with Songs*)

Universal production. Stars Rudy Vallee and Helen Parrish. Features Lon Chaney, Jr., Jerome Cowan, Shemp Howard, Iris Adrian, Eddie Quillan, Irving Bacon. Supporting players: Jeanne Kelly, Paco Moreno, Gus Schilling, Dorothy Lee, Carmela and Jose Cansino, Dinorah Rego, Humberto Herpera and Orchestra. Director, Thornton Freeland. Associate producer, Joseph G. Sanford. Original story, Maxwell Shane. Screenplay, Maxwell Shane and Louis S. Kaye. Photography, Milton Krasner. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Richard H. Riedel. Film editor, Bernard W. Burton. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Gowns, Vera West. Sound supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; technician, William Hedgcock. Music director, Charles Previn. Songs, Milton Rosen and Everett Carter and Walter O'Keefe. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, May 13. Running time: 60 mins.

'Too Many Blondes' is a mild little comedy with music that is slated for spotty reception in its supporting bill playdates, but because of its short running time and a number of good laughs, will manage to please sufficiently. The players have a hodge-podge of material to wade through and at times are able to clear their way okay, at other spots the proceedings bog down to a minor pace. Walter O'Keefe's 'The Man On the Flying Trapeze' is dragged in as an audience participation gag with Rudy Vallee doing the vocals, and there are three other numbers, done capably by Vallee and Helen Parrish, his co-star. Brief snatches of a South American tune, sung by Dinorah Rego, and a dance number by Carmela and Jose Cansino, are injected for production.

Plot wraps itself around a pair of singers (Vallee and Miss Parrish) who are trying to save money to get a divorce, and jumps from bad gag to good gag as the couple go through their maneuvers, aided by the sideline coaching of Jerome Cowan, a villain who wants the gal himself. Story contrivance puts the couple below the border, intent on a quick unsplicing when they save the necessary coin. Of course, after many misunderstandings and some action explained with dialog, they get together again with a fabulous contract to sing on the air.

Aiding Vallee and Miss Parrish with the comedy is Shemp Howard, a hotel clerk, who wrangles most of the laughs. Eddie Quillan does his share, and Lon Chaney, Jr. (minus horror makeup) completes the supporting fun trio. Iris Adrian registers as the girl friend of Chaney's and Jerome Cowan eases through his assignment first rate. Paco Moreno and Gus Schilling each have brief moments.

Thornton Freeland, doing his first directing job in Hollywood after seven years in London, could have had better material for his new start. He keeps things on the go the majority of the time, and frames the songs and laughs nicely. Joseph G. Sanford's production values make the most of the budget allotment and the technical departments are satisfactory. Maxwell Shane and Louis S. Kaye screenplayed from the Shane original.

Title for 'Christian'

Final title for RKO's third Dr. Christian picture will be 'They Meet Again.'

SCHAEFER FINALLY TELLS OF BREEN APPOINTMENT

Although negotiations were on for three weeks and concluded last week when the RKO board put its okay on the deal, George Schaefer held up until yesterday the announcement that Joseph I. Breen, who resigned his post as Production Code Administrator with the Hays organization, was joining RKO as general studio manager on a long term contract. Breen also will be elected a vice-prexy of RKO at the next board meeting, Schaefer announced.

Though no definite date for Breen's moving into RKO was given, it is understood that regardless of whether Will Hays picks his successor before that time Breen will take over his new post June 1. With Breen coming into RKO, it is likely that a settlement may be made by Schaefer of the Harry Edington contract which does not expire until Dec. 31, and pays $2,000 per week. Reports were current that a settlement of the Edington ticket was under way.

Also another situation which was on the horizon was possibility of Joe Nolan stepping out around June 1. But understood that he has talked with Breen and would go on vacation shortly after the new boss came into the plant and return to take different post than he previously occupied.

Breen, who has been with Hays organization for eight years, had no previous studio experience. Understood that Floyd Odlum of Atlas Corporation was staunch advocate of bringing Breen into studio.

Breen has been ill at his home this week with infected throat and was not available last night to state when he took over his new job. At Hays office it was stated he was not expected to return to his chores there this week.

Morgan's Autry Pic

William Morgan has been assigned at Republic to direct the next Gene Autry, 'Under Fiesta Stars', which Harry Gray will produce, starting next week.

Heading East

Spyros Skouras
Charles W. Koerner
Harry Hollander
Stan Laurel (SF)
Oliver Hardy (SF)
Mrs. Ernst Lubitsch (SF)
Mrs. Mervyn Leroy (SF)
Mort Singer (SF)
Wayne Morris (AA)
Mrs. Milton Bren
Merian C. Cooper (AA)
Bill Thompson (TWA)
Hedda Hopper (TWA)
Tom Harrington (TWA)
Bertha Brainard
Simone Simon
John Healy
Patti McCarty
Edward Golden
Lew Ayres
George Murphy and wife
Ronald Reagan (SF)
Jane Wyman (SF)
Laraine Day

In from the East

James L. Saphier
Virginia Van Upp
Raoul Pene du Bois

Blair Attends Sesh On Extra Setup

Aubrey Blair, who has been designated by the American Federation of Labor to investigate the extra setup in the Screen Actors Guild, attended the meeting of the Extras Advisory Council last night at 1753 Highland. Blair, AFofL organizer here, spent some time in conference with Harry Mayo, Council chairman and head of the SAG Council when it was abolished, and also talked with many players who attended the session.

Blair stated he was not in a position to disclose contents of the complaints that have been handed him, but said they would all be incorporated in a report which he will submit to Meyer Lewis, AFofL western director. Lewis in turn will submit a complete report to William F. Green, president of the AFofL, in time for consideration at the AFofL Executive Council meeting in Washington Monday (19) if Green desires to bring it up then.

Schlesinger Session

Wage demands of cartoon workers at Leon Schlesinger were discussed yesterday at a conference between company representatives and officials of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The Guild made certain wage concessions in the higher pay brackets, but made it plain that no further revisions in the proposed contract would be approved. Another meeting will be held later this week. The SCG has authorized a strike of workers if, and when it is deemed advisable.

Play Review

'A-LOVIN' AN' A-FEUDIN' '

If there is anything to the superstition that the wronged dead turn over in their graves, the Bard of Avon became 'whirling William' last night when the Pasadena Playhouse Association presented 'A-Lovin' an' A-Feudin'.'

Play, by Ethel Park Richardson and Erik Barnouw, was a magnificently bad job of rewriting Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'. Only the most ardent of the Pasadena Community Playhouse patrons, or those philosophical enough to take the bitter with the sweet, or those interested in strange, depressing novelties could like this show. It is not good theatre. It is unworthy of the Playhouse group.

'A-Lovin' an' A-Feudin' ' was laid in the Tennessee mountains, with the Capulets and the Montagus as hill-billies. Shakespeare's original language was stripped of its tragic poetry. Fay Sappington and Herman Hoch turned in the best performances. Hershel Daugherty directed. It is no good for pictures and no good for the stage.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

LONA WOOLSEY, secretary to Bill Moore at the William Esty agency, was married yesterday at Coronado to Lester Salkow, agent. . . . Tommy Cook completed 14 weeks work in 'Jungle Girl' serial at Republic and checked off the lot. . . . Lew Ayres and Laraine Day plane for Atlantic City tomorrow to join Robert Young and Walter Pidgeon there as Metro player representatives at the national convention of Variety Clubs. . . . George Murphy planes for New York today after finishing his role in RKO's 'Tom, Dick and Harry.' While east the actor will attend, on May 23, dedication of a gymnasium built in honor of his father, Mike Murphy, at the University of Pennsylvania. . . . Walt Disney studio polo team goes north this weekend to tilt with the Stanford University four. Disneyites are Larry Lansburgh, Harry Teitel, Mel Shaw, Jack Cutting.

James Stephenson says his brother writes from England that an average of 10 out of every 100 bombs dropped by the Nazis are duds, and that many of them when opened by searching squads contain notes from employes in the Skoda Munitions Plant in Czechoslovakia stating, 'We are doing the best we can.'

'HOST-TO-HOST HOOKUP' is the title of the Masquers Club dinner program tomorrow night. All hosts and guests of honor during the past year on the Masquers programs will play host at an open house. James B. Carson is chairman of the dinner committee. . . . Leah Baird discovered on Warners set adjoining one she's playing on in 'Manpower', a coo-coo clock which looked familiar and which she later identified as having seen as prop in a French picture in which she played 14 years ago. Her name and date were carved on it. How it got here is mystery, actress says.

Rita Johnson, after completing her role in Columbia's 'Heaven Can Wait', leaves for Reno, Nev., to JOIN her husband.

MRS. MERVYN LE ROY, Mrs. Ernst Lubitsch and Mrs. Milton Bren left last night for Detroit to make arrangements with General Motors whereby they will take charge of exhibition of a captured German Messerschmidt plane in the east with object of raising funds for British War Relief . . . Trio thence will go to New York after arranging to have the Messerschmidt shipped there. Proceeds from sale of tickets to view plane will be used to buy hospital supplies for Britain. . . . Genuine Hawaiian gals are hard to find here for picture work. Out of calls for 36 wanted by Warners as dancers in 'Navy Blues', only eight responded. . . . Virginia Van Upp checked in at Paramount from New York yesterday and will take a week's vacation before beginning her writing job on 'Out of the Frying Pan', legiter she went east to see.

Grainger Dates Trio Of Republic Sales Regional Meets

James R. Grainger, head of Republic's sales force, yesterday set dates and localities for three forthcoming annual sales conventions, to be attended by franchise owners, branch managers, salesmen and bookers. Herbert J. Yates, chairman of the board, and Grainger will preside at all the meetings.

Pacific Coast convention will be held at the studio here (19, 20), combined Midwest and Southern regional will convene in Chicago (22, 23), and Eastern meet will be in New York city (27, 28). Southern and Midwestern regionals usually are held separately, but are being combined this year.

COL. RECORDING SESH TODAY

The parley between Columbia Recording Co. executives and striking employes scheduled for yesterday was postponed until 1 p.m. today because Homer I. Mitchell, company attorney, was engaged in court. Officials of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union stated 15 Hollywood organizations had formed the Hollywood Community Council and would hold its first meeting Saturday night (17) on the picket line to be established in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Mrs. Hannan Schwartz has been named temporary chairman of the Council.

The union said the Council was financing the distribution of 50,000 pamphlets explaining the issues in the Columbia Recording strike and urging support for the workers. It was announced the first action of the Community Council will be a campaign to enlist support for the Columbia strikers.

'Kane' Roadshow Idea Hit By Openings

New York, May 13.—Hope that 'Citizen Kane' would qualify as a roadshow at advanced admission prices during the week was not good on reports from openings of the film away from Broadway, now in its second week at the Palace theatre here. It is doing well, though not a smash. In Chicago and Los Angeles theatre owners are critical of the method of handling the engagements and results are disappointing.

BIG FETE PLANNED FOR VISITING LA NAVY CHIEFS

The Producers Association announced yesterday that more than 125 top flight stars, film executives and Army and Navy officials will pay honor to the navy chiefs of 21 South American Republics at a luncheon to be staged Saturday (17) at Metro. Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Association, will be toastmaster, with E. J. Mannix, Metro general manager, acting as chairman of the reception committee.

The entertainment program will include Connie Russell, Ray MacDonald, Carmen Miranda and her band, Ray Bolger, Eleanor Powell, Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland and the Metro Orchestra. Cesar Romero will be m.c.

INDUSTRY GROUP TO MEET MENZIES ON ANZAC BIZ

New York, May 13.—A film industry committee is considered likely to huddle with Australian Prime Minister Menzies, who arrived in the United States from England last week, regarding the situation in Anzac territory and future distribution there. Getting additional frozen coin from Aussie is the chief problem. Filmites expect favorable treatment from Menzies, as he handled exhibitor interests as a barrister before he was elected to head the Australian government.

Obituary

JAMES GORDON

Funeral services for James Gordon, president and one of the founders of The Troupers, Inc., will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. at the Hollywood Memorial Park chapel. Gordon, who appeared for many years on the stage before becoming a film character actor, died Monday following an emergency operation, performed to remove a radium tube accidentally swallowed during treatment for a throat ailment.

Gordon played on the New York stage and in repertory companies around the United States, and among his last stage appearances was the role of the mayor in 'The Front Page', and later he did same part in the picture. During 1927 and 1928 he served as president of The Troupers and was drafted in 1940 to the same post, and was active in welfare work among impoverished actors.

His widow, Mabel Van Buren Gordon, formerly in pictures, survives.

TED BENNETT

Funeral services for Ted Bennett, 68-year-old character actor and musician, will be held today at 2 p.m. in Pierce Brothers Hollywood chapel, with burial following at the Hollywood Memorial Park. Bennett, whose real name was William Oscar Houghton, appeared in vaudeville before coming to Hollywood 20 years ago.

AL CLIFTON KELLEY

Al Clifton Kelley, veteran showman and general agent of Amusement Corporation of America, died May 12 in Chicago. In the old days he ran his own shows and was known from coast to coast in the amusement business. Locally he was a member of the Pacific Coast Showman's Club.

Walsh to Frisco

William R. Walsh, senior attorney and acting regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, will go to San Francisco Monday to argue the Ford case before the Court of Appeals. He will return here Tuesday, and will plane out Wednesday night (14) for Washington to attend the NLRB conference of regional directors and attorneys.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 8; Seattle, 2.
San Diego, 2; Los Angeles, 0.
Portland, 4; Oakland, 1.
San Francisco-Sacramento, rain.

Eddie Bracken Subs Burns on Krafter; 3-Year Contract

New York, May 13. — Eddie Bracken replaces Bob Burns when the latter goes off Kraft Music Hall for the summer. He'll be co-starred with Don Ameche and remains with the show when Crosby returns in the fall. He holds a three-year contract.

Bracken gets star billing in his next Paramount picture, 'The Fleet's In', which will have Betty Hutton and Cass Daley featured, scheduled to start about July 1. Next picture after that will be a co-starrer with Crosby.

Bracken is currently on the Paramount stage here and in 'Reaching For the Sun' on the screen. He goes to the Coast when he closes the end of next week.

Haskell Masters Due Here Sunday

Haskell Masters, making his first trip over the Coast territory since he was appointed western division sales manager for United Artists, is due in from San Francisco Sunday. Ben Fish, UA western district manager, planed north to meet Masters, both returning after gandering exchanges in Portland, Seattle and San Francisco.

Saphier Brings Air Pact for Fidler

James L. Saphier flew in from New York yesterday with a radio deal for Jimmie Fidler. If film tattler approves the contract he'll be back on the air within a few weeks. It will be a once-a-week transcontinental program for a national advertiser.

Hollander Vacashes

Harry Hollander, film buyer for the Bard circuit, has left for the east on a three-week vacation.

LifeBO Sets Program To Move in If LOP Drops

Fate of three William Esty radio shows will be determined during the current visit of Richard Marvin, radio head of the agency. Two are virtually safe and the other has a tough hurdle to get over. Practically certain of being renewed are 'Blondie' and Al Pearce for Camel ciggies. Perched on the big question mark is LifeBO's 'Hollywood Premiere'. All three are in the same time cycle, with options falling due late this month.

Marvin said that the Lolly Parsons show might be continued if some 'sensible' talent budget can be arrived at to compensate the guest stars. He declared that some basis for computing the worth of players on the program must be reached before any decision can be made.

Marvin said he has a variety show all signed and sealed to take over the LifeBO time in the event that the Parsons turn is not renewed. Program would alternate originations between both coasts, with indication that picture talent would be used on the new setup.

SCRIVENERS CATCH DOUBLE SNEAKS

Hollywood correspondents caught a doubleheader sneak preview last night in their campaign to force Jock Lawrence's Studio Publicity Directors Committee to screen pictures here before they are shown elsewhere. The writers descended on Huntington Park when it was learned Universal was staging a sneak preview of 'Bachelor Daddy' at Warners theatre.

Before entering the house, the writers were advised that Metro also was staging a sneak of 'Lady Be Good' at the California theatre. The group went into a huddle, assigned nine of the writers to catch the Metro offering and six to take care of Universal's 'Bachelor Daddy'.

Earlier at a meeting in Hollywood the correspondents agreed to continue to catch sneak previews until some definite action is taken by the Producers. They said there had been no change in the situation, that Lawrence continued to shout empty promises, but that no move had been made to guarantee correspondents that pictures would be previewed here before they are screened in NY.

Kreisler May Not Play Again

New York, May 13.—Fritz Kreisler, world famous concert artist, may never play the violin again. Although reported slightly improved this week at the Roosevelt hospital where he is being treated for a fractured skull, he's still on the danger list. It is understood from close friends that the violinist-composer already has made plans to devote himself chiefly to composing in the future, limiting himself to but few concert dates.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
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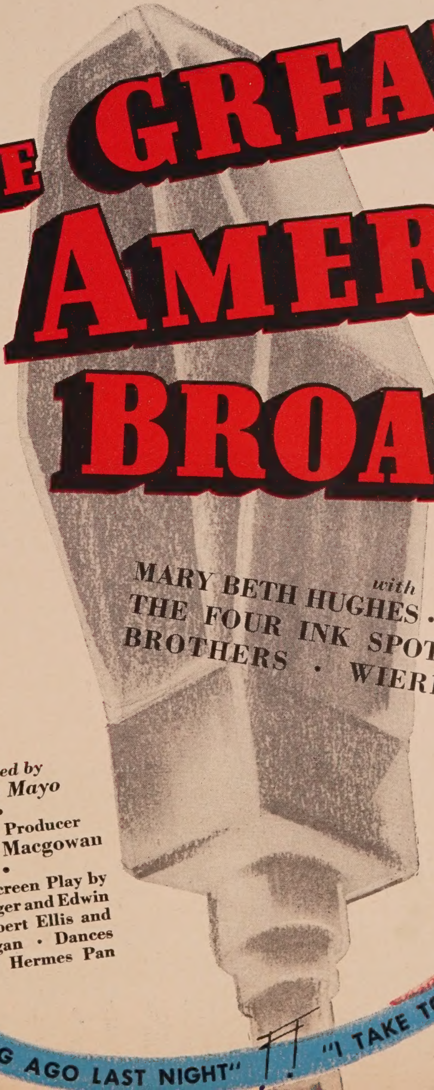

THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST

with
MARY BETH HUGHES · JAMES NEWILL
THE FOUR INK SPOTS · NICHOLAS BROTHERS · WIERE BROTHERS

"THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST"
"IT'S ALL IN A LIFETIME"
"RUN LITTLE RAINDROP"
"LONG AGO LAST NIGHT"
"I TAKE TO YOU"
"WHERE YOU ARE"

Directed by
Archie Mayo
•
Associate Producer
Kenneth Macgowan
•
Original Screen Play by Don Ettlinger and Edwin Blum, Robert Ellis and Helen Logan · Dances staged by Hermes Pan

Lyrics and music of the smash hit songs by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren

20th CENTURY FOX

NOW
GRAUMAN'S CHINESE and
LOEW'S STATE

ARCHIE MAYO

DIRECTOR

THE GREAT
AMERICAN BROADCAST

ALICE FAYE

THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST

THE INK SPOTS

Management
MOE GALE

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Just Completed
"SUN VALLEY SERENADE"

Under Contract
20th Century-Fox

WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc.

WIERE BROTHERS

Thanks to Mr. Zanuck
and Archie Mayo

Hollywood Representative
WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc.

New York Representative
MARK J. LEDDY

THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST

Ice-Capades Garners 132G at Pan-Pac, Setting New High

Ice-Capades closed out its four-week run at the Pan-Pacific last night for a total take of $132,000, setting a new high for that length of engagement by an icetravaganza. Troupe posted $29,000 on the final week, with two extra days thrown in.

After a two-week layoff the blade experts check in at Republic for two weeks' filming of the frapped revue. Rehearsals for the 1942 edition will be held in Philadelphia in July, after which the outfit opens in Atlantic City with the present setup. New show will be unveiled at the Dallas state fair.

THOMSON RESIGNS AGVA POST

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

with him Lee Travers, whom he last week placed in temporary charge of Los Angeles AGVA local after the dismissal of Kenneth Howard as executive secretary.

His retirement climaxes a double burn-up, one by Thomson against AGVA national officials, and the other by the latter at Thomson for his Travers appointment. Thomson assumed control of the AGVA local on April 30, first sending Charles Drubin, a SAG checker, to take charge of the office, but later announcing that Lee Travers had been loaned to the local for 30 days.

It was announced in the east that appointment of Travers was a 'shocking surprise' to AGVA officials. They said he was a Hoyt Haddock appointee as Philadelphia executive secretary, and later was sent to Chicago as national representative, from which post he was discharged. The local AGVA board asked Thomson to take over supervision of the local and aid in its reorganization.

Complaints against the management of AGVA and the method in which the recent national AGVA election was conducted have been filed with the national AGVA board and with William F. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. Only a few hundred votes were cast, although AGVA is reported to have a membership of more than 10,000. It is probable the election will be declared invalid since a majority did not vote. Such action was taken by the SAG some time ago when a majority failed to vote for members of the SAG Council.

Hopper Planes Out

Hedda Hopper flies to St. Louis today to be guest of honor of National Association of Broadcasters at its banquet tomorrow night.

Ill in Pix

KAY ALDRIDGE checked in at the Santa Monica hospital for observation for possible appendectomy. Director Lloyd Bacon is shooting around player on Warners 'Navy Blues'.

DENNIS O'KEEFE checked out of Cedars of Lebanon hospital yesterday after two weeks recuperating from an appendectomy.

SAG PARLEY MONDAY ON IF, WHEN STRIKE SETUP

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

each side submitting proposals and counter proposals. It was agreed that these would be taken back by the negotiating committees for consideration of the Guild board and the Producers, and that the parleys would be resumed May 27. It was generally believed, however, that the counter proposals of the Producers would not be acceptable to the scriveners.

In the meantime, the SWG moved to consolidate all of the writer groups in support of the SWG demands. The Radio Writers Guild has pledged its full support, and similar action is expected by the Dramatists Guild, Authors Guild and the Authors League of America. The SWG handed out the following statement last night:

'Every major writing guild in Hollywood and New York presented a solid front today in support of the current Screen Writers Guild bargaining negotiations with film producers.

'In the face of a strike possibility if the Writers Guild negotiations are not successfully concluded, the Authors League of America, Inc., and its affiliated crafts, the Dramatists Guild and the Authors Guild in New York, have called emergency meetings for the adoption of sympathetic resolutions of support, according to a telegram from Howard Lindsay, vice-president of the Authors League of America. Acting in the absence of President Elmer Davis, Lindsay assured the Screen Writers Guild of lively and sympathetic backing in the negotiations and requested full information for members on future progress. The Screen Writers Guild also was advised that the Authors Guild has called a special Council meeting for May 20 in support of writer negotiations.

'The Radio Writers Guild unanimously adopted a resolution pledging support to the Screen Writers at a special meeting Monday night. This is the first instance in the history of the writing crafts wherein national Guild unity has been so forcefully expressed.'

BIG RADIO OUTFITS RESIGN FROM NAB

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

association is no longer representative of the entire industry and that you are taking a position in various matters adverse to our interests and in favor of those of others.'

McCosker was twice elected president of NAB, once by coincidence at another convention held in St. Louis.

Mutual, in closing with Ascap and in endorsing the FCC, went contrary to NBC and CBS and the trade association generally.

Neville Miller's heckling of Chairman Fly this morning was widely reported in the eastern press and was followed by Senator White introducing the Senate resolution to investigate the investigators.

Mike Newman Arrives; Safron in Frisco

Mike Newman, Columbia western district exploiteer, back after giving 'Penny Serenade' publicity sendoff in Denver and Salt Lake City. Jerry Safron, western district manager for Columbia, in San Francisco on exchange business, due back over the weekend.

UA Deals Set

Earle Collins, Los Angeles branch manager for United Artists, completed negotiations last week in Phoenix and Tucson for sale of balance of UA current product to Nace and Diamos circuits. Deal embraces approximately 16 houses.

U Hops Up Sked

Universal expects to complete half its entire 1941-42 program by Sept. 1. Total of 32 pictures, out of 65 announced, will be ready for delivery or in the cutting rooms by that date, according to studio executives.

Braly Starts Tour

Hugh Braly, Pacific Coast district manager for Paramount, is scheduled to leave tomorrow for week's swing around exchanges in San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

Eddie Foy, Jr. Signed For 4 Rep Pix

Republic has signed Eddie Foy, Jr. to four picture deal, following his role in 'Puddin' Head.' First of the quartet will be Albert Cohen's production, 'Navy Blue Eyes.'

Johnston, Carr Expected Here Shortly After NY Mono Confabs

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, is expected back from New York later this week. He has been east working on new finances for company's 1941-42 program, along with Trem Carr, board member and head of production. Carr returned to the Hollywood studio Monday.

After Johnston's return it is expected final details of deal for a new producing unit to turn out a number of features that originally would have been contributed by Paul Malvern before his move to Universal, will be completed.

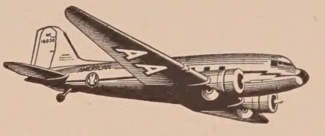
ENTIRE TED LEWIS SHOW FOR PIC

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

ters, also not in film originally, will be featured in the added footage. Nick Castle has started rehearsing the dance-song routines. New scenes are expected to take at least two weeks under direction of Arthur Lubin. Glen Tryon will preside as associate producer in lieu of Bert Kelly, who resigned to go to another studio.

Ed Golden to Gotham on University Biz

Edward Golden, president of University pictures, planes for New York tomorrow to wind up distribution plans for company's initial production, 'No Greater Sin.'



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AMERICAN AIRLINES Inc.
ROUTE OF THE FLAGSHIPS

Congressional Probe Of Drastic FCC Moves Proposed

★ Continued from page 1 ★

impressions the comish majority had Presidential backing.

Resolution calling on the regulators to stay the effective date of their stringent rules and providing for a far-reaching probe was handed the Senate by Senator Wallace White of Maine, co-author of 1927 Radio Act. By implication proposal had endorsement of Senator Burton Wheeler, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee, though latter is far too concerned about war matters to have time just now for radio rows.

Temporarily shelving the idea of sponsoring legislation that would revise the Communications Act, Senator White introduced the measure under which the Interstate Commerce group (of which he is a member) would study effects of the commission's blitz and legality of the crackdowners' eight commandments. Measure would require FCC to turn over immediately all data collected during the wearying investigation so Congress could reach an independent opinion whether monopoly exists and such violent remedies are necessary.

Not long before, Secretary Early vigorously explained his acknowledgment of telegrams from Alfred J. McCosker and W. E. MacFarlane, Mutual execs, praising the regulations, was nothing more than it appeared, only a matter of courtesy. The Early letter, which took on possibly great significance, replied to McCosker-MacFarlane wire cheering the comish majority. Because of the president's illness Early voiced the appreciation, explaining his boss was pleased when 'two executives with such important interests at stake can view a situation with such detachment.'

Quizzed about his intentions, in view of Mutual claims the letter showed the White House favors the crackdown, Early immediately disclaimed any idea of rubber-stamping the regulations, and promptly telegraphed Lowell Mellett, head of the office of government reports, who is in St. Louis, 'I deeply regret that such use of the letter is being made by its recipients or their agents.' Newsmen were told by Early his letter was nothing more than a 'polite acknowledgment to a telegram received.' He remarked it does not indicate all hope of relief is lost, adding, 'it does not, as some would have it appear, express any statement of policy on behalf of the administration.'

The White resolution, which cited the Supreme court opinion in the Sanders Bros. case saying the comish has no authority to regulate the business affairs of radio, noted the regulations have been condemned as 'an attempt upon the part of the commission to exercise supervisory control of programs, business management and policy' of webs and affiliates. Consequently, the Maine Republican proposed investigation of:

1. Probable effects of rules on broadcasting industry structure of network organizations and stations.

2. Effect on program quality.

3. Whether the comish is trying to supervise programs, policies and business matters.

4. Whether rules will have reverse effect on industry and service rendered.

5. If they are a 'threat to freedom of speech' via the airwaves.

6. If government ownership and operation is liable to follow, or the rules may reduce stations to common carrier status.

7. Whether rules are 'in effect' an effort to define monopoly and whether the comish is claiming power to penalize anybody for engaging in monopolistic practices.

8. Whether comish action is justified by the statute.

IATSE LAUNCHES DRIVE ON LABORERS, UTILITY WORKERS

Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes has launched a drive to take over all laborers and utility workers in the film industry. The workers are being asked to approve a consolidation of Studio Utilities Employes Local 724 with the IATSE group and to designate Local 727 as their collective bargaining representative.

A total of 3,000 postcards are being broadcast in the studios, one to be signed and returned to Local 727. The card to be returned states:

'Gentlemen: I am a laborer and utility worker employed in the motion picture studios, and am of the opinion that there is not room in the industry for two labor organizations, and that there should be a consolidation of Local 724 of the Hod Carriers and Local 727 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. I hereby cast my vote to consolidate the two locals into Local 727 of the IATSE and for Local 727 to be the bargaining agent for wages, hours and conditions. I am a member of Local ——.'

The other card to be retained by the worker states:

'The two cards enclosed are very important. If you are in accord with the message on the card, sign one and post it immediately. It is most essential that it be received within the next few days. The additional card should be handed to another laborer or utility worker whom you know is not a member of Local 727 and who is now working in the studios, with a request that he immediately sign and mail it. Mail it for him if you care to after it has been signed.'

A jurisdictional beef has existed between the two American Federation of Labor locals since the IATSE-United Studio Technicians Guild election, when the Congress of Industrial Organization tried to move into the picture field through supporting the latter group. The Producers recently ordered all Local 727 men who were employed on a working permit yanked, which is believed to have resulted in the move by Local 727 to force a showdown. The two locals are reported to have aggregate memberships in excess of 3,000.

a.m. Dailies

Bradna Wedding Today—

Olympe Bradna, film actress, and Douglas Wood Wilhoit, radio singer, will be married today at 11 a.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Beverly Hills.

NY LEGIT OPENING

● Continued from page 1 ●

pealing and uneven in the other ingenue lead. Edward Ashley redeems the trying part of the only adult in the cast. Barbara Kent, English ingenue making her American debut, has little to do but is self-possessed and has looks for film prospects. Frederick Bradlee and Peter Scott are passable as the remaining members of the troupe.

Arthur Ripley's direction is unfortunate, but Raymond Sovey's single setting gives an unusually realistic impression. Raphael and Robert Hakim, who produced the French film 'Pepe Le Moko', make their Broadway bow as presenters.

Vice-President Wallace Accolades NAB For Hemispheric Goodwill

Washington, May 13.—Vice President Henry A. Wallace today told the National Association of Broadcasters in a convention in St. Louis of the administration's 'high appreciation of what you've done in providing good music for the millions and building hemispheric good will', but failed to sound a reassuring note to soothe the nerves of jittery station owners and network execs. He spoke from his office in the Capitol building, excusing himself from a personal appearance before the kilocycle nabobs because of 'press of duties.'

His subject, 'Responsibilities of the Radio', treated largely with conditions created in this country by the war and he pleaded for a continuation of free discussion and resistance to Nazi-inspired propaganda. He said radio had been highly instrumental in making our good neighbors know us better and asked that the communal spirit in this country be fostered to a greater degree than ever before.

Metro Pacts Trio

Term contracts have been handed out at Metro to Howard Emmett Rogers, writer, Dorothy Morris and Natalie Thompson, actresses. Miss Morris was spotted by talent scout Bill Grady while playing at the Pasadena Community Playhouse while Miss Thompson was tagged after appearing in legit in New York.

James L. Fly Asserts FCC Regulations Are 'Flexible'

St. Louis, May 13.—Chairman James L. Fly of Federal Communications Commission appeared before the opening session today of National Assn. of Broadcasters to say that while certain regulatory principles were fixed the question of 'means, methods and timing are flexible'. Fly gave unmistakable evidence that he was 'grimly determined' to keep radio out of either government ownership on the one extreme or domination by two or three management groups on the other side. He charged 'men, to divert attention from the fact of monopolistic control in their hands, conjure up insistently the bogeyman of government operation.'

Following Fly's speech, which was the third of four in a panel on 'National Defense and Radio', the chairman of the convention, NAB Prexy Neville Miller, stepped in to say that he felt Fly's remarks should not go entirely unchallenged. Miller stated that the government also used bogeys to hide purposes, and declared broadcasters were as patriotic as anybody in or out of the government. The wave of applause for Miller's parenthetic comment created the most sensational episode that has ever occurred in the presence of a member of the commission. Miller's attack and the reaction caused the chairman to color up. It was an incident that obviously pleased many delegates but alarmed others.

Only Lincoln Dellar, manager of KSFO, Frisco, asked Commander H. R. Thurber of the Navy a routine question, if stations could assume that Navy stories on the wire services were sufficiently checked. Thurber said he would not at present make such an assumption. Major General Robert Richardson of the Army and Lowell Mellett of the office of government reports were other participants in the morning panel.

Independent Radio Network Affiliates voted at a breakfast meeting not to make any recommendations of its own regarding the monopoly report.

Harrington to NY

Tom Harrington, radio head of Young & Rubicam agency, flew back to New York yesterday. Clay Morgan, aide to NBC Prexy Niles Trammell, will pass a day in Frisco before returning east. Bertha Brainard, head of program and talent sales, leaves today for Manhattan. All came here for the Jack Benny testimonial dinner.

Wobber Kept Here

Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox distribution head, postponed his departure for the east yesterday and remains here, along with William Kupper, western division manager, to continue looking at product and discussing consent decree selling.

OPENING TONIGHT! Laughs, Laughs, Laughs at
"SLAPSY MAXIE'S"
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. Management: Sammy Lewis WEbster 9513

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SH

Vol. 31 No. 51 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, May 15, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

DRAMATIC NAB ATTACK ON FCC

THOMSON, TRAVERS WITH AGVA

Kenneth Thomson is remaining as temporary administrator of the affairs of the Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists, and his representative, Lee Travers, has been elected executive secretary of the local. Following reports from New York that Thomson was stepping out of the picture, the local AGVA board met yesterday and reaffirmed its confidence in Thomson

♣ Continued on page 10 ♣

Irving Cummings Will Direct 'Purchase'

Irving Cummings, under privilege of doing outside pictures, comes to Paramount from 20th-Fox to direct 'Louisiana Purchase', Technicolor screen version of B. G. DeSylva's stage show. Cummings deal with Paramount also calls for him to do one picture next year. 'Purchase' probably will start in July. Bob Hope is only principal set.

Burdette Transferred

Clarence Burdette, Paramount booking department, has been transferred to Salt Lake City. Gale Parker has been shifted from shipping to booking assignment at Par exchange with Jack Peacock upped to spot as first assistant shipper.

Curry Going North

Jack Curry, in charge of Paramount shorts and newsreels in this district, will accompany Hugh Braly, Par's Pacific Coast district manager, on tour of northern exchanges beginning Monday.

Conway Readies 'Tonk'

Jack Conway checked in at Metro yesterday after a two-week vacation in Baltimore and New York to begin preparing 'Honky Tonk', starrer for Clark Gable and Lana Turner.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	272
Major studio calls	249
FK Studio Service	0
Hinsman Casting Agency	15
Total	536

J. J. FITZGIBBONS NEW PREZ OF FAMOUS-CAN.

Toronto, May 14.—J. J. Fitzgibbons was elected president and managing director of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., Ltd., at adjourned annual meeting, succeeding N. L. Nathanson, whose contract expires by limitation. Discord is known to

♥ Continued on page 10 ♥

Edith Barrett Bows

Edith Barrett of the New York stage makes her film bow in Columbia's 'Ladies in Retirement.' This is the role which Lillian Gish would have had if she had been able to withdraw from cast of 'Life With Father', in Chicago.

ANGRY FLY BREEZES AFTER NEVILLE INCIDENT

By BEN BODEC

St. Louis, May 14.—Issue between Broadcast Music, Inc., and American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers was nudged into a position of relatively minor importance at today's session of National Association of Broadcasters by dramatic impact of an attack which Mark Ethridge, WHAS, Louisville, made on the Federal Communications Commission, heightened by an incident which took place between Neville Miller, NAB prexy, and James Fly, FCC chairman, here as a guest of the convention, a few minutes after

♠ Continued on page 10 ♠

NEW EXTRAS RATINGS PRACTICALLY COMPLETED

With the Producers and Screen Actors Guild scheduled to resume negotiations, it was reported that a deal has been practically set providing for reclassification of the extra pay brackets. The plan calls for elimination of the $8.25 and $11 brackets and establishment of a $10 ticket to replace them. Employment of extras at $5.50 per day also would be limited to calls for 50 or more players at one time.

Tops in the SAG have estimated

★ Continued on page 11 ★

'Barbara' Big in NY

New York, May 14.—'Major Barbara', preeming at the Astor today, registered smash business during the first three hours, with ticket sales exceeding twice the house capacity in addition to standees.

Renew Sally Payne

Sally Payne's contract at Republic has been renewed for her appearance in four more Roy Rogers westerns. Actress has been in the past five Rogers actioners.

Berlin Will Write 15 Tunes for 'Inn'

Irving Berlin will write 15 new songs, his biggest stint in years, for 'Holiday Inn', Paramount's Mark Sandrich production in which Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire will co-star. Berlin has completed half the songs. He also wrote the original story idea, which he had planned to use as a legit musical revue. 'Holiday Inn' is slated for production in November.

Lasky, Jr. Assigned

Jesse Lasky, Jr., set at Warners to script 'High Towers', bridge construction yarn that will use shots of the Tacoma bridge collapse.

Paul's 'Carrefour'

Elliott Paul has been assigned to write a new screen play version of 'Carrefour' at Metro.

Johnston Accompanies Stars To Variety Clubs Convention

The Studio Publicity Directors Committee at a meeting yesterday at the Producers Association appointed John LeRoy Johnston to escort the stars to Atlantic City for the convention of the Variety Clubs of America. The group will plane out tonight.

The committee also mulled over a request for industry cooperation in entertaining 12,000 members of the National Federation of Music Clubs who will come here next month to

◆ Continued on page 9 ◆

COL WILL HOLD TWO U. S. SALES MEETS

New York, May 14.—Contrary to previous policy, Columbia will hold two national sales conventions, with only the company's top executives convening in Chicago June 7-8. Plans will there be formulated for a second gathering to be attended by the entire sales force. According to Abe Montague, the decentralized sales policy will be broadened and 1941-42 product discussed. Montague emphasized that Columbia will continue to distribute its product as in the past.

McCoy, Buck Jones in Monogram Series

Col. Tim McCoy has been signed by Monogram to appear with Buck Jones in the eight 'Rough Riders' westerns Scott R. Dunlap will produce for 1941-42.

Risdon, Beecher Set

Elisabeth Risdon and Janet Beecher are set among top featured roles in C. B. DeMille's Paramount production, 'Reap the Wild Wind.'

Larkin on 'Desert'

John Larkin has finished his 20th-Fox script on 'Man at Large' and has been assigned to a Charlie Chan, 'Castle In the Desert.'

Ties Jack Andrews

20th-Fox yesterday gave a one-year writing contract to Jack Andrews. He is currently working on 'Wild Geese Calling.'

Ziffren's 'Tell'

Lester Ziffren will write the screenplay for 20th-Fox's 'You Can't Always Tell', from the original by Harold McGrath.

PREVIEWED

SHE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS
(Col)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

FOUNDED BY SIME SILVERMAN
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Leo G. Carroll into Par's 'Bahama Passage'.

Lloyd Nolan airs for Indianapolis tomorrow.

John Garfield in from New York yesterday.

Decca Prexy Jack Kapp due in from the east next week.

Joseph Schildkraut planning a summer vacation in Alaska.

Mary Jo James of the Seattle Repertory Theatre, visiting here for several days.

Harry Nace, Jr., booker for the Publix-Nace circuit in Arizona, is in from Phoenix.

Norman Noyes, of NBC sales staff, leaves (17) for a Shrine ceremonial in Mexico City.

Saul Chaplin and Sam Cahn have cleffed two songs for Columbia's 'Time Out For Rhythm'.

Pat O'Dea is taking over Shep Kelley's cocktail lounge at Hollywood and Vine next week.

William Cabanne's car stolen second time within three weeks. Paramount actor is riding a bus.

Faye Kirkwood, Fort Worth, Tex., chamber of commerce representative, visited Metro yesterday.

Pre-recording of Cole Porter's nine numbers for Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich' starts today.

Tom Petty is in New York for two weeks for RKO publicity department to contact eastern mag editors.

Irena Baranova is being tested at Paramount for 'Channel Port', following South American ballet tour.

Claire Trevor checks in at Columbia for costume fittings as femme lead in the pioneer picture, 'Texas'.

Henry Silk, assistant director, is back from preliminary training in Army Air Corps and is on reserve list.

John Halliday is homing to Honolulu this weekend on completion of his role in Alexander Korda's 'Illusions'.

One day of additional scenes were filmed yesterday on 'Hit the Road' at Universal, under the direction of Ford Beebe.

Penny Singleton makes first public appearance as singer at Glendale Civic Auditorium tonight with St. Brendan's Choir.

Gary Cooper's uncle is a flying officer in China's air force, according to report brought back by an American aviator.

Benny the Gouge sez—We used to stare at femme bicycle riders in bloomers, and we would stare still more if we saw one today.

Hollywood Inside

INDEPENDENT producer with a new program of pictures lined up, a number of which will be musicals, is muttering in his beard at having let slip through his fingers a Broadway singing find who would have been a natural for his features. Producer's New York office forwarded to the Coast a contract calling for $75 weekly, along with photos and the good notices received by singer when she opened in the show that brought her to the front. Pact needed only the producer's signature to make it legal, the find having inked the pact in the east. After six months of collecting dust in the producer's files ticket became just so much waste paper when a major lot seized the opportunity to hand actress a pact at much more money. Actress has garnered much nationwide publicity in photo magazines and syndicated articles but the man who could have had her services for practically nothing, considering their value, is having to look elsewhere for a name to hypo his new series of films.

☆ ☆ ☆

TWO writers, recently wracking their respective memories for a good story idea, remembered a short story by Guy de Maupassant. Together they devised a modern background, eliminated all traces of the Frenchman's hand and developed a salable screenplay. One of the team quietly peddled the finished product to a major studio without his erstwhile partner's knowledge. The other lad, deft detective he, soon learned of the happening and charged his ex-pal with stealing the story idea. Feud raged on for several days, with each writer accusing the other of stealing the yarn from him. Finally, a story editor who knew both writers and had detected the origin of the modernized screenplay, wrote them a joint letter asking them to get together and forget their differences. Screed was penned in classical French and signed 'Maupassant.'

☆ ☆ ☆

UNIVERSAL has carried out an Oriental theme in a number of its smaller-budgeted features, judging by the titles 'Dark Streets of Cairo', 'Halfway to Shanghai', 'South to Karanga', 'North of Borneo', and now has 'Bombay Clipper' up for production by Marshall Grant, who also served in the same capacity on several of the other four. Another who has carried through in the Oriental mood is Stanley Rubin, who did scripting jobs on all five of the pictures and just completed work on 'Bombay Clipper' with Roy Chanslor. It is figured some extra value is given the small actioners by framing title and at least a portion of the plot in faraway spots where fictional adventures can appear a little more credulous than if laid in familiar territory.

☆ ☆ ☆

DELAY in concluding the sale of film rights to 'The Flying Yorkshireman' by Frank Lloyd to the Frank Capra-Robert Riskin production unit is largely due to necessary clearance that must be obtained from the various interested parties who own a slice of the story. Lloyd and the Capra-Riskin combine have already verbally agreed on sale and expect other formalities will be taken care of by the end of the week. 'Yorkshireman' was originally intended for Arch Oboler to do when he was a member of the Lloyd unit at Universal. Lloyd has now replaced picture on his Universal schedule with the recently purchased 'River Lady' and if script and a cast can be readied in time it may be his next production following the current 'I, James Lewis.'

☆ ☆ ☆

PROFESSIONAL staff at Broadcast Music yesterday took heart at a cheering message from Sidney Kaye, BMI headman, that radio's own music organization is in a stronger position today than it has ever been and that it will be continued despite the resumption of relations with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers. Kaye's wire from the St. Louis convention of National Association of Broadcasters emphasized that station owners are happy over the progress made by BMI to date and will continue the use of its music to augment the Ascap catalog.

☆ ☆ ☆

ACCEPTING invitation to look at the Bill Thomas-Bill Pine partly edited picture, 'Forced Landing', yesterday, Walter Wanger and Director Henry Hathaway liked the technical work so well that they went out pronto and took the whole gang over for Wanger's forthcoming production, 'Sundown.' Now Frank McDonald, who comes in to direct the new Pine-Thomas opus for Paramount, 'Flying Blind', will have to get an entirely new crew.

☆ ☆ ☆

ONE of the longest nitery runs by a band is that of Chuck Foster at Biltmore Bowl. Contract carrying his band through September at the downtown inn marks a full year for the crew. NBC has been airing the Foster music transcontinentally four times a week during the engagement.

☆ ☆ ☆

BUDGET for advertising and exploitation on 'Underground' has been upped by Warners following decision to insert the Rudolf Hess flight episode in the picture. Adolph Deutsch will augment the original musical score and release date has been advanced one month, now going out in June.

☆ ☆ ☆

AUTO trailers are taking the place of portable dressing rooms at 20th-Fox where six of the former offer set and location housing for company's most important players. Because trailers are easily rolled on stages and around locations, they save time and nerves.

Burnette Returns

Smiley Burnette returned yesterday to ready for his next picture assignment at Republic after doing an eight-week personal appearance tour in the northwest and Canada.

Col Rolls 'Ship'

Columbia today starts its 'Mystery Ship', with Paul Kelly, Lola Lane and Larry Parks heading cast and Lew Landers directing. Benjamin Kline has the camera.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was a time when picture crix
Were that and nothing more.
They criticized the newborn pix
And figured out the score.
But now they prowl at night to seek
The latest motion picture sneak.

★ ★ ★

As if old fashioned sneaks weren't sneaky enough, the producers are putting on double sneaks. That is the way rummy grew, from single to double to gin. Next thing you know, the boys will be playing gin sneaks.

★ ★ ★

When a picture requires a sneak preview it also needs a shot in the arm. A robust film comes out fighting.

Cliff Nazarro is getting tongue tied after five consecutives in the Army, Navy and Air Corps. You can't double-talk a superior officer.

It is too early, even for Emily Post to say whether it will be Alice Harris or Phil Faye.

★ ★ ★

Ralph Holmes comes of a fine old thespian family, but he breaks into pictures with the count of nine against him. The young man is about to play Rudolph Valentino.

★ ★ ★

'The Chocolate Soldier' is bound to promote business in the Fox-West Coast theatres where there is a three-minute intermission to buy chocolates in the lobby.

Since the Hess escapade, the Warner boys are thinking of changing 'Underground' to 'Overhead.'

In walks Dick Nelson, radio actor, who says he is merely paying a social call and has no reason to get his name in the paper. Which is news in Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

If this column permitted such vulgarities it would print the report from the Warners flackery that Germany is in a mell-of-a-hess.

★ ★ ★

Right now Johnny Weissmuller is climbing a tree in the old Tarzan role, with a date to dive into a tank when he emerges from the Culver City jungle. Showing that you can't keep a fish out of water.

Julian Eltinge passed out too soon. Now comes 'Charley's Aunt' and other films in which the girls are boysterous.

'Slap Happy' is not a story about the film business, believe it or not.

★ ★ ★

John Twist's first production at RKO is 'Four Jacks and a Queen', demonstrating that there must be sex appeal, even in a poker game.

★ ★ ★

A legitimate thespian strives to please
The patron of high and low degrees.
A radio actor spends his life
Entertaining the sponsor's wife.

Preview

★

She Knew All the Answers

(*Comedy*)

Columbia release of a Charles R. Rogers production. Stars Joan Bennett and Franchot Tone. Features John Hubbard, Eve Arden, William Tracy, Pierre Watkin. Balance of cast: Almira Sessions, Thurston Hall, Grady Sutton. Directed by Richard Wallace. Screenplay by Harry Segall, Kenneth Earl and Curtis Kenyon. Based on magazine story by Jane Allen. Photography, Henry Freulich. Film editor, Gene Havlick. Art direction, Lionel Banks. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Assistant to producer, William A. Pierce. Previewed at Alexander, Glendale, May 14. Running time: 85 mins.

A comedy of extraordinary brightness and high entertainment value, this tale of a girl and a boss and a playboy, once titled 'A Girl's Best Friend Is Wall Street', should find wide welcome where sheer amusement is wanted. It is the best potential box office entry Charles R. Rogers has turned out in years, and does credit to the best talents of all concerned in its making and presentation.

Joan Bennett and Franchot Tone are a happy combination to bring out the delightful romantic maneuvering and to sock the freshly turned situations pointed up in the screenplay by Harry Segall, Kenneth Earl and Curtis Kenyon, based on a mag story by Jane Allen. Equally important and effective in rounding out the hilarious predicament is John Hubbard as the rich loafer who sets out to marry the attractive chorus girl but thinks better of it at the very brink of the altar. Eve Arden makes it a perfect foursome as Miss Bennett's knowing pal, who doubts the wisdom of the whole escapade but is willing to try anything for a friend. Add to these toppers William Tracy, Pierre Watkin, Almira Sessions, Thurston Hall and Grady Sutton and you have a group of troupers who keep the narrative smooth and the laughter running in high.

The story has Franchot Tone, a Wall street broker of a very important and conservative firm, frowning on the wooings of Hubbard, whose guardian he is. Joan Bennett doesn't want her fiance (ready to marry after brief acquaintance) to lose two million through elopement and disinheritance. She suggests she will win Tone's approval of herself. She goes to work in the brokerage offices as a telephone operator, wholly without experience and under false pretenses. These pretenses catch up with her after she has done many strange things and finds Tone in love with her. The playboy's final desperate decision to avoid the marriage for which he is not ready, saves the day for the real lovers.

Richard Wallace seals the quality of the offering with topflight direction, skillful in getting the best out of the hilarious situations, the novel routines and the very warm human relations maintained throughout. A fine piece of screen craftsmanship is the fresh use of voices as the conscience of the principals in arriving at the story conclusion. A most amusing gag also is the use of eye exercises.

Charles R. Rogers gives the picture very attractive presentation and is supported by excellent technical work from every department.

COLUMBIA RECORDING UPPS WAGE OFFER BY 2¢ HOUR

Columbia Recording Corp. has upped its offer of wage increases to striking employes to two cents per hour, with tilts of five to 10 cents per hour for employes in certain classifications, but the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union is holding out for a flat 10 cents per hour boost. The union claims the five to 10 cents per hour raise would not apply to more than half a dozen workers.

The union said that seniority proposals of the company still are not acceptable, but added that the executives were showing a better inclination to get together with their employes and that a deal may be set by the first of the week. When the negotiations meeting was adjourned yesterday it was tentatively agreed that another session would be held late today.

In the meantime, the union continued with its plans for a community meeting Saturday night on the picket line to be established in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. It was announced that the speakers will include Frank Scully, Herbert Biberman, Dorothy Connelly and Lynn Hanes.

Editors Voting Tonite On Death Benefit, Other Plans

A proposal to establish a compulsory death benefit plan will be voted on by the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors tonight at a general membership meeting at the Woman's Club of Hollywood. The question of providing withdrawal cards for members who enter other fields in the picture industry also will be considered, as well as a proposal to stage a golf tournament.

The first order of business will be to ratify the election of new board members. Society officers will be elected at the next meeting of the board, probably next week. A majority of the board is said to favor retaining Edmund D. Hannan as president.

W. L. Brown Elected To Erpi Directorate

New York, May 14.—Walter L. Brown, vice president and general counsel of Electrical Research Products, Inc., was elected director of the company, replacing T. Brooke Price, who recently became general attorney for American Telephone and Telegraph Co. Brown has been practicing law for the past 15 years at Huntington, W. Va.

'Slept' Opens Tonight

'George Washington Slept Here', legiter by George Kaufman and Moss Hart, opens tonight at the Assistance League Theatre, with Charles Arnt heading the cast of Nine O'Clock Players. Robert Wing directed.

John Barrymore Coin Arrangements Being Made in Court

Under extension-of-debts proceedings before Referee in Bankruptcy Ernest R. Utley arrangements are being completed whereby John Barrymore will get $700 a week plus $400 a week of his earnings to be set aside as reserve for inactive periods. The balance of his income above that sum will go to pay his debts, reportedly $68,000.

Barrymore has retained two new attorneys, Gordon W. Levoy and Earl E. Moss, succeeding Roland Rich Woolley who formerly represented him. Levoy is now making arrangements with the actor's creditors which will be drafted within a few weeks and submitted to Referee Utley.

'Wanderers' Goes (19)

Robert Tansey has set Monday (19) as starting date for 'Wanderers of the West', first of four Tom Keene westerns he will produce for Monogram's current program to replace the remaining Tex Ritters that had been scheduled. Picture will shoot at Prescott, Ariz., under the direction of Robert Hill.

In from the East

Arch Oboler (SF)
Bela Lugosi (SF)
Gene Autry (AA)
John Scott Trotter (AA)
Smiley Burnette
John Garfield
Jack Conway
Phyllis Brooks
Ruth Warrick

Heading East

Edward Hitz (SF)
W. Randall (AA)
Lawton Campbell (AA)
Ed Golden (TWA)
Dennis Morgan
James Anderson
Joe Cook

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

LEE TRACY in from New York shortly will work in the Gregory Ratoff production of 'Tonight Belongs To Us.' . . . Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom before opening his cafe last night went to see his lawyer to find out if his material was okay. . . . They have tightened up on handing out commissions in the Motion Picture Division of the Signal Corps to prospective draftees. . . . Freddie Kohlmar bought his frau a new Packard yesterday. . . . Jay Paley now running Arrowhead Springs hotel, which will close for the season June 1. . . . A 'Mr.' or 'Miss' is prefixed to the names of Franchot Tone, Carol Bruce, Walter Brennan, Nigel Bruce and Leo G. Carroll on call sheet of Frank Lloyd's 'I, James Lewis' while other sheets on Universal pictures in work list the players without the formal handle. . . . Mack Grey takes his physical examination today for year's army service. He's 33, unmarried and has no dependents. . . . Marlene Dietrich completes her role in 'Manpower' at Warners today.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

At Victor's in Beverly Hills was noted Maureen O'Hara in a banana shade print informal evening gown featuring the new full cotton skirt with a profussion of vari-hued figures. A tight bodice with tiny puff sleeves of cotton in the banana shade cotton, a strand of costume jewelry comprised of wooden fruits, black slippers and black cotton crocheted gloves completed an ensemble that was different and attractive.

SOL BAER FINGERMAN, art director of McCann-Erickson Adv. Co., was married last night to Mitzi Cummings, writer, and niece of L. B. Mayer. Ceremony was performed at home of Mrs. Jack Cummings. . . . William J. McClelland, chief electrician on 'The Little Foxes' set at Samuel Goldwyn, was given elaborate birthday greetings by cast and crew yesterday, including huge cake. . . . Sixteen officers off the cruiser Minneapolis were guests of Alice Talton, Faith Dorn and Jane Randolph at Warners for luncheon yesterday. . . . Olympe Bradna was married yesterday to Douglas Woods Wilhoit, 23, singer. The ceremony, attended by about 100 invited guests, was performed by Rev. C. T. McGovern in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Beverly Hills. They plan a 10-day motor trip through northern California. . . . Freddie Bartholomew, Anna Neagle, Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Raine Bennett will participate in the services at Forest Lawn (25) commemorating 122nd anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .
BETTY FIELD
"Shepherd Of The Hills"
In conjunction with Brandt & Brandt, Inc.

Under contract
PARAMOUNT

Lundgren Transferred To LA F-WCoast Buying Dept.

M. A. 'Pete' Lundgren, with the Fox West Coast film statistical department in New York, is being transferred to the Los Angeles offices to assume duties under Larry Kent in the film buying and booking department here. Lundgren arrived from the east last week with Spyros Skouras and is slated to go to New York for a few days before returning to new spot.

In line with decentralization process called for in consent decree, about 30 people from the Fox West Coast statistical and buying departments in New York have been shifted to other localities, mainly Kansas City, Denver and Milwaukee.

Picket Line at Central Casting Withdrawn

The picket line maintained in front of Central Casting Corp. during the past eight weeks was withdrawn at 5 p.m. yesterday, following conferences between Ed Dahlen, film extra; Fred W. Beetson, of the Producers Association, and Howard R. Philbrick, Central general manager. Dahlen said he had agreed to discontinue the picket line to give the Producers an opportunity to work out some seniority plan for old time extra players.

He said Philbrick had pointed out that Central had no authority to act, since the Producers and the Screen Actors Guild had designated the Standing Committee to handle such matters. Dahlen said Philbrick had assured him there would be no discrimination against him and Tiny Jones and C. Bishop, who aided him on the picket line.

Babbitt Disney Group Sees Spreckels Today

A grievance committee from the Walt Disney unit of the Screen Cartoonists Guild headed by Art Babbitt meets today with Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, to discuss the solution of Guild problems pending the National Labor Relations Board hearing set for Monday (19). The hearing is on a complaint issued on evidence furnished by the SCG and charging that Disney executives sponsored a company union in the Federation of Screen Cartoonists.

Falkenberg Works

Jinx Falkenberg starts today in her first screen feature role, sharing bracket with Joan Woodbury and Joan Davis in 'Girls From Panama.'

Ill in Pix

ANN SOTHERN is resting up at her home after straining her hip in jitterbug scenes for her current picture at Metro. Actress will be bedded two days.

JUDY CANOVA ill at home yesterday with a cold, but is expected to report back for work in 'Puddin' Head' at Republic today.

GEORGE GLASS, recovered from bout with the flu, is back at his United Artists desk.

ANATOLE LITVAK ill at home with influenza.

PARAMOUNT BUILDS UP 26 YOUNGER PLAYERS

Paramount, since William Meiklejohn became director of talent and casting more than a year ago, has been building up younger players. Total of 26 new actors and actresses has been signed and nine of these, during the past year, have already been shoved into leads. Two have been starred. Two who have stepped into stardom are Veronica Lake, who scored in 'I Wanted Wings' and has been given the top femme role in 'Sullivan's Travels' and Stirling Hayden, who tops the cast of 'Bahama Passage' and who first rang the bell in 'Virginia.'

Others who have been signed include Esther Fernandez, Mexican star of 'Rancho Grande' and other pix made south of the border. Katharine Booth, Barbara Britton, William Cabanne, Rod Cameron, MacDonald Carey, Don Castle, Katherine Craig, Frances Gifford, Helen Gilbert, Margaret Hayes, Dolly Loehr, Constance Moore, Martha O'Driscoll, June Preisser, Keith Richards, Phil Regan, Eleanor Stewart, Phil Terry, Richard Webb, William Wright, Jimmy Lydon, Charles Smith and Mary Anderson, with whom the studio has an optional arrangement for 'Bahama Passage.'

Leads have been given to Barbara Britton, in 'Secret of the Wastelands' and 'Reap the Wild Wind'; Rod Cameron, 'Nothing But the Truth'; Frances Gifford, 'Jungle Girl' (at Republic on loanout); Constance Moore, 'I Wanted Wings'; Martha O'Driscoll, 'Reap the Wild Wind'; Don Castle, 'Power Dive'; Keith Richards, 'Secret of the Wastelands'; Phil Regan, 'Las Vegas Nights' and to Phil Terry in 'Parson of Panamint.' June Preisser, by no means in the novice class, is in 'Henry for President.'

Altercations

All is not blue with the blue network sales staff at NBC. With the Federal Communications Commission ruling that the network must divorce itself from the indigo web, Tracy Moore, Coast sales, yesterday posted in all offices the legend, 'Business as usual during altercations.'

DEAL ON PREVIEWS SET TENTATIVELY

A tentative deal ending the tiff between Hollywood correspondents and the Studio Publicity Directors Committee over the screening of pictures in the east before they are previewed here was reached yesterday when the Committee and Y. Frank Freeman accepted an invitation to meet with the writers on Thursday (22). In the meantime, the correspondents agreed to discontinue their campaign of catching sneak previews, indicating the matter will be officially washed up at the Freeman session.

The situation was discussed yesterday at the weekly meeting of the Studio Publicity Directors. They took the position that the correspondents were unreasonable in demanding an agreement in writing, since both the Committee and Freeman have been urging the studios to preview their pictures here before showing them elsewhere, in order to cooperate with the writers. They said the writers first asked for a clearance of three weeks, and then increased it to four weeks..

Joe Cook to Florida

Joe Cook, Metro production executive, planed yesterday for 'The Yearling' location at Ocala, Fla., to confer with Director Victor Fleming. Cook comes back Saturday.

Jane Wyatt To Rep For 'Hurricane' In RKO Deal

Jane Wyatt, recently signed to term contract at RKO, will make her first picture, 'Hurricane Smith', at Republic. Under actress's contract she is permitted to make one outside picture. She will return to RKO for 'Unexpected Uncle'.

In 'Hurricane' she plays opposite Ray Middleton. Picture starts tomorrow with Bernard Vorhaus directing.

Blair Submits Extras Report to Wash.

Aubrey Blair, Hollywood organizer for the American Federation of Labor, stated last night that he had submitted a report to Washington headquarters on the extra setup in the Screen Actors Guild, but that any additional information he received would be forwarded later. The investigation was ordered by William F. Green, AFofL prexy, following receipt of complaints that 8,000 Class B members were denied a vote by the SAG.

'Duanes' Washes Up

'Last of the Duanes' finished shooting at 20th-Fox yesterday. James Tinling directed the picture, which has George Montgomery, Lynne Roberts and Eve Arden in top roles.

Ed Hitz Trains Out

Edward R. Hitz, NBC red network sales exec, trains back to New York today after passing two weeks here in conference with the Coast staff.

Bonanova Assigned

Fortunio Bonanova draws a featured singing role in Columbia's 'Girls From Panama', on a deal set by NBC program and talent sales.

Fay Subs Barrymore

Attack of laryngitis has forced John Barrymore off the Sealtest airer today. Frank Fay substitutes.

Maxwell House Takes Layoff July 10; NBC Substitute

Maxwell House program will take a summer layoff of seven weeks after broadcast of July 10. NBC substitutes a studio program for the hiatus period to hold the time for the java account. With the new cycle of 13 weeks setting in first of July it is still undetermined which form the program will take for the remaining six weeks of the quarter. Understood that program will be unchanged on the fall resumption.

A. W. Hobler, prez of Benton & Bowles agency, returned east after conferring with Mann Holiner, Coast radio head and producer of the Maxwell show, on the summer arrangement.

Arguments in Selznick, Russell Case Heard

Argument on motion made by the Myron Selznick agency to set aside award granted Rosalind Russell was heard before Superior Court Judge Frank G. Swain yesterday. Attorneys for the Selznick agency contended that one of the arbitrators who assisted in the deliberations giving Miss Russell the award was allegedly disqualified because he was an attorney who had at one time represented the actress. Judge Swain has taken the motion under advisement, with a decision expected within the next few weeks.

Harrison Jacobs on Rogers Flicker

Harrison Jacobs joins the Republic writing staff to work on the treatment of an untitled Roy Rogers western for Joe Kane. Doris Schroeder has completed her treatment on 'Oregon Trail', Don Barry oater, and has checked off the lot. Milt Gross has also left the lot after a seven-month week-to-week stay during which he worked on several scripts, his last being 'Puddin' Head.'

Berle on 'Tavern'

Milton Berle will do guest duty on Ed Gardner's 'Duffy's Tavern' over CBS from New York Saturday night.

Lester on Krafter

Jerry Lester doubles over from Charlie Foy's nitery to the guest spot on Kraft Music Hall tonight.

Story Buys

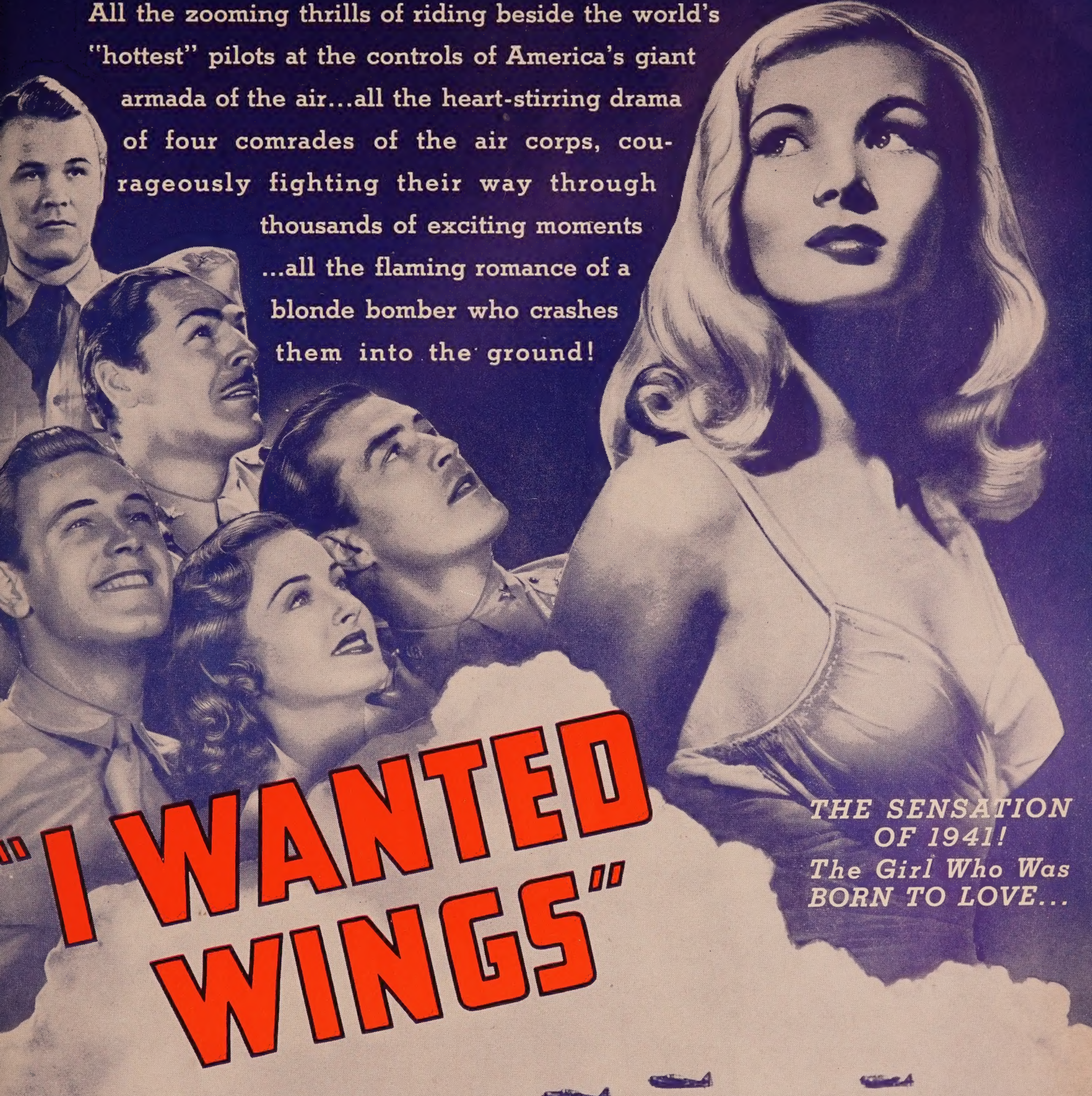
Larry Darmour has bought screen rights to the air serial, 'Captain Midnight', and will make a chapter film of it, starting this fall. Darmour has not yet decided whether this or another serial, to follow 'The Iron Claw', will be the first to star Jack Holt.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

WANTED
EXPLOITATION MAN
One who knows game A to Z. For the conducting of an Auditorium Ballroom and promoting Dancing, Boxing, Wrestling and other events. Now open—only those having background for such an undertaking will be considered.
Address Box 15, Daily Variety

1000 PLANES...10,000 THRILLS and ONE TERRIFIC BLONDE!

All the zooming thrills of riding beside the world's "hottest" pilots at the controls of America's giant armada of the air...all the heart-stirring drama of four comrades of the air corps, courageously fighting their way through thousands of exciting moments ...all the flaming romance of a blonde bomber who crashes them into the ground!



"I WANTED WINGS"

THE SENSATION OF 1941!
The Girl Who Was BORN TO LOVE...

starring **RAY MILLAND · WILLIAM HOLDEN · WAYNE MORRIS · BRIAN DONLEVY**

with **CONSTANCE MOORE · VERONICA LAKE · HARRY DAVENPORT**

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE · DIRECTED BY MITCHELL LEISEN

Screen Play by Richard Maibaum, Lieut. Beirne Lay, Jr. and Sig Herzig · Based on a Story by Eleanore Griffin and Frank Wead · From the Book "I Wanted Wings" by Beirne Lay, Jr.

SEE IT NOW! PARAMOUNT THEATRE

PRODUCED BY

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, Jr.

I WANTED WINGS

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

DIRECTED BY

MITCHELL LEISEN

I WANTED WINGS

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

RAY MILLAND

I WANTED WINGS

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

U Western Division Exchange Delegates Meet Here (23)

Delegates from all the Universal western division exchanges will attend third and last of the series of regional exchange men's meetings which is to be held here May 23-24 with F. T. Murray, U branch operations manager, presiding. First of the gatherings took place in Atlantic City, with the second set in Chicago May 16-17.

Among those who have signified intention to attend are Thomas McMahon, Denver; Charles McBride, San Francisco; H. F. Anderson, Portland; A. M. Kallen, Seattle; E. H. Smyth, Salt Lake City; Vic Lamantia, and J. J. Jordan, New York home office contract sales manager.

U's Los Angeles office will be represented by Ed Cooke, Harold Whitman and John Ludwig, with Charles Feldman, branch manager, also putting in brief appearance.

SOEG Negotiations on With Majors Soon

The Screen Office Employes Guild will resume its negotiations with the major companies next week. A meeting is scheduled with RKO executives for Monday night (19), with Universal Tuesday night (20), and with Metro Thursday night (22). In the meantime, the SOEG is mulling a proposal to elect a business representative in order to centralize negotiations and speed up the campaign to get contracts covering wages, hours and conditions for the White Collarites.

Johnston Accompanies Stars To Variety Clubs Convention

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

hold their convention. Arrangements will be made to show the visitors how music is dubbed into motion pictures.

Final plans also were made for the visit of Navy chiefs of operations from Latin American countries Saturday. The group will be taken through 20th-Fox Studio, will be tendered a luncheon at Metro, and will be guests of the Navy Department at a dinner Saturday night. Norma Shearer, John Hay Whitney and Mr. and Mrs. Y. Frank Freeman have been designated as the official hosts of the evening.

a.m. Dailies

Sues Irwin Rose for Divorce—

Vaughn de Leath, radio songstress, yesterday filed suit for divorce, in Reno, from Irwin Rose, New York orchestra leader. The action was filed under the legal names of Leonore and Irwin Rosenbloom, with Miss de Leath petitioning the court to legalize her professional name.

Whidden Orgs Band

Jay Whidden has returned to Hollywood after a three-year engagement with his band at the Palais de Dance in Melbourne, Aust., and is organizing a new orchestra to fill bookings here.

Hardy Pic Rolls

Newest Hardy Family picture rolled at Metro yesterday with Ray MacDonald, hoofer, making his film debut. Patricia Dane is also new to the cast.

MUSIC SCORE
FOR
"I WANTED WINGS"
BY
VICTOR YOUNG
•
JUST COMPLETED
"KISS THE BOYS GOOD-BYE"
IN PREPARATION
"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"
•

Al Kaufman Reports Production Plans, Buys 3 Yarns

Al Kaufman, indicating that he has some production plans cooking, has purchased two stories for shorts and one for a feature-length subject from Van Fleming, writer and producer of the 'I Want a Divorce' air program.

'You Can Be a Writer' and 'Tot vs. Titan' are titles of the shorts, and the longer one is 'Advice to a Young Woman'.

'Ghost' Shows Monday

'The Smiling Ghost' is set for a start at Warners Monday. Lew Seiler directs with Brenda Marshall and Wayne Morris co-starred.

Obituary

RUTH STONEHOUSE

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather for Ruth Stonehouse (Mrs. Felix Hughes), 48, film star of the silent movie days. Former actress, who died Monday (12), worked in the old Essanay studios. She was born in Chicago and started her theatrical career when she was eight years old as a dancer in Douglas, Ariz. Later she became part owner, with Billy Anderson, of the Essanay Studios in Chicago. She was also one of the company's top feminine stars, appearing in westerns with Tom Santchi and Bessie Love, as well as in films with players such as Norma Shearer, Pauline Garon, Dorothy Revier and Dorothy Reed.

Interment takes place in Forest Lawn Memorial Park. She is survived by her husband, brother of author Rupert Hughes; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Stonehouse, and a sister, Mrs. Hazel E. Haeger, Akron, O.

Hollywood Contingent Named for Variety Clubs Convention

Atlantic City, N. J., May 14.—Hollywood stars scheduled to attend the Variety Clubs convention starting tomorrow are Laraine Day, Frank Morgan, Fay Wray, Eddie Norris, Wayne Morris, Gail Patrick, Carole Landis, Dorothy Lamour, Laurel and Hardy, Jane Wyman, Ronald Reagan, Jean Hersholt, Marjorie Weaver, Charles Boyer, Bruce Cabot and others.

Confirmation has been received, also, that British Ambassador Lord Halifax and Lady Halifax will attend the formal function set for Saturday night (17).

Meanwhile, preparations have been made for mass arrival of about 1,200 Variety Club barkers tomorrow. The first New England group of 40 is due tonight, with balance, including Mayor Tobin of Boston, following tomorrow.

All the major companies are participating in plans to welcome the delegates and all city officials will be guests of Variety Clubs at a boxing party in the Auditorium Thursday night.

Rosen, Carter Do 3 Tunes for 'Montana'

Milton Rosen and Everett Carter have written three songs for 'The Man From Montana', next Johnny Mack Brown western which rolls at Universal Monday under the direction of Ray Taylor. Butch and Buddy and the King's Men have been signed for feature spots in oater. King's Men will sing 'Call of the Range' and 'The Western Trail', two of the Rosen-Carter tunes, and Fuzzy Knight will do 'Bananas Make Me Tough', the third number.

Schlesinger Answer

The Screen Cartoonists Guild stated last night that an answer is expected today or tomorrow from Leon Schlesinger on contract demands submitted by the Schlesinger unit of the Guild. The unit has already authorized a strike if the company refuses to ink an agreement.

'Rubber' Off Tomorrow

'King Rubber' starts work tomorrow at Warners with Constance Bennett, Jeffrey Lynn, Mona Maris, Alan Hale, Roland Drew and Hobart Bosworth in the leads. Ray Enright directs and Sid Hickox is chief cameraman.

TWO WEEKS' ADDITIONS FOR UNIVERSAL 'CHARLIE'

Mischa Auer has been added to the cast of 'Oh, Charlie' at Universal for the new footage which is being shot with Ted Lewis and his show and the Andrews Sisters. All of the principals who appeared originally in the Abbott and Costello comedy, including Richard Carlson, Evelyn Ankers, Joan Davis, Marc Lawrence, Milton Parsons, Shemp Howard and Frank Penny, have been recalled for the new footage, which will require at least two weeks to film.

Lewis, his band, and entertainers, including Geraldine Ross, eccentric dancer; Kay, Kay and Katye, adagio dancers; Jeanne Blanche, singer; Charles (Snowball) Whittier, comedian, and the La Ahn Sisters, singers, will appear in the new scenes. Lewis will record his old favorites, 'I'm the Leader of the Home Town Band', 'Me and My Shadow', 'When My Baby Smiles At Me', 'Isn't She a Pretty Thing', 'Murder', 'The Sunny Side of the Street' and 'Just Around the Corner'. The Andrews Sisters will record 'Aurora' and 'Sleepy Serenade'.

DRAMATIC ATTACK ON FCC AT NAB CONVENTION

CHAIRMAN FLY LEAVES ANGRY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

Ethridge closed his speech. Fly had been under the impression he would be asked to answer Ethridge from the same rostrum, but Miller made no move in this direction until the meeting was adjourned.

Miller then rushed after Fly, who was on his way out of the hall, and asked him whether he wanted to reply at the afternoon session. FCC chairman, almost inarticulate with anger at what he considered an inexcusable discourtesy, retorted that would be too late, and something to the effect that he didn't play according to Miller's rules.

Ethridge's broadsides at the commission were greeted with frequent outbursts of sustained applause and later comment was split between expressions of admiration for what some termed his courage and the feeling that Ethridge had gone overboard on his vitriol and personal excoriation and that episode might result in President Roosevelt accepting the broadcasters' stand against FCC as fundamentally directed at the administration.

Commission had released its report while Ethridge, on assignment from Roosevelt, was in the midst of preparing a set of recommendations for changing radio rules and regulations. Ethridge, regarding this action as a personal affront, resigned from the presidential assignment.

ETHRIDGE CHARGES

With Fly seated beside him on the dais, Ethridge stated he was not renouncing his support of the New Deal but he did want to warn if the country does lose its democracy it won't be because of the New Deal but because 'pretorian guard of bureaucrats has taken command'. He charged by its terms of the monopoly report that the commission was trying to take network affiliates into protective custody and described the report's provisions as a trap which would take broadcasting into government operation, and these provisions were intended to be punitive and not constructive.

Ethridge also questioned the good faith of the commission in anything it has proposed, and warned if trouble comes from this attempt to alter the structure of relations between the networks and stations, Roosevelt must blame the majority commission, which seems to welcome it.

Several hours after Ethridge's speech, Samuel Rosenbaum, WFIL, Philadelphia, and Paul Morency, WTIC, Hartford, Conn., resigned as chairman and vice-chairman, respectively, of Independent Network Radio Affiliates. WFIL is partly owned by a mortgage house, and WTIC by Travelers Insurance Co. Report at the convention was that in the case of Rosenbaum his resignation had been suggested by his employer because of possible repercussions resulting from Rosenbaum's tieup with IRNA, which has gone on record as backing NBC and Columbia's stand against FCC anti-monopoly orders. Rosenbaum denied the report, stating he had quit because of press of other duties.

BMI ANNOUNCEMENT

In the morning session, which dealt with Ascap and BMI, the convention, after listening to a report from BMI executives, passed a resolution 'reaffirming obligation of the broadcasters to perpetuate BMI'. Announcement was made BMI was reducing its service to subscribers by 30% and that cost of the first year of BMI's operation totalled $1,973,000. It was explained BMI, under its consent decree, was offering broadcasters a per program plan as well as a blanket contract, but it was urged that BMI be supported on the blanket basis.

Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, who also spoke at this gathering, stated that even when NBC made a deal with Ascap, providing terms are satisfactory, NBC would go on supporting BMI. Mefford Runyon, CBS vice-prez, expressed a similar alignment with Ascap, but terms of this deal were not discussed because of possible conspiracy implications, as one speaker pointed out.

Only network official to air his views on the monopoly report before the convention was Edward Klauber, CBS executive v.p. He said if the commission had its way the broadcasting industry would be thrown into chaos, and out of this 'terrorization' would come government operation.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

KEN THOMSON, TRAVERS STICKING WITH AGVA

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

and gave Travers whom Thomson had loaned AGVA for 30 days, the title of secretary.

The report that Thomson was resigning is said to have been prompted by criticism by two national board members of his appointment of Travers to take charge of the local office. Election of Travers as secretary, however, disclosed that the local AGVA board had full confidence in both Thomson and Travers and apparently closed the issue so far as national officials were concerned. It was the national board that originally asked Thomson to straighten out the affairs of the AGVA local here. He declined to act until the local board made a similar request.

AGVA yesterday issued the following statement:

'The Los Angeles local of the American Guild of Variety Artists reaffirmed its confidence in Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, as temporary administrator of its affairs, and elected Lee Travers, Mr. Thomson's representative, local executive secretary at a special meeting this afternoon. Reports circulated in New York that Mr. Thomson had resigned as administrator of the Los Angeles AGVA are in error. Mr. Thomson will continue to advise with Mr. Travers and the local until their affairs are on an even keel. The AGVA local notified the board in New York of its action in a letter sent tonight.

'Since the new administration began its work with AGVA, revenues of the local have increased 100%, and the services to Variety performers have been augmented by the addition of a night representative who is on duty from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.'

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Republic)

'Hurricane Smith'
Dir.: Bernard Vorhaus
Asst.: Phil Ford

(Monogram)

'Murder By Appointment'
Dir.: Phil Rosen
Asst.: Mack Wright

J. J. FITZGIBBONS NEW PREZ OF FAMOUS-CAN.

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

have existed between Nathanson and Paramount for some time.

Fitzgibbons has been with Famous Players-Canadian for 11 years as director of theatre management and vice-president in charge of theatre operations. R. W. Bolstad and Noel G. Barrow were named vice-president and secretary-treasurer respectively. Elected to the board of directors were Barney Balaban, Stanton Griffis and Austin Keough, with Fitzgibbons, Bolstad, Barrow and four others representing Canadian interests. Additional Canadian representatives, it was said, would be added to the board at a later meeting.

Hess Clip Arrives

Paramount newsreel compilation of clips on the No. 3 Nazi, Rudolf Hess, was planed into Los Angeles at 3:12 p.m. yesterday for the evening shows. Reel is entitled 'That Man Hess' and runs about 209 feet.

Coast League Baseball Results

Seattle, 12; Hollywood, 2.
Los Angeles, 2; San Diego, 1.
Oakland, 3; Portland 2, (10 innings).
San Francisco, 4; Sacramento, 3.

Par Slates 'Andrew' As Big Budgeteer; Donlevy Topper

Paramount has slated as one of its most important pictures for the year Dalton Trumbo's 'The Remarkable Andrew', and Brian Donlevy will play the role of General Andrew Jackson, with William Holden sharing the top bracket as a small-town bank clerk. Trumbo, who was paid $27,500 for the novel, will also write the screenplay.

Tale, on which Arthur Hornblow, Jr., will act as producer, tells of the influence exerted upon a typical American youth by the ghostly appearance and counsel of one of the older national heroes.

This role will be Donlevy's fourth at Paramount this year, under option twice exercised.

Shuberts To Revive 'Divorce' in East

Dwight Taylor has closed deal with the Shuberts to revive playwright's 'The Gay Divorce' in eight eastern cities. Dorothy Stone has been set as cast nucleus. Cities already on schedule are Detroit, Chicago and Boston.

This was the play, under the title 'The Gay Divorcee', which ushered Fred Astaire into pictures with Ginger Rogers at RKO. Title for film was changed from 'Divorce' to 'Divorcee' because of Hays office decree.

Ray Bolger leaves for New York this weekend to talk over offer from the Shuberts for dancer to do the Fred Astaire part in the revival. Bolger will also get together with Lee Ephraim on possibility of going into 'Under Your Hats' with Beatrice Lillie.

Roach Streamliner Rolls June 6

'Niagara Falls', first of Hal Roach's streamlined features for United Artists release, has been set to start June 6 under the direction of Gordon Douglas. Leads are Marjorie Woodworth, Tom Brown, ZaSu Pitts and Slim Summerville. Paul Gerard Smith, Eugene Conrad and Homer McCoy are scripting.

Title Changes

20th-Fox's '21 Whistlers' has been changed to 'Man At Large'.

'Heaven Can Wait', Columbia, to 'Mr. Jordan Comes To Town'.

'The Doctor's Husband', Columbia, to 'You Belong To Me'.

Republic's 'Navy Blue Eyes' to 'Gobs In Blue'.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SEATTLE
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations
Telephone WE-5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Elisabeth Fraser Starts Termer at Warners; Other Pacts Set

Elisabeth Fraser, from the legit production, 'There Shall Be No Night', has checked in at Warners to start her term pact. Ticket allows her nine months off each second year to continue her stage work and she will join the Alfred Lunt-Lynn Fontanne troupe in September to stay with the show on tour until presentations are completed. Richard Whorf, also from the same play, was recently signed at Warners.

Other contract additions in the past month include Audra Lindley, Leah Baird, Byron Barr, Michael Ames, Jane Randolph and Gloria Warren.

Col International Forum Short on England

'Can England Be Invaded?' will be the title of Columbia's next International Forum short, with Ralph Ingersoll, editor and publisher of PM; Major General Fielding Eliot, military commentator; Linton Wells, Columbia Broadcasting System newscaster, and Wythe Williams, Mutual commentator, in the cast. William Roland will direct. Burnet Hershey will act as supervising editor and the picture will be made in New York.

'Appointment' Castings

Sarah Padden, George Guhl and Gavin Gordon draw featured spots in the cast of 'Murder By Appointment', A. W. Hackel production for Monogram. Wallace Ford and Marian Marsh head the cast. Phil Rosen will direct from original story and screen play by George Bricker and picture rolls today. Others in the cast include Minerva Urecal, J. Arthur Young, Philip Tremp, Herbert Vigram and Dave O'Brien.

Tunes for 'Cowboy'

Gene de Paul and Don Raye, boogie-woogie cleffers, are writing eight original song numbers for Universal's next Abbott and Costello starrers, 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', and also will turn out eight for Jules Levey's Mayfair production at U, 'Hellzapoppin.' Both are listed to go into production in June.

Pryor's 'Daughters'

Roger Pryor will do the character lead in 'Gambling Daughters', next T. H. Richmond feature for Producers Releasing Corp. Cecilia Parker has the femme lead. Picture gets the go signal (20) under the direction of Max Nosseck.

Breslow Assigned

Lou Breslow is set to work on the screen play of 'Forward March', initial Laurel and Hardy feature at 20th-Fox. Comics have left for Atlantic City to attend the national convention of Variety Clubs.

Sam Engel Spotted

Sam Engel has been signed at 20th-Fox to work on an untitled original screen play which is slated to be a Jane Withers starrer.

Six Sweethearts Set

The Six Sweethearts, singing group, and Peter Sullivan have been added to the cast of 'Radio Revels of 1942' at Universal.

Ray McCarey's 'Girl'

Ray McCarey draws the directorial assignment on 20th-Fox's 'Cadet Girl.' Sol M. Wurtzel will produce.

HUGE REPUBLIC BUILDING PROGRAM WELL UNDERWAY

Republic has already spent one-third of the $2,500,000 allotted for new building and studio improvements, begun last October, and still has work scheduled that will eat up the total during the next two years. Extensive building program was launched Oct. 15, 1940, with the $250,000 Mabel Normand sound stage, and since that date another $500,000 has been expended under company's plans to promote its facilities for turning out its yearly schedule of pictures, having 66 slated for 1941-42. Program was mapped out by Herbert Yates with M. J. Siegel, president of Republic Productions, and building activities are being supervised by C. L. Lootens.

Future construction will include the dismantling and reconstruction of the mill into a new property department, while the present property rooms will be made into the men's and women's wardrobe department. As a starter on this section of the plan, work already is under way on a block-long business street near the new mill stage.

Work on a new studio restaurant and coffee shop will start immediately following okay on present designs by Yates. Other progressive improvements on company's north lot will include permanent sets such as an English village, a French village, dock and wharf sets, a tenement district, city park, and various types of residences. A large stage, duplicating the Mabel Normand building, has plans completed, but actual construction work is awaiting a report from the Flood Control Department as to its plans for taking care of flood waters in the Los Angeles river.

Work already completed includes a new back lot stage housing a modernized mill and carpenter shop; a miniature designing shop and shooting stage with new lighting effects. Stage's roof is so constructed that a half-acre space is allowed for the shooting of out-of-doors miniatures, and building cost in excess of $150,000. A new scene dock, tin and set sheds, blacksmith shop, plaster shop, plumbing and paint shop, all newly equipped. Paint shop has the only water wall-type spray booth used in the film industry. Construction office building has been completely modernized and has new offices to house the art department and drafting rooms for architects. Front lot has new cutting rooms and combination projection and screening room attached to the editorial building. Three miles of new asphalt paving has been added to the streets. An automatic sprinkling system has been installed in all buildings where film is handled and the studio's underground fire system and electrical distribution system have been enlarged.

Planted

Warners

Tony Hughes, 'Navy Blues'.

James Flavin, 'Manpower'.

Frank Mayo, Hank Mann, 'The Smiling Ghost'.

Paul Panzer, Glen Cavender, 'King Rubber'.

20th-Fox

Milton Parsons, Dick Rich, 'Dressed to Kill'.

Lee Directs 'Fate'

Metro has assigned Sammy Lee to direct 'Twists of Fate', next John Nesbitt Passing Parade. Robert Lopez is finishing the script.

Ivan Miller Spotted

Ivan Miller will have one of the top roles in Metro's short, 'Race Track Story.' Roy Rowland is directing.

Victor Varconi Signed For Col 'Tonight'

Columbia has signed Victor Varconi for a supporting role in 'Tonight Belongs to Us', which Gregory Ratoff is producing and directing. Billy Reyes, well known to vaude, has also been cast for a juggling act. Jack Cosgrove will do the special effects for the film. Francis Lyon, as film editor, and William Bridgehouse, as wardrobe chief, complete the technical assignments.

Anderson Joins 'Tanks'

James Anderson, Warners actor, trains for Fort Knox, Ky., today to join the cast of 'The Tanks Are Coming', shooting on location there.

Option Woodworth

Hal Roach has picked up option on Marjorie Woodworth for another six months. She recently completed femme lead in 'Broadway Limited.'

NEW EXTRAS RATINGS PRACTICALLY COMPLETED

★ Continued from page 1 ★

that these revisions will result in an increase of approximately $500,000 per year in the earnings of atmosphere players. It also would eliminate the necessity for many adjustments, since regular extras would receive $10 per day for all calls, and the $5.50 brackets would be confined to mob and street scenes.

As soon as the deal between the Producers and the SAG is inked, the Standing Committee will be in a position to proceed with its plan to eliminate some 2,000 casual extras from the industry in order to create more work for those players who have no income outside of the motion picture field. Some producers were apprehensive that limiting $5.50 calls would up the cost of B pictures, but they are reported to have finally given their okay following conferences with Kenneth Thomson, SAG executive secretary, who has handled most of the negotiations.

ANOTHER REPUBLIC FAN MAGAZINE AD

FORWARD MARCH with a BIG PICTURE

ATTENTION, AMERICA! . . . A REGIMENT of LAUGHS and MELODY is headed YOUR way in REPUBLIC'S TIMELY comedy-AND-music hit ABOUT the boys IN the Army Camps AND their girls! IT'S called "ROOKIES ON PARADE" . . . And ITS grand cast of FUN-MAKERS is CROWDED with stars, INCLUDING popular BOB CROSBY, lovely RUTH TERRY, sultry-singing GERTRUDE NIESEN, funny EDDIE FOY, Jr., cute MARIE WILSON, and that master of THE art of double-talk, TONGUE-twisting CLIFF NAZARRO . . . With a CAST like that — with song hits GALORE — with two grand YOUTHFUL romances — and with

ELABORATE settings and SPECTACLE — "ROOKIES ON PARADE" is a blitzkrieg of ENTERTAINMENT! So join the PARADE! Get the beat of its SONG hits! Get hep to its DANCE steps! And forward MARCH — to fun! . . . with "ROOKIES ON PARADE" . . . It's

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

*

S. SYLVAN SIMON

DIRECTED

*

"WASHINGTON MELODRAMA"

IN PREPARATION

"NEW YORK HEARTBEAT"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

Copy 1

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE S

Vol. 31 No. 52 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, May 16, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

FLY SLAPS BACK AT NAB

PLACE GETS NEW 20th POST

New York, May 15.—New post as chairman of the executive committee with Herman G. Place, executive of the Chase National Bank, selected for it, was created at the annual stockholders' meeting of 20th-Fox which was adjourned until today from April 15. There were 12 directors elected, all excepting one reelected. E. P. Kilroe, recently named on the board, following resignation

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

20th Declares 37½c Divvy on Preferred

New York, May 15.—20th-Fox board of directors today declared a cash dividend of 37½ cents on preferred stock, covering the second quarter of this year. Dividend is payable June 30 to stockholders on record June 16.

Company's profit for the first 13 weeks ended March 29 was $404,089, compared with $353,376 for the first quarter in 1940. Profit is after providing $350,000 reserve for foreign assets. 20th-Fox wrote off

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

Frank Lloyd Pays 50G's For Branch Novel

Frank Lloyd paid $50,000 for the screen rights to 'River Lady', novel by Houston Branch which is to be published this fall. Deal requires Lloyd also to pay 10 cents a copy after sale of the book reaches 70,000, if that many are sold in the first six months after publication.

Curtiz Directs 'Boots'

Michael Curtiz has been assigned to direct Errol Flynn's next at Warners, 'They Died With Their Boots On.'

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	41
Major studio calls	380
FK Studio Service	105
Tinsman Casting Agency	5
Total	531

PRODUCTION SPURT BONANZA FOR CAMERAMEN

Production spurt to ready the blocks-of-five for the consent decree operation this fall has proved a contract bonanza to top cameramen and has raised the employment figure for lensers generally to an all-time high.

A second reason for marked increase in number of cameramen re-

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Autry Reaches Republic For 'Fiesta' Pic

Gene Autry reported to Republic yesterday to begin work in 'Under Fiesta Stars.' Actor has just completed an eight-week rodeo tour.

DOUBTS WHETHER GROUP MIRRORS OPINION OF BIZ

St. Louis, May 15.—Chairman James L. Fly of Federal Communications Commission, who received a brush-off from members of National Association of Broadcasters in convention here, got his revenge today when, in a statement issued to newspapermen, he said NAB's type of management reminded him of a dead mackerel in the moonlight—it both shines and smells.

Asserting that there was a serious question whether the NAB still exists as an effective vehicle for expression of the radio industry's opinion, since, he charged, it is domi-

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

EL CAP AS PAR DAY-DATER IF AGNEW APPROVES SPOT

Paramount pictures will be shown in El Capitan theatre, day-and-date with the Paramount downtown, if Neil Agnew, Paramount general sales manager, approves the house. Decision is expected to be reached on the arrival here of Agnew from the east in a week or 10 days. His okay will install a picture policy in the Hollywood boulevard house July 1.

Paramount has long been after a Hollywood outlet for its pictures and El Cap has been under consideration for some time. Fanchon & Marco are prepared to sign a lease for the theatre as soon as Paramount approves the site.

C. E. Toberman, owner of El Cap, and Matt Allen, house manager, yesterday looked over Hollywood Playhouse with a view to taking it over for stage plays in the event El Cap passes to F & M operation.

Rubin in Col 'Town'

Benny Rubin joins the cast of 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town' at Columbia for his first screen role in five years.

SIX TRAINEE FILMS SET BY ACAD

The start of production of six additional training films for the United States Army Signal Corps was announced yesterday by Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. All the films are being produced on a non-profit basis.

A basic training film on 'Conduct of Physical Training' has been assigned to the Hal Roach Studio for production. Major J. W. Harmony, physical education instructor at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, arrives here this week to act

● Continued on page 8 ●

DOC BAKER HOPS IN TOWN FULL OF WINNING NAGS

Doc Baker arrived in town yesterday, and let it be known to the boys along Vine street he'd be on deck come next Friday for the opening of Hollywood Park at Inglewood. The good doctor saw both the running of the Kaintuck Derby at Louisville and the Preakness at Pimlico, and states, while he ain't mentioning any names yet, he's got the winner of the Gold Cup already tabbed.

The equine savant pointed out that running hossflesh will be generally better this summer, as a large number of platers have gone into

★ Continued on page 7 ★

LOEW'S PROFIT OFF $1,648,693

New York, May 15.—Loew's net profit for the first 28 weeks for the fiscal year ended March 13 is $5,141,135, as compared with $6,789,828 for the same period last year. Profit per common share is $2.80 as against $3.79 for the first 28 weeks of the previous fiscal year. The company's operating profit before depreciation, taxes and $900,000 reserve for contingencies totaled $9,473,534, as compared with $11,101,356 before similar writeoffs last year.

U Exec Board Holds Routine Session

New York, May 15.—Executive board of Universal Pictures had a routine session today. Subject of contracts for John J. O'Connor and Fred Meyers, who bowed out of RKO last week, was not discussed at the meeting. Understood that contracts for both are being worked out with submission for approval of these to come before the next directorate meeting of the company.

Betty Miles With Keene In Prescott Film

Betty Miles, cowgirl champ at the recent Saugus rodeo, has been signed by Prescott Pictures to play opposite Tom Keene in 'Wanderers of the West.' Production starts Monday at Prescott, Ariz., under direction of Robert Hill. Sugar Dawn, seven-year-old equestrienne, also is in picture.

PREVIEWED

PIRATES ON HORSEBACK
(Par)

REVIEWED

STRANGE ALIBI
(WB)

(Preview and Review on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Jan Rubini sails for Australia (24) to do theatre appearances.

The Leon Schlesingers open their beach manse at Lido this weekend.

Dick Winslow's orchestra will be back at Bar of Music nitery, reopening (22).

June Preisser returns from New Orleans tomorrow after attending funeral of her mother.

Ewart Adamson has checked off the Republic writing staff after completing work on five scripts.

Robert Taylor and Barbara Stanwyck returned on a Union Pacific train last night from Cheyenne.

Helen Welty moves over from NBC recording to William Esty agency as secretary to Bill Moore.

Earl Carroll has signed Borah Minnevitch to head his new nitery revue debuting early next month.

Cliff Nazarro has written a new song, 'Double Talk Me Daddy', which will be waxed by Garwood Van ork.

Ben Piazzo returned from New York yesterday and talent and playing scouting trip in the interests of RKO.

Sound and photographic tests began yesterday at Warners on 'One Foot In Heaven' and 'The Smiling Ghost'.

Louis De Pron, dance director, is putting Kay Harris through fashion show routine in 'Tillie the Toiler' at Columbia.

Press preview of Warners 'Shining Victory' will be held at the Beverly Hills theatre next Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

Vicki Campbell, English singer, will do the lead in 'Victoria and Her Hussars', new operetta opening at the Mason theatre tonight.

Taylor Caven and Edward Adamson have finished the screenplay for Republic's 'There Goes My Wife', and have checked off the lot.

Gloria Swanson must return to New York as member of board of directors on biz of Multiprizes immediately she has finished role in 'Father Takes a Wife'.

Victor McLaglen getting off to good start for his week's personals at the Strand in New York, from which he moves to Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other eastern keys.

Benny the Gouge sez—Standing at Hollywood and Vine, you can see cars from Alaska, New York, Canada, Hawaii, Florida and Mexico, all in five minutes. It's a good spot to study geography, and a lot of other things.

Hollywood Inside

STARTING Saturday, new government regulations for the London area will extend the nightly motion picture theatre deadline from the present 7 o'clock to 8:30 and 9:30 to accommodate marked increase in business during the past few weeks. This is the word received here by Metro from Sam Eckman, its official in charge of theatre operations in London. Eleven film houses are affected, including Metro's three acers, the Empire, the Ritz and the Carleton. Metro's trio draws the first extended permission, running open until 9:30 p.m. London film houses will go alternately in two groups on the extended time. London houses are reported in past few weeks to be breaking all war-time attendance records. Better protection against night raids, longer daylight hours and better organization generally are credited for increased business.

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ATTACHES of the Metro studio publicity department are understood to have contacted a number of the Hollywood correspondents Tuesday to tip them on Universal's sneak preview of 'Bachelor Daddy' at the Warners theatre in Huntington Park. Tip was apparently made in the hope that writers would pass up the Metro sneak of 'Lady Be Good' at the California theatre in Huntington Park in their excitement to catch the Universal film. Correspondents' own tip service supplied them with the data on the Metro screening and picture was caught anyway, in spite of fact that studio used no lights on the theatre and made every effort to keep their showing on the q.t.

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FRANK CAPRA and Robert Riskin are paying $40,000 to Frank Lloyd Productions for the screen rights to 'The Flying Yorkshireman', which they hope to make with Charlie Chaplin playing the title role. Capra and Riskin will not receive the radio rights in this deal. Eric Knight, who wrote the story, originally sold it for around $1,000. Under an arrangement with Lloyd, whereby he was to help on the screenplay if Lloyd made it, Knight will get an extra piece of change, less than $3,000. Lloyd bought it from Eddie Cantor for $22,000. Cantor was one of the later owners of the piece. Earlier owners were Earl Carroll and Sidney Skolsky. Skolsky paid $5,000 for it.

☆ ☆ ☆

BILL MORROW and Ed Beloin, writers for Jack Benny's airer and pictures, will take their first vacation in three years when the Jell-O show rings off for the summer June 1, but they had to brush aside a tempting writing offer to go through with their original plans for a summer sabbatical. Pleading weariness from one of the busiest years of their career, they spurned an offer from 20th-Fox to screenplay 'Charlie's Aunt.' They compromised with Benny's insistence by contributing suggestions before they shove off for Canada and points east to take a complete rest from writing labors for the 15 weeks of the Jell-O hiatus.

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'THREE COCKEYED SAILORS', English-made feature purchased by Edward Small for release in this country, will be given six pre-release test runs starting in around two weeks. Three of the spots already set are Norfolk, Va., San Diego and San Francisco. Tests are being made so report of picture's grossing possibilities can be made at the United Artists convention, where it will be shown to UA salesmen. While Small is using his distribution connection with UA for the picture it will not count as one of his regular 1941-42 program.

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WILLIAM CAMERON MENZIES yesterday turned in the last of 1,473 continuity sketches for Warners 'Kings Row.' Menzies, who is art director on the film, and his staff of five artists, have made individual sketches for each camera set-up. Artists have worked 40 days on the drawings, using charcoal, oils, ink, water colors and pencil. Studio figures to save 25 per cent in production costs by using the sketches to visualize each scene before the camera rolls. Menzies did the same thing on Selznick's 'Gone With the Wind.'

☆ ☆ ☆

NATIONAL defense activity hit the Columbia publicity department this week, causing studio to be three days late getting out its regular national spot news material to newspapers around the country due to a shortage of mimeograph paper. Tieup in shipping for more important materials has delayed arrival of supplies to the Coast, among which was the mimeograph sheets, a very necessary part of any publicity department with material to supply to the country's newspapers.

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MAJOR studio which has been broadcasting its generosity to employes going away into military on their year's training told one of its recent draftees that he would receive at least two weeks salary as a going-away gift. Soldier, now in camp, waited and waited and finally got—a small shaving kit. It was almost as good as the one his wife had given him the day he left.

☆ ☆ ☆

IN THE past six weeks Republic has added $40,000 worth of new transportation equipment. This includes two 12-passenger cars, one two-ton truck, two boom and winch trucks, one tractor and seven four-wheeled trailers.

'Hurricane' Castings

Henry Brandon goes into a featured role in Republic's 'Hurricane Smith', which started last night under direction of Bernard Vorhaus. Also in character roles are Charles Trowbridge and Frank Jacquet.

F-WC Extends Leases

Fox-West Coast has extended lease on the Kinema, Fresno, for 15 years and on the Pajaro, Watsonville, for 10 years. Kinema was recently renovated at a cost of several thousand dollars.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Old Man Baseball sprang to life
many a long year back
And the youngest vet who battles
yet is a kid named Connie Mack.

★ ★ ★

Baseball is show business. Its acrobatics have outlived those of vaudeville and its ancient theme, bat-meets-ball, is still carrying on in spite of heavy competition from Hollywood's boy-meets-girl.

Tomorrow the State of Pennsylvania, in particular, and the baseball world, in general, is celebrating an anniversary of Cornelius McGillicuddy, who whittled his name down to Connie Mack years before the Hollywood boys thought of trimming titles down to fit marquees.

Connie's life story, which is practically the story of baseball, is about to be written by Ann Morgan, who writes screen plays and is still a Philadelphia baseball fan, which demonstrates a tremendous amount of civic pride. When Connie was out here with his Athletics for Spring training, he handed Ann the exclusive rights to his biography, book, radio and film, with a modest apology: 'I don't think I'm big enough for history.' Anybody who can run a ball club in Philadelphia for 40 years is deserving of a biography, a medal and a monument in Fairmount Park.

Bob Murphy hopped off for Las Vegas to help his fellow buckaroos celebrate the Helldorado festival. He toted five 10-gallon hats, a total of 50 gallons, which is just about par for a cowhand celebration.

Then there was Clarence Brown, who sought surcease from the turmoil of Hollywood, a week of Nevada quietude, and set his plane down in the middle of Helldorado.

★ ★ ★

Suggestion for an outdoor athletic benefit—a pentathlon for the leading men of Hollywood. An actor these days must be a boxer, a fencer, a hossback rider, a swimmer, a sharpshooter, a fisherman, a halfback, a pitcher and a stunt flyer, and winds up in the final reel by rassling with a blonde.

★ ★ ★

'They Drive By Night.'
'Wagons Roll at Night.'
'All Through the Night.'
Night life in Burbank.

★ ★ ★

Andy Panda is mute. So are Krazy Kat and Scrappy. Their collective voice, Danny Webb, is making a noise like a soldier for Uncle Sam.

★ ★ ★

Jack Benny has nothing on Maxie Rosenbloom these days. Slapsie has a new valet, Rastus Shapiro.

★ ★ ★

Ted McMichael, of the Merry Macs, a lad of Hibernian ancestry, is not only playing in a Hawaiian film but is co-author of 'The Hut Sut Song', with lyrics in Swedish double-talk.

Motto at Paramount — Put your faith in Hope, and you won't need charity.

Film Preview and Review

Pirates On Horseback

(*Western Drama*)

Paramount production and release. Stars William Boyd. Supporting cast: Russell Hayden, Andy Clyde, Eleanor Stewart, Morris Ankrum, William Haade, Dennis Moore, Henry Hall, Britt Wood. Producer, Harry Sherman. Director, Lesley Selander. Screenplay, J. Benton Cheney, Ethel La Blanche. Photography, Russell Harlan. Art director, Lewis J. Rachmil. Film editor, Fred Feitshans, Jr. Previewed May 15. Running time: 69 mins.

For the 35th time Harry Sherman and his acting and technical associates at Paramount have rung the bell with another Hopalong Cassidy picture, 'Pirates On Horseback'. This one, enhanced by the beauty of California mountain scenery and the excellent photography of Russell Harlan, ought to fare as well as its predecessors.

William Boyd is again the happy-go-lucky wanderer with his two pals, Russell Hayden and Andy Clyde. Brave and undaunted, the gallant trio comes to the rescue of Eleanor Stewart when a gambler and his gang try to gain control of her rich mine.

Morris Ankrum is the leader of the gang, as big a heel as ever preyed upon a lonely girl. Ankrum's gang first shoots Britt Wood, who dies with the secret of his lost mine. Clyde, a distant relative, hears of the murder and comes with Boyd and Hayden to the prospector's shack. There they find Miss Stewart, the slain miner's niece, already in possession. She welcomes their aid in searching for the treasure. Boyd finds a note containing a clue to the location of the shaft. Ankrum learns of the note, convinces the girl that the three pals are crooks, captures them and then tries to force her to give him the mine. Boyd and his pals escape. While Miss Stewart struggles with the gambler, Boyd comes to his saloon and gives him the old one-two in a session of fisticuffs that will have the Hopalong fans howling with glee.

Boyd, Hayden and Clyde turn in their usual swell performance. Miss Stewart makes her picture debut as the leading lady. She carries off her assignment with few traces of hesitancy and gracefully adorns those scenes in which she appears. She faintly resembles Joan Crawford, although she has a definite charm of her own. Ankrum makes an adequate villain. William Haade, Dennis Moore, Henry Hall and Britt Wood give excellent support.

Lesley Selander's direction is up to his usual Hopalong standard. Screenplay, by J. Benton Cheney and Ethel La Blanche, does not move as swiftly as some of the other Cassidy adventures, but it is by no means dull. Producer Sherman and Art Director Rachmil have again found magnificent scenic backgrounds.

Jane Withers Assigned 4 H Club Yarn

'Young America', story woven around activities of farmer youths who comprise the 4 H Clubs, will be next starring vehicle for Jane Withers at 20th-Fox. Executive Producer Sol M. Wurtzel has assigned Sam Engel to write the script. Jane will probably attend 4 H national encampment at Washington, D. C. this June, and picture is slated to roll around July 1.

Strange Alibi

(*Melodrama*)

Warners release of a First National production. Cast: Arthur Kennedy, Joan Perry, Jonathan Hale, John Ridgely, Florence Bates, Charles Trowbridge, Cliff Clark, Stanley Andrews, Howard da Silva, Wade Boteler, Ben Welden, Joe Downing, Dick Rich, Paul Phillips, Joe King, Paul Stanton, Eddie Chandler, Robert Homans, Dudley Dickerson, John Hamilton, William Gould. Director, D. Ross Lederman. Associate producer, William Jacobs. Screenplay, Kenneth Gamet. From story by Leslie T. White. Dialog director, Frank Fox. Photography, Allen G. Siegler. Film editor, Frank Magee. Assistant director, Lee Katz. Reviewed at Warners Hollywood, May 15. Running time: 64 mins.

Fast-moving crime plot with a trick finale makes this one a pretty good entry for the cops and robbers trade. Production has been deftly staged and directed by D. Ross Lederman, with a strong accent on action rather than wordage. Result is a peppy, even if conventional, meller which will easily hold its own as supporting fare.

Continuity is smooth most of the way, with only a few slow spots. Major defect in scripting lies in a series of anti-climaxes, which are temporarily disconcerting. Director has, however, overcome these hurdles by keeping yarn moving on the double-quick.

With little waste of footage narrative plunges into the vortex of a big city crime wave when the chief of police, Jonathan Hale, suspicious of men in his own department, arranges a fake quarrel with youthful detective Arthur Kennedy. A phoney fist fight is staged in the station crowded with policemen, and Kennedy, who has been suspended for 30 days, turns his badge in for good. As a renegade copper Kennery then worms his way into confidence of the racketeers who are headed by two police officers. Boy is then framed and sent up for life on rap of killing his own chief and benefactor.

Tempo of suspense is maintained and quickened through the prison sequences with the getaway involving chasing episodes, gunfire, a race against a speeding train, and an auto crackup, following which Kennedy manages to reach the city. Here he uses a dead gangster to prove his innocence and trap the mobsters in uniform into the compromising situation that results in their apprehension.

Romantic interest is of secondary importance, with Joan Perry spotted in insignificant role opposite Kennedy. Okay performances are turned in by Kennedy, Jonathan Hale, Cliff Clark, Stanley Andrews and several others. Production has been nicely mounted.

Heading East

Joseph Calleia (AA)
Mrs. Louis B. Mayer (AA)
Spyros Skouras
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Morgan
Fox Matthews (TWA)
Simone Simon (TWA)
Meredith Willson (TWA)
Eddie Norris (AA)
Richard Marvin (AA)
John Larkin
Susanna Foster
Patricia Morison
Ray Bolger
Lloyd Nolan

New York Court Weighs U.S. Plea on Schine Circuit Decish

New York, May 15.—The Circuit Court of Appeals today reserved decision on the plea made by the Internal Revenue Department to reverse the decision of the Board of Tax Appeals in favor of the Schine circuit and grant the Government $68,955 deficiency income tax and $9,202 excess profits tax claimed from the theatre chain.

The Government contends tax is due on $630,805 received by Schine in 1933 from the Fox Metropolitan as forfeited rent deposit on the cancellation of the lease on 20 Schine theatres to Fox Metropolitan. Schine claims, and the Board of Tax Appeals upheld the claim, that the rent was due under the 1929 tax and that the statute of limitations has voided the Government claim to it.

LEGIT OPENING

THE VINEGAR TREE

San Francisco, May 15. — Billie Burke was welcomed tonight to Frisco at the Alcazar in her perennial favorite, 'The Vinegar Tree', with an ovation that stopped the show. Russell Fillmore's direction is snappy and excellent support in the Henry Duffy production was given by Paul Cavanagh, Leona Maricle, Charles Waldron, Eleanor Lawson and Henry Wadsworth.

Durante Cops Honors In Frisco Opening

San Francisco, May 15. — Joe Tenner and Lloyd Campbell are the proprietors of 'Stairway To the Stars', which opened old Embassy Club tonight, with Jimmy Durante copping the show, following a pay-as-you-enter invitational preview Wednesday. A heavy drive to sell tickets at $5 assured near capacity for the preview and opening. Durante was terrific, but the rest of the show is confusing. Faith Bacon, Jack Lamare and Sammy Wolfe, who work hard, and the Herb Samens orchestra are being used.

Sanborn-Rennie Amend Clearance Writ

Complaint filed for arbitration on behalf of Sanborn & Rennie requesting shorter clearance period in Pasadent over El Monte has been amended, with Fox West Coast released from the action. Matter of clearance over the Tumbleweed theatre, El Monte, owned by James Edwards, Jr., still remains to be adjudicated, with Sanborn & Rennie raising question whether the Tumbleweed is in El Monte proper.

Blaine Spotted

James Blaine has been spotted for part in 'Man From Montana' (U), following assignment in 'The Gay Falcon' (RKO).

In from the East

Lois Paul
Ben Piazza
June Preisser
Bruce Barton (TWA)
William Morris, Jr. (AA)
Alexander Korda (AA)
Robert Taylor (UP)
Barbara Stanwyck (UP)

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

RKO is dickering with Cary Grant to forestall his contemplated vacation and take the lead opposite Michele Morgan in 'Joan of Paris', which Lewis Milestone will direct starting June 15. . . . Dean Riesner, son of Director Charles Riesner, is returning from New York, where he has been writing, to join the Army here from Inglewood sector. Elder Riesner authored the World War song, 'Goodbye Broadway, Hello France.' . . . Joan Macgowan, daughter of Kenneth Macgowan, 20th-Fox associate producer on leave of absence, has checked in at the studio as member of the reading department. . . Sir Firozkahn Noon, India's High Commissioner to Britain, was guest at Warners luncheon yesterday.

In spite of marquee trouble, Universal has decided to use the release title of Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell in the Navy (without quotes), for the recently-completed musical.

PETER GOWLAND, son of the former screen heavy, Gibson Gowland, and James Horne, Jr., son of Director James Horne, are working in RKO's 'Father Takes a Wife.' June Horne, twin sister of James, Jr., is doing a part in 'Tom, Dick and Harry' on the same lot. . . . Billy Gilbert will head a troupe of performers who will do a personal appearance at Tulare tomorrow for the opening of a United States Army air school. . . . At Slapsy Maxie's opening were Jean Parker, Doug Dawson, Al Norman, Patti Andrews, Eddie Norris, Jane Frazee, Ella Logan, Freddie Finklehoff, Ben Brown and Eleanor Francis.

Lucien Littlefield, who 20 years ago was Samuel Goldwyn's office boy, will play the small town banker in producer's 'The Little Foxes.'

STARTING Monday Warners will interview children for parts in 'Kings Row.' Studio wants an 11-year-old boy, one of 12 with sandy hair, and a girl of 11 with red hair. Interviews will be en masse. . . . Dolores Costello guested friends from Vancouver last night at Leone's. . . . In spite of her New York shopping tour, Dorothy Lamour will wait until she returns to the Coast to gather outfits for her vacation in Honolulu, preferring for Edith Head to design the wardrobe. . . . Patricia Morison headed for Memphis yesterday via air to be guest at the Cotton Carnival being held today, tomorrow and Sunday. . . . Eddie (Rochester) Anderson will do a personal at the National Grocers convention in New York June 14. . . . Hollywoodites attending the Helldorado at Las Vegas this weekend include Dick Foran, Russell Hayden, Curly Fletcher, Bill Boyd, Tex Ritter, Robert Preston and Jerry Colonna. . . Original 'Klondike Kate', Kate Rockwell Watson, came to Hollywood Wednesday from Bend, Oregon, to spend the day making arrangements for peddling her life story for a film.

Rice, Gleason Lead Off 'Stars' Program Over CBS (31)

Florence Rice and Russell Gleason lead off the weekly guest contingent on 'Stars Over Hollywood', new half hour dramatic series on CBS beginning (31) for Dari-Rich products. They will perform Roger Denny's 'You Can't Budget Romance', with Paul Pierce producing and Knox Manning as announcer. Other picture names to guest in the series are Ona Munson, Margaret Lindsay, Chester Morris, Richard Cromwell, Mary Astor, Gail Patrick and Robert Armstrong.

Program will be heard here over KNX at 9:30 a.m. on Saturdays, repeating an earlier broadcast for the east.

Camels Keep Only One Coast Summer Show

Camel ciggies will keep only one Coast show on the air through the summer. 'Blondie' continues without a midyear respite while Al Pearce signs off for the season (30), returning Oct. 3. William Esty agency has set Ilka Chase for the summer run, originating in New York.

Sig Herzig Chored

Sig Herzig has completed his rewrite job on 'This Changing World', British War Relief picture which starts at RKO next week and is starting today at Paramount on 'We're In the Navy Now', for producer Paul Jones. Gordon Molson handled the deal.

Study 'Town' Substitute

Ruthrauff & Ryan agency is still studying a summer replacement for 'Big Town.' Edward G. Robinson and his drama crew take time out from July 2 to Oct. 9.

Merry Macs' Discs

Two songs from Universal's 'Moonlight in Hawaii' were recorded by the Merry Macs for Decca yesterday. Tunes were 'The Hut-Sut Song' and 'Mary Lou.'

Tomack, Reis Bros. Set

Sid Tomack and Reis Brothers will be the featured comics in Nils Granlund's new revue, 'Hollywood Hilarities', at Florentine Gardens opening Sunday.

Births

BOY, weighing six pounds, seven ounces, was born Wednesday to Mrs. Maurie Webster at Good Samaritan. Father is an announcer at KNX.

Police Comish Passes Up Pic Censorship; Hits Legits

Proposed Police Commission censorship of motion picture theatres, hanging fire for several months, was passed up at the last session of the Police board and a recommendation for a new ordinance calling for control of stage shows only was endorsed. Testimony was offered at the meeting, attended by attorneys and representatives of major studios and theatre chains, that there were no grounds for complaint that motion picture houses were running lewd shows and film theatres should not be included in the censorship measure.

New ordinance endorsed for stage shows would operate similarly to the present control of the 315 cabarets that come under the licensing power of the Commission. It would mean that the Police Commission would have the power to suspend or revoke licenses of stage show producers presenting offensive shows. In the past two years the Commission has found it necessary to revoke only two licenses of cabarets for offensive shows.

Skipping of picture theatre censorship in the new recommendation means film houses are given a clean bill of health under their present operation.

Allan Wells Files Suit Of 'Cavalcade' Title

New York, May 15.—Allan W. Wells, doing business as Wells Feature Syndicate, filed a Federal court action today charging infringement of the title of his syndicated newspaper column, 'Cavalcade of Hollywood', in 20th-Fox's 'Hollywood Cavalcade.' Plaintiff claims his title also was used on radio and that he has produced a feature picture bearing the same title, which cannot be released since its value is destroyed by prior use. Injunction, accounting and triple damages are asked.

Marvin Returns East With LifeBO Ideas

Richard Marvin, radio head of William Esty agency, flies back to New York tonight to submit his recommendations on the status of 'Hollywood Premiere' as affects its renewal. He'll be back in a week or 10 days. LifeBO program runs out its quarterly string next monthend.

Benny's Finale

Jack Benny's final broadcast of the season June 1 will come from the Naval Base at San Diego.

PRODUCTION SPURT BONANZA FOR CAMERAMEN

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

cently placed under term contracts, especially among the veterans, is that the draft was presumed to take a considerable number of cinematographers from among the younger group.

At 20th-Fox four cameramen have been signed to term deals within the past six weeks, and one operator has been elevated to full-fledged lenser. New additions at this studio are Lucien Andriot, Virgil E. Miller, James O'Neill Taylor and Harry Jackson. Joe MacDonald was promoted to first camera and assigned to 'Charlie Chan In Rio'. First cameramen previously and still under contract are Peverell Marley, Arthur C. Miller, Ernest Palmer, Leon Shamroy, Edward Snyder and Edward Cronjager, under Daniel B. Clark, head of the department.

Warners has an all-time high of 71 men in its camera department, eight of them under term contract. These latter are Elmer Dyer, Tony Gaudio, James Wong Howe, Bert Glennon, Ernest Haller, Charles Marshall, Ted McCord and Sol Polito. Top lensers at Warners are above draft age, but production activity has called for big increase in lens department.

Paramount assigns production increase as reason for its increase in cinematographers. Six are under term contract. Recently added to one or two picture deals are John Seitz, for 'Sullivan's Travels', Johnny Mescall, for two pictures, 'The Night of January 16' and 'Henry Aldrich For President'; Daniel Fapp, promoted from assistant to first by Ted Tetzlaff when latter was promoted to director, and Theodor Sparkuhl and Karl Struss, both of whom returned to Paramount a few months ago.

Metro has 12 cameramen under contract, including Ray June, Robert Planck, Clyde De Vinna, Leonard Smith, Charles Lawton, Hal Rosson, Sid Wagner and Karl Freund.

Other studios show the same trend in comparable number of camera wielders and proportion of increase in recent weeks.

Republic Building $50,000 Ice Rink For 'Ice-Capades'

In order to film 'Ice-Capades of 1941' on its own lot, Republic will build a $50,000 ice rink on one of its newer sound stages. Rink will be 90 by 150 feet, with ice 1½ inches thick.

There will be 150 tons of ice, which will need two tons of ammonia to freeze. Nine miles of pipe will be required for 7,500 gallons of brine to be circulated over the rink area.

COL. R'CDG STRIKE WASHUP STYMIED

Negotiations between Columbia Recording Corp. and its striking employes were stalemaated again yesterday, with both company and union officials seeking to draft a seniority clause that would be acceptable to both groups. It was stated that unless another meeting was called for today, the negotiations probably would go over until the first of next week.

The United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union announced that plans were being completed to have 1,500 people attend the community meeting to be held Saturday night on the picket line to be established in front of Columbia Broadcasting Co. Herbert Biberman and Frank Scully will be the principal speakers.

The plant has been closed since April 11.

'Wind' Starts 2nd Year At London Ritz

London, May 15.—'Gone With the Wind' this week went into its second year's run at the Ritz theatre. Special anniversary showing was attended by motion picture critics and members of British press.

Tommy Cook Part

Carlton Morse has written in Tommy Cook for a part in Sunday's broadcast of 'One Man's Family.'

a.m. Dailies

Fouce Enters Tax Plea—

Frank Fouce, operator of the California theatre downtown, pleaded not guilty yesterday to charges of failing to turn over to the Federal government $4,000 in admission taxes. Fouce was accused of holding out $724 in taxes last August, $697 in September, $825 in October, $925 in November and $830 in December.

N.T.G.'s New Revue
$1.50 WITH DE LUXE DINNER ★ EXCEPT SATURDAY ★ 50¢ WITHOUT DINNER
RINGSIDE $2.00 ADMISSION $1.00
FLORENTINE GARDENS ★ HO. 6311
★ AIR CONDITIONED TO 72° ★
Opening Sunday Night, May 18th
Featuring SID TOMACK & THE REIS BROTHERS
GORGEOUS GIRLS ★ LAVISH NUMBERS ★ RIOTOUS FUN

5 BIG FEATURE RACES
Sunday at CALIENTE
2-YR.-OLDS IN FIRST TEST
THRILLING STEEPLECHASE
6-FURLONG HANDICAP
$1000 PUBLIC HANDICAP CONTEST FOR PICKING 7 WINNERS
12 RACES ★ FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Thornton Freeland

DIRECTOR

"Too Many Blondes"

UNIVERSAL

"Thornton Freeland, doing his first directing job in Hollywood after seven years in London, keeps things on the go, and frames the songs and laughs nicely."
—DAILY VARIETY

"This tuneful offering is pleasant to take, due mainly to its effortless direction by Thornton Freeland. It is Freeland's first Hollywood picture since his return from England, and highly in evidence is the facile touch of the director of 'Whoopee' and 'Flying Down To Rio', to mention just two of his successes."
—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

IN PREPARATION

"Marry the Boss' Daughter"

20TH CENTURY-FOX

Management
STANLEY BERGERMAN, INC.

Chairman Fly Slaps Back at NAB After St. Louis Brush-off

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

nated by a Tinker-to-Evers-to-Chance combo. David Sarnoff, NBC chairman of the board; William S. Paley, CBS prez, and Neville Miller, NAB prexy, were the objects of Fly's blast, as earlier in the week he leveled criticism at Sarnoff and Paley for their control of 86% of radio's night time power and wattage. Fly further remarked that two men run the show and a couple of others do the chores.

When reporters accepted Fly's invite to visit his room, the FCC chairman said he had declined to accept an invitation to again address the convention as he had learned that NAB members had adopted a resolution calling for a congressional investigation of FCC's recent anti-monopoly report. He intimated that this was the subject he would have discussed had not the action been taken by the broadcasters.

The convention resolutions committee dished out gobs of posies for various execs of the organization. Given pats were Vice-President Henry A. Wallace for the attendance of Fly at the conclave, and Fly for his frank and open discussion of many controversial questions confronting the industry at the moment.

Convention winds up tonight with the election of several new directors. A dinner at which entertainment was produced by Nat Abramson, head of WOR artists bureau, added to the gaiety. Among the performing talent were George Jessel, Quiz Kids, Jane Froman, Rose Bampton, Henry Morgan, Stan Kavanaugh and Giovanni. Hedda Hopper flew from Hollywood to be the honor guest at the banquet.

SCHLESINGER SCG SESSION TONITE

The Leon Schlesinger unit of the Screen Cartoonists Guild meets tonight to discuss the progress of its negotiations with the company and to consider counter proposals submitted to the workers. While the SCG has authorized a strike if a deal is not set, both company executives and union tops expressed the belief that an amicable agreement will be reached.

Leon Schlesinger stated last night that the two groups were only about $8,000 apart and that he felt certain they would be able to get together on wages. He said he had offered increases of $20,000 annually, but that the Guild demanded $48,000. He stated his offer was later raised to $25,000. The Guild also has made certain wage concessions in the upper brackets in an effort to get together with the company.

Lamour Up for 'Fleet'

Dorothy Lamour will do the femme lead in 'The Fleet's In', at Paramount if her schedule can be arranged. Studio has set Eddie Bracken, Betty Button, from 'Panama Hattie', Cass Daley and Gil Lamb, from 'Hold On to Your Hats', for the picture. Victor Schertzinger will direct and Paul Jones produces, starting Aug. 11.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Girls From Panama'	Columbia	Wallace MacDonald	Charles Barton	May 15
'Mystery Ship'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Lew Landers	May 15
'Ladies In Retirement'	Columbia	Lester Cowan	Charles Vidor	May 15
'Murder By Appointment'	Monogram	A. W. Hackel	Bill Rosen	May 15
'Sheik of Buffalo Butte'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Howard Bretherton	May 16
'Motorcycle Squad'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	J. G. Bachmann	Al Kelly	May 13
'Desperate Cargo'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	John T. Coyle	William Beaudine	May 16
'Hurricane Smith'	Republic	Robert North	Bernard Vorhaus	May 15
'Look Who's Talking'	RKO	Allan Dwan	Allan Dwan	May 12
'Charley's Aunt'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Archie Mayo	May 12
'Wild Geese Calling'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	John Brahm	May 16
'Flying Cadets'	Universal	Paul Malvern	Erle Kenton	May 12
'Man From Montana'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ray Taylor	May 16

10 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'City Limits'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	May 23
'Bahama Passage'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 19
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	William Pine and William Thomas	Frank McDonald	May 24
'Gambling Daughters'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	T. H. Richmond	Max Nosseck	May 20
'Gangs of Sonora'	Republic	Lou Gray	Unassigned	May 19
'Under Fiesta Stars'	Republic	Harry Grey	William Morgan	May 20
'San Antonio Rose'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	May 19
'Almost An Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 21
'King Rubber'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	Ray Enright	May 19
'The Smiling Ghost'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	Lew Seiler	May 19

19 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Richard Thorpe	Preparing
'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Army Hostess'	Monogram	William Lackey	Unassigned	May 25
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	June 3
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Unassigned	May 26
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	May 31
'Billy the Kid' Western	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sam Newfield	May 28
'21 Men and a Girl'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	Ray McCarey	May 26
'Remember the Day'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Unassigned	May 26
'We Go Fast'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	William McGann	June 2
'Lone Star Ranger'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	June 2
'Marry the Boss's Daughter'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	Thornton Freeland	June 2
'Men At Large'	20th-Fox	Ralph Dietrich	Unassigned	June 9
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 10
'Mob Town'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Unassigned	May 26
'All Through the Night'	Warners	Jerry Wald	Vincent Sherman	May 26
'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'	Warners	William Jacobs	Unassigned	May 26

Planted

20th-Fox

Emmett Vogan, Nestor Paiva, Don Brodie, John Butler, 'Dressed to Kill'.

Hans Schumm, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Ernie Stanton, 'Private Nurse'.

Joseph Downing, 'Belle Starr'.

Republic

Frank Darien, Rod Bacon, Gladden James, Jack Carr, Lew Kelley, Martin Turner, Howard Mitchell, Lane Chandler, 'Hurricane Smith'.

Metro

Byron Shores, 'Ringside Maisie'.

Naomi Childers, Ann O'Neal, Harry Hayden, 'Barnacle Bill'.

Warners

G. Pat Collins, 'Navy Blues'.

Leo White, 'King Rubber'.

Columbia

George Lloyd, 'Texas'.

Rep Skeds 'Holiday'

Republic is scheduling 'Argentine Holiday', a musical, for its 1941-42 program.

Grainger, Skouras Bros. Sign for Republic New Product

James R. Grainger, Republic Pictures sales head, concluded negotiations yesterday with Spyros and Charles Skouras for Republic product for all the National Theatre houses and Fox-West Coast. Spyros Skouras left for the east last night.

Grainger and Herbert J. Yates leave here Tuesday for Chicago for the Republic sales convention there.

Terry Frost Signed

Terry Frost, newcomer to the screen, has been signed for role in RKO's 'Outlaw Trail', Tim Holt western being produced by Bert Gilroy.

Ill in Pix

BETTE DAVIS is expected to remain out of the cast of 'The Little Foxes' for another week or 10 days, due to illness and nervous exhaustion. Director William Wyler will continue to shoot around actress without losing production time on the Goldwyn feature.

LEW FROST, NBC exec, ailing at home.

Berle Casts Play

Milton Berle began casting in NY on his play 'Keep Punching, Brother' which he will produce and star in. Play will have a strawhat opening in New England.

FOR BRITISH WAR RELIEF
It's a Hit! (Every critic)
GENE LOCKHART'S
REVUE
It's Delightful (Every critic)
BEVERLY HILLS HAWTHORNE THEATRE
624 No. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills
Sunday Nights at 8:40 • Tickets 2.00-1.50-1.00 (Tax Free) • Reservations HO-5111

Jimmie Fidler Returns To Air Next Month On 3-Year Deal

Jimmie Fidler goes back on the air next month under sponsorship of Tayton cosmetics. Straight three-year deal calls for a salary and percentage of gross sales. Quarter-hour program starts as a western regional and by fall will be on a coast-to-coast hookup. Time has not yet been bought, but understood Fidler routine will go out over CBS.

Wayne Griffin produces for Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn. James Saphier and Jack Smalley of BBDO negotiated the contract.

PLACE GETS NEW 20th POST

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

of Joseph M. Schenck from the directorate and board membership, is the only new face added to the directorial slate in Schenck's place.

Vast majority of the common and preferred shares were represented at the meeting in person or by proxy, with all 12 directors receiving nearly an unanimous vote.

W. C. Michel presided at the session, taking over at the suggestion of Sidney Kent, company prexy, who was unable to attend the full meeting.

The annual organization session of the new directorate followed the stockholders' meeting and unanimously elected Kent president, Place chairman of the executive committee, Michel executive vice-president, Darryl F. Zanuck and William Goetz vice-presidents, Sydney Towell treasurer, W. J. Eadie comptroller and Felix Jenkins secretary.

Regarding election of Place as chairman of the executive committee, Kent issued the following statement:

'Herman G. Place, for many years a vice-president of the Chase National Bank, was today elected chairman of the executive committee of 20th-Fox, severing his connection with the Chase National Bank. This move was in the interest of reinforcing the organization in New York. Place has been a director of 20th-Fox for several years and is well known to the personnel of the company'.

Following the meeting it also was announced that Kent entered into a new five-year contract with the company which expires May 31, 1946.

Van Debergh's Deal

Guy Van Debergh, formerly operating the Forum, Ontario, is reported dickering to take over the State theatre, Redlands.

SWG REPORTED REJECTING PROD. COUNTER PROPOSALS

The Screen Writers Guild is set to turn thumbs down on the Producers' counter proposals when they are brought up Monday night (19) at the Guild's emergency membership meeting, it was disclosed last night by shop stewards who have been contacting studio writers. They said the scriveners were practically unanimous in feeling that the terms are not acceptable, and indicated there probably would be a demand for an immediate strike vote.

A statement by the SWG yesterday also indicated that the Producers' offer does not go far enough. The statement said in part:

'Although hesitant to predict what action the membership might take in the present crisis, the Writers Guild negotiating committee was far from optimistic that the Producers' counter proposals would be accepted by the Guild body in their present form. On the contrary, it was believed by the Screen Writers Guild leaders that there might be an extremely unwelcome response from the film writers to the proposed new agreement'.

Pledges of support have already been received from the Radio Writers Guild, and the Authors League of America, composed of the SWG, the Dramatists Guild, and the Authors Guild has wired for news of the negotiations, with the idea of putting up a solid writer front in event the film scriveners and Producers are unable to get together. The emergency meeting will be held in the Blossom room of the Roosevelt hotel.

Warners Cancels Out Its Deal with Hoyt's In Australia

New York, May 15.—Contract of Warners to play its pictures with the Hoyt's Circuit in Australia is being cancelled by mutual consent upon delivery of the final 1940-41 product this fall. The deal had several years to run, but it is reported Warners has been seeking to cancel it for some months.

Although Hoyt's hopes to secure a new contract with Warners under new terms, Greater Union Theatres admittedly has been trying to make some Warners deal. Greater Union already has Paramount, Universal, Columbia, Republic, Monogram and part of the Metro product.

20th Declares 37½c Divvy on Preferred

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

only $100,000 to cover foreign assets in the same quarter last year.

Profit represents a vast improvement over the final quarter of last year, when the $693,000 year-end dividend from National Theatres enabled the company to show only a profit of $558,275.

Set Hughes, Byrd

Carol Hughes and Ralph Byrd play the leads in 'Desperate Cargo', John T. Coyle production for Producers Releasing Corp., which goes before the cameras today at International studio. William Beaudine directs.

Toomey in 'Rubber'

Regis Toomey will have a featured role in Warners 'King Rubber.'

Hughes 'Outlaw' Gets Hays Okay After Amicable Changes

New York, May 15.—Board of directors of the Hays office today approved 'The Outlaw', Howard Hughes pic which is ready for a 20th-Fox release. The Production Code Administrator seal was issued following negotiations with Hughes whereby certain eliminations and changes will be made under an amicable agreement worked out between the Haysians and Hughes.

Originally the Haysian outfit directors had reaffirmed the decision of Joe Breen, PCA chief, rejecting the picture as first presented to him prior the producer's appeal to the board. The Hays directors even suggested more changes in the film than Breen originally asked be made when he first viewed the picture.

S. Barret McCormick Due Mon. for Sesh

S. Barret McCormick planes in Monday for stay at RKO lining up material for the new season's year book and the sales convention to be held in New York June 16-17-18-19. He expects to remain here a week or 10 days.

Duet for Bob Smith

Bob Smith, recently contracted at RKO, has been assigned to spots in 'Father Takes a Wife' and 'Look Who's Talking.'

Milton Lazarus Sues Dramatists Guild On Col Play Deal

New York, May 15.—Milton Lazarus, dramatist, has filed suit in Supreme court against Elmer Rice as president of the Dramatists Guild, the Authors Guild of America, and Authors League. Playwright claims $25,500 damages on grounds that defendants refused his request for a concession on his play, 'Every Man for Himself', which would have enabled Lazarus to sell the script to Columbia Pictures. Action came to light in Supreme court when the case was set for May trial.

'Every Man for Himself' did not have the required three weeks on Broadway or 75 performances out of town but Lazarus claims the defendants could have waived the rule to allow the sale of film rights.

Prod. Labor Group Will Talk ADG Pact Tues.

The Producers labor relations committee will meet Tuesday (20) to act on the proposed basic agreement with the Art Directors Guild. The deal provides for recognition of the Guild as collective bargaining representative for the directors, Guild shop, screen credits, etc., but does not call for adoption of minimum wage scales, because of the wide difference in salaries received by the directors and their assistants. The pact was negotiated by Fred Pelton, producer labor contact.

N. O. Freedman Heads H'wood Bar Assn.

Nathan O. Freedman was elected president of the Hollywood Bar Association to succeed Sam Zagon. Installation will take place at Lakeside Country Club on June 13. Sidney Blackmer will function as m.c. for the entertainment with others on program being Abbott and Costello, Bert Wheeler, Robin and Rainger and Arthur Schwartz.

Lois Paul Arriving

Lois Paul, featured in 'Meet the People', Super-Chiefs in today, and opens next week in 'Rio Rita' at Philharmonic.

'Ziegfeld' Holdovers

Metro's 'Ziegfeld Girl' has been held over in 14 additional key spots, bringing total of extended runs to 34.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

'Desperate Cargo'
Dir.: William Beaudine
Asst.: Eddie Montford

DOC BAKER HOPS IN TOWN FULL OF WINNING NAGS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

service at the army camps—thus assuring their daily oats. 'Not since the turn of the century,' the Doc said—at which time he started picking hosses—'have the fields been more competitive,' and he added that notwithstanding he would all but guarantee to sweep at least one card per week.

The Doctor's selections will appear in Daily Variety, which, sans any contest, has again secured the exclusive pickin' propensities of the age-old hossman. Saturday's picks may be had by calling Daily Variety office, HO-1141.

GALA OPENING MONDAY NIGHT!
ONE WEEK ONLY! Mats. Wed. and Sat.
A Riot of Music, Romance, Color & Fun
JOE E. BROWN
SINGING AND DANCING in
"RIO RITA"
WITH SUZANNE STEN
PETER HAYES MARY HEALY
LILIAN BOND ROBERT BARRON
WALTER CASSEL
50 Glorious Festival Singers • 7 Stunning Broadbent Ballets
STAGE DIRECTION: ZEKE COLVAN ★ MUSICAL DIRECTION: EDWARD WARD
Los Angeles Civic
LIGHT OPERA FESTIVAL
PHILHARMONIC AUDITORIUM
EVES. 75¢ $1.10 1.25 1.75 2.25 2.75
Wed. Mat. 65¢ to 1.65 • Sat. Mat. 75¢ to 2.20
PHIL. AUD. BOX OFFICE • MI 8401
AND ALL MUTUAL AGENCIES
SEASON TICKETS STILL ON SALE!
Week, May 26 • FRANCIA WHITE "NAUGHTY MARIETTA" ★ Week, June 2 • JOHN CHARLES THOMAS "The CHOCOLATE SOLDIER" ★ Week, June 9 • ETHEL WATERS "CABIN in the SKY"

Disney Turns Down SCG Grievance Arrangement

Walt Disney Productions yesterday turned down a demand of the Screen Cartoonists Guild that the company recognize a grievance committee to handle current problems of Guild members pending a decision by the National Labor Relations Board on a complaint charging the Federation of Screen Cartoonists is a company union. Disney took the position it would be illegal for him to deal with another union so long as the Federation remains the designated bargaining representative for employes.

NLRB attaches said that 'under ordinary circumstances' it would be illegal for an employer to deal with one union when another had been designated as bargaining representative, but hinted that the present circumstances might not be termed ordinary. They added, however, that there was nothing illegal in an employer discussing grievances with any employe or group of employes.

The SCG also is asking that the company post notices that it intends to remain neutral and will not try to influence employes in any way in the choice of a bargaining agent, and that executives and supervisors will be notified they are not to interfere, and that if there is any interference it will be immediately reported to Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact.

The NLRB hearing on the complaint charging that Disney executives sponsored a company union in the Federation is scheduled for 10 a.m. Monday (19). In advising Disney representatives that he would ask the board to issue a complaint, William R. Walsh, acting regional director, stated that he felt the evidence was conclusive that the company 'had dominated and interfered' with the union, and at a time when certain employes were expressing an interest in the SCG.

The SCG, which recently signed a contract with Metro calling for substantial wage increases and which is now closing an agreement with George Pal, has developed into one of the biggest crafts in the film industry. When deals are inked with Disney and Leon Schlesinger, the group will have a membership of approximately 1,500.

'Yearling' Crew West

Main production unit of Metro's 'The Yearling' leaves Ocala, Fla. today to return to the studio after completing exteriors in Florida scrub under direction of Victor Fleming. Harold Rosson and Technicolor camera crew remain at Ocala to complete atmospheric shots.

RAY MILLAND • CONSTANCE MOORE
WILLIAM HOLDEN • VERONICA LAKE
WAYNE MORRIS • BRIAN DONLEVY
in Paramount's
"I WANTED WINGS"
NO ADVANCE IN PRICES
ON OUR STAGE!
Richard HIMBER
and his ORCH. • Many Acts
PARAMOUNT
Direction Fanchon & Marco
6th & HILL VA-2041
• FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND •

ARNOLD CHAIRMANS GROUP ON SOUTH AMERICAN TRIPS

Plans for a talent survey of the film industry with a view to arranging a series of Southern American trips similar to the recent goodwill tour to Mexico City, were approved last night at the first meeting of the board of directors of the Motion Picture Society for the Americas. The survey will be made by a subcommittee chairmaned by Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild.

It was disclosed that the United States government had requested such trips because of the feeling that the Mexico City trip had done much toward kindling more friendly relations between the southern Republic and the United States. The board also approved plans for entertaining the Navy chiefs-of-staffs from Latin American countries here tomorrow. They will be taken on a visit to 20th-Fox in the morning, will be guests of honor at a luncheon at Metro, and will be entertained at dinner that night by the Navy Department.

Y. Frank Freeman presided at the board meeting last night in the new Society headquarters on Wilshire. Kenneth Thomson sat in as executive secretary of the group. Board members attending the session were Frank Capra, Samuel Goldwyn, David O. Selznick, H. M. Warner, Fred W. Beetson, William Goetz and Francis Alstock, John Hay Whitney representative.

'Webster' Will Resume End of This Month

'The Devil and Daniel Webster' is expected to resume shooting again by the end of the month when Edward Arnold completes his Paramount commitment and takes over the Thomas Mitchell role in the RKO picture. Film has been coasting since Mitchell's serious accident awaiting Arnold's clearance. Ahmed Kalame, John Northpole and Ivor McFadden have been signed to play three of the 12 jurors who will represent historical traitors in the picture.

Judy Canova's Illness Slows 'Puddin' Head'

Work on 'Puddin' Head' at Republic has been suspended until Judy Canova recovers from a bad cold. She was laid up Monday, returned Tuesday, checked off again Wednesday. Director Joseph Santley shot around her for two days, but was unable to continue without her yesterday.

Lud Gluskin Directs Small 'Lady' Music

Lud Gluskin, coast music director for CBS, has been signed by Edward Small to direct the music and score 'International Lady.' It's the second assignment for Gluskin with the producer, he having supervised the music and scored 'Man in the Iron Mask.'

Hunt, Weston Collab

Robert Hunt and Garnet Weston have been given the job of adapting Warners 'Phantom Detective.'

Helen Holmes Spotted

Helen Holmes has been signed at RKO for a feature part in 'Dude Cowboy.'

SIX TRAINEE FILMS SET BY ACAD

● Continued from page 1 ●

as technical adviser when the cameras roll June 2. A training film on 'Anti-aircraft Searchlight Battery' has been assigned to Universal, with production scheduled to start within the next 10 days.

A training film on the '37 mm. Anti-aircraft Gun Battery' will be made by Warners at Camp Haan, with production scheduled to start Monday (19). Terry Morse has been assigned to direct, assisted by Major A. M. Wilson, of the Coast Artillery Corps, who will act as technical adviser. Another film on the 'Light Machine Gun Platoon, Cavalry Rifle Troop', will be made by RKO, with production scheduled to start at Camp Seeley Monday (19). Men and equipment of the 11th Cavalry will be used in the film, with Lieut. Col. Alton W. Howard acting as technical adviser.

A film on 'Anti-aircraft Machine Gun Battery', to be made for the instruction of Coast Artillery troops, has been assigned to Sol Lesser for production. A film on 'Engineering Corps Equipment', describing the use of wire and wood cutting tools, the proper use of various types of rope in bridge building, etc., will be made at the Samuel Goldwyn Studio. Lieutenant John R. Jannarone, of the Engineer Corps, arrived here today from Fort Belvoir, Va., to assist as technical adviser.

Training films on the '240 mm. Howitzer', '60 mm. Mortar', 'Instruction of the Soldier' and 'Basic Principles of Skiing' now are in production at Paramount, Republic, Metro and 20th-Fox. Eight additional films are in preparation to be assigned as soon as facilities are available.

SMPFE Vote on Benefit Big; Results Soon

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors last night voted on a proposal to establish a compulsory death benefit plan, but because of the large number of ballots cast it will be the first of next week before the count is completed. The membership also voted on proposals to provide withdrawal cards for editors and assistants who enter other fields in the picture industry, and to stage a golf tournament.

Bricker's Col Job

George Bricker will work on the screen play of 'Melody Man' for Irving Starr as his fourth straight assignment at Columbia.

Coast League Baseball Results

Seattle, 8; Hollywood, 2.
Los Angeles, 10; San Diego, 3.
Portland, 7; Oakland, 0.
Sacramento, 7; San Francisco, 3.

Mental Hazards Cited By Wobber In U.S. B.O. Decline

Mental hazards, rather than physical factors, are responsible for the general decline of film grosses throughout the country, according to Herman Wobber, distribution chief for 20th-Fox, here on production conferences with studio executives.

Uncertainty over the part the nation is destined to play in the international situation and its own future, Wobber declared in general analysis of the present box office condition, explains the unsatisfactory picture theatre business of the moment.

'Uncertainty affects the box office more adversely than any sort of definite action, no matter which way the action might turn', Wobber said. 'Business was worse in England just before the outbreak of war than it was right after Dunkirk, for example. The same thing was true in many countries, repeating the experience in the United States in 1917.'

Theatre men nearly everywhere, Wobber stated, had been greatly disappointed in the amount of money coming through their tills as a result of the billions being spent in national defense. The circulation of vast sums has had very little effect in show biz in the major cities. But benefits have been marked in San Diego, Tacoma and other towns where, in addition to government expenditures, there had been population increase.

There should, however, be a break soon, he declared, and when it does come there will be a tremendous box office boom.

H'wd Theatre Alliance In Bankruptcy

Hollywood Theatre Alliance, Inc. ('Meet The People') has filed voluntary assignment in bankrutcy, giving liabilities at $28,574.22 and listing assets of $30,511.81 of which $25,000 is given book value of props and other equipment. Among largest creditors are the State of California Unemployment Insurance department, $3,077.55, and the New York State Unemployment Insurance, $1,467.81.

Sam Spewack in Mon. For Baker Huddle

Sam Spewack planes in Monday from New York for confabs with Graham Baker on the script of 'Through the Thin Wall', which latter will produce at RKO, starting July 15. Sam and Bella Spewack will work on the screen play in New York.

★ NOW! ★
Alice FAYE • Jack OAKIE
John PAYNE • Cesar ROMERO
'THE GREAT AMERICAN BROADCAST'
Companion Feature
"WASHINGTON MELODRAMA"
FRANK MORGAN • ANN RUTHERFORD • KENT TAYLOR
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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 31 No. 53 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, May 19, 1941 5 Cents

SCHLESINGER CLOSES STUDIO

SWG STRIKE MOVE UP TONIGHT

Members of the Screen Writers Guild meet tonight at the Roosevelt hotel to consider counter proposals of the Producers and to vote on the advisability of calling a strike of film writers. It is accepted as a foregone conclusion that the proposals will be rejected, the SWG executive board having indicated it did not believe

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Finney Will Produce 3 Mono Features

Deal has been worked out whereby Edward Finney will produce three features to replace the Tex Ritter westerns he was to have made for Monogram before the film cowpoke moved over to Columbia. Finney and Monogram have been dickering back and forth for some time working out a revise on his old contract and new deal needs only to be inked to become official. The three features will include 'Carolina Swingtime', by William Lively and Betty Laidlaw, rolling first. Picture will be a musical and will include 'The Unfinished Symphony' among its numbers. Second feature is 'Li'l Louisiana Lady', by Fred Myton.

Bob Hope Will Tour Coast Army Camps

Instead of going east until he goes off the air this summer, Bob Hope will tour Coast and California Army camps. His May 20 show will be aired from the San Diego Naval Base. Following week, May 27, he will broadcast from Camp Roberts, at San Luis Obispo. Jack Benny will broadcast from the San Diego Naval Base June 1. Chase & Sanborn show will go from March Field June 15.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	574
Major studio calls	464
FK Studio Service	5
Tinsman Casting Agency	175
Total	1218

WHO'S WHO!

FILM Industry has been working hard on cooperating with National Defense projects and problems. However, in so doing, it has failed to work on one within its own ranks which is very serious. This problem is a vital one and should have immediate attention. It is a simple one to solve, and in the long run its solution will be a great service to the United States in case of emergency.

Problem is that the industry does not know who is working for it. There may be a lot of saboteurs and foreign government liaison personnel within its ranks, and the industry, with the exception of one company, has no way of checking properly—its who's who!—of foreign or alien personnel.

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IN GENERAL, outside of Warners, the personal or history record of employes has been inquired into in too brief a manner. They get a skeleton outline of the past history of

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

NAB SAYS FLY FCC AIR ACTS 'DESTRUCTIVE'

St. Louis, May 18.—With its 19th annual convention out of the way, the board of directions of National Association of Broadcasters issued a statement in which it charged 'regulation of radio stations under Chairman James L. Fly, Federal Communications Commission, has been punitive, capricious, biased and destructive'. Replying to Fly's blast on the last day of the conclave, the statement continued that Fly's remarks were the strongest substantiation of the truth of what we have

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Pair For Ates

Roscoe Ates has been signed at Paramount for roles in 'Sullivan's Travels' and 'Birth of the Blues.'

ELECT NEW SDG PREZ TONITE

A new president of the Screen Directors Guild to succeed Frank Capra will be elected tonight at the annual dinner-meeting of the organization. Capra was not eligible for re-election, having served two consecutive years. First and second vice-presidents and secretary and treasurer also will be elected.

New board members elected for

♥ Continued on page 10 ♥

Enright Will Direct Warners 'Atlantic'

Warners is preparing 'Battle of the Atlantic', from an original story idea, which Ray Enright is penciled to direct. Dennis Morgan and Priscilla Lane are tentatively set as tops. Charles Grayson is screenplaying.

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, May 18.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Intermezzo	Schubert
My Sister and I	BMI
Things I Love	Campbell
Amapola	Marks
Maria Elena	Southern
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane
Look At Me Now	Embassy
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Dolores	Paramount

AFL TOPS CHARGING LOCKOUT

Leon Schlesinger closed his cartoon studio over the weekend, and posted a notice stating 'Studio Closed On Account of Strike.' The plant was shuttered when the Screen Cartoonists Guild notified the company that members of the Schlesinger unit would strike at 10 a.m. today unless the studio signed a contract covering wages, hours and conditions.

American Federation of Labor

● Continued on page 10 ●

New Disney Group Org'ed on Eve of NLRB Hearing

With the National Labor Relations Board scheduled to hold a hearing at 10 a.m. today on charges that Walt Disney Productions sponsored a company union in the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, the Federation was scuttled over the weekend, and officers of the old organization formed the American Society of Screen Cartoonists. The Screen Cartoonists Guild immediately renewed its demand for recognition as collective bargaining representative for the Dis-

★ Continued on page 10 ★

June Johnson Topper

June Johnson has been assigned the femme lead in 'Gangs of Sonora', next Bob Livington, Bob Steele, Rufe Davis Three Mesquiteers western at Republic.

PREVIEWED

SUNNY
(RKO)

LADY FROM LOUISIANA
(Rep)

THE RETURN OF DANIEL BOONE
(Col)

REVIEWED

SHERIFF OF TOMBSTONE
(Rep)

BURY ME NOT ON THE LONE PRAIRIE
(U)

(Previews and Reviews, page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Don Barry planning ranch house in the Valley.

Gabby Hayes is on month's fishing trip in Oregon.

Ray Middleton swims a mile every day as a conditioner.

Sophie Tucker goes into the Orpheum week of (28).

Frank Mattison unit manager on Warners 'Kings Row.'

Now it's Bob Hope who roosts on top in the Hooper survey.

Metro will press preview its 'Billy the Kid' at the studio Thursday.

Paul Martin's band has switched over to William Morris management.

Bill Ray, long with KFWB, is operating Auditorium Ballroom at Paso Robles.

Frank Whitbeck back after finishing special trailer shots for 'The Yearling' at Ocala, Fla.

Theodore Reed checks in at Paramount today to look over scripts for his next directorial assignment.

Wyoming sheriff is offering free his song, 'Mary Lee, You're For Me', if she'll sing it in a Republic picture.

Wynn Rocamora of NBC program and talent sales flew to NY to confer with Dorothy Lamour. He's due back Thursday.

Patricia Ellis took over Carol Bruce's part in 'Louisiana Purchase' on Broadway and drew raves from the critics.

NBC's western division chieftain, Don Gilman, lunched last Friday with Thurman Arnold, the Government's trust-buster.

Bob Wing, of the F. W. Vincent offices, directed 'George Washington Slept Here', now playing at the Assistance League Playhouse.

Mrs. Leroy Finster returned home from Cedars of Lebanon with her two-weeks-old son. Father is in the Still department at Warners.

Hal Wallis sent gift chronographs to Lieut. W. W. Lowry and J. R. McCants, chief machinist's mate, who made the spectacular plane rescue of Lieut. W. S. Osipoff at San Diego last week.

Warners press previews 'Million Dollar Baby' at Studio City theatre on Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., and 'Shining Victory' at the Beverly Hills theatre tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

Edward Everett Horton has closed his 'Springtime for Henry' stage presentation after run in San Francisco and reports at Columbia today for role in 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town.'

Benny the Gouge sez — If you need a rest cure to soothe your jangled nerves, try spending a Sunday in Hollywood.

Hollywood Inside

PEGGING the price tag of film players for guest duty on an airshow will be the determining factor in the future status of LifeBO's 'Hollywood Premiere', now up for renewal or replacement. William Esty agency is contending that its Friday night guestars would be reasonably compensated if payoff is commensurate with the coin paid on Kraft Music Hall. Program has a cealing of $1,500 and deal is generally wrapped up in a package which calls for appearances on other J. Walter Thompson shows. Jean Hersholt, head of Motion Picture Relief Fund, is reported holding out for the same coin paid players on the Lux broadcasts. Stars are paid as high as $5,000 on this hour show. Richard Marvin, radio head of the Esty agency, is now in New York submitting the various proposals to the sponsor and is expected back next week to present a counter proposition. Screen Actors Guild has the signed agreement of Lolly Parsons to quit after the current quarter if her manner of operation conflicts with SAG policy. Understood that if no agreement can be reached on a price scale for guesters, Esty and Lever Bros. will expunge the Parsons setup and immediately substitute another program, believed to be Vox Pop, with Wally Butterworth and Parks Johnson. Program wraps up for $3,000 weekly and in season achieved a Crossley rating double that of the highest mark touched by the Parsons player-free show. LifeBO turn is budgeted at around $4,000 weekly and it is said that the soap firm is willing to add another $2,500 to pay the talent on the renewal. This figure is below what would be demanded by Relief Fund, which just now is awaiting a renewal on its own Screen Guild Theatre by Gulf Oil. Petrol outfit is understood to be holding back until assured that it will not have to compete against a cut-rate talent show.

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HAL ROACH believes he can repeat with Marjorie Woodward the quick initial exploitation given Victor Mature and Carole Landis to make them important names within a few months after signing contracts. He bases his anticipations on Miss Woodward's receptions in Chicago and Boston where she ran into a college lads feud on Harvard campus when she had come as guest and 'the most promising beauty in Hollywood' for the annual Hollywood Lampoon dinner dance. She has worked in only one picture. She also appears in mag spread in connection with Leslie Charteris murder mystery essay. At Atlantic City she was hostess at cocktail party tossed for 1,000 exhibitors by United Artists at the Variety Clubs convention.

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GORDON WILES, director who has also been art director, writer and technician in several other studio departments, has evolved a method of presenting a rehearsal of scripts as they are ready for the camera, including sound and graphic visualization, so that producer may see almost exactly what he may expect to get in the finished production. Wiles, who has just completed 'Forced Landing' for Bill Thomas and Bill Pine, draws every major scene and camera angle in a voluminous sequence of sketches. These he uses on flip-overs. He makes a record on acetate of the dialog, with the script writers and stock actresses reading the roles, and also records music the same way. Cost of preview is around $3,000.

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FILM exchange managers and bookers report themselves pleasantly surprised by the quality of men apparently available to the Government for service on arbitration hearings. Decisions arrived at in many clearance cases to date indicate an amazingly keen analysis and comprehension on the part of arbitrators of the nature of the complaints filed by exhibitors. Astonishing to trade wise exchange men, also, is the grasp which the arbitrators appear to have of the complicated film business and of the new ramifications under the consent decree with which many picture men confess themselves baffled.

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'DOCTORS DON'T TELL' comes down off the shelf again at Republic after three years as a frozen asset. It will be Albert J. Cohen's next production after 'Puddin' Head.' Story has been lying idle because studio didn't quite know what to do with it—whether to make it as a drama or with the stress of medicine. Now it goes as drama. Several months ago Sol C. Siegel, now at Paramount, wanted to make a picture called 'Nurses Don't Tell', but Republic protested the similarity of title and was reminded again of its doctor yarn with the resultant renewed activity on script.

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DAILY JOURNAL, official paper for City of and County of Los Angeles, stepped out of its official capacity in Friday's issue to pull a flack stunt, with art, on the front page. Two-column cut shows Joe E. Brown studying to be a mouthpiece under the tutelage of David R. Faries, attorney, both members of the Los Angeles Light Opera Association, plugging 'Rio Rita.' If Joe really studied to be a mouthpiece, it would be really colossal.

☆ ☆ ☆

JAMES A. FITZ PATRICK, author and commentator for Metro's Traveltalk series, is ordering 300,000 feet of Technicolor negative for his 1941-42 program of 12 shorts. During the time he has been making the series, FitzPatrick has used over 3,000,000 feet of the color film and is reckoned to be the largest non-feature buyer of Technicolor.

Retie Richard Derr

Richard Derr, Hedgerow Theatre player, has had his contract at 20th-Fox renewed for another year. He is currently in 'Charlie Chan in Rio.'

Richard Webb's Duet

Richard Webb, Paramount contractee, has been assigned to do roles in 'Reap the Wild Wind' and 'Sullivan's Travels.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A gal with drama in her heart
Will suffer bravely for her art
Through many a pain and ache.
She will not even bat an eye
When villains smark her with a pie
Or dunk her in a lake.
Imagine treating stars that way
In grandpop's gentlemanly day.

★ ★ ★

Robust comedy in your grandpop's time was confined to the burlesque wheels. Nobody ever dreamed of bashing Julia Marlowe with a slapstick or bouncing a grapefruit off Maxine Elliott's alabaster brow.

★ ★ ★

Press agents are having a tough time putting over Hollywood feuds these days, with the whole world feuding on the level.

More trouble for the flacks. 'The Anointed' goes in for phychology, which doesn't go over at the b.o. Maybe they can devise a psychological slapstick.

'I, James Lewis' sounds like an actor. Or a foreign correspondent.

★ ★ ★

In distant rural habitats
The summer shows are many.
A lot of actors play strawhats
But don't wear any.

★ ★ ★

With strawhat season getting under way, the cows and chickens up in Suffern are that way.

★ ★ ★

'Life Begins for Andy Hardy', who seems to have more lives than a cat.

★ ★ ★

At morn, at noon or in the night
When music takes its airy flight
And travels far or lingers near,
One endless ballad haunts the ear:
'Amapola.'

★ ★ ★

It may have been logical in days of the Floradora girls to sing 'Tell me, pretty maiden, are there any more at home like you?' But not now. Pretty maidens don't stay home these nights.

★ ★ ★

While the boys are cooking up new ideas for benefits, how about a vocal speed contest between Rosalind Russell and Pat O'Brien? Between them, they could run through a dictionary before you could say 'aardvark.'

★ ★ ★

Old Lady Fashion works her wiles in weird and wondrous ways,
But big, wide hats were never made to wear on windy days.

★ ★ ★

In her next picture Jane Withers glorifies the farmerette, while a million farmerettes are honing to desert the old homestead for Hollywood.

Burbank's newly named thoroughfare, Priscilla Lane, opens the way for further changes in nomenclature. What about Jimmy Street? Or Norman Alley?

An actor kicks about his weekly wage
And battles for a more substantial fee,
But clambers up on yonder night club stage
And gladly sings a flock of songs—for free.

Film Previews and Reviews

Sunny

(*Musical*)

RKO release of a Herbert Wilcox production. Stars Anna Neagle. Features Ray Bolger, John Carroll, Edward Everett Horton, Grace Hartman, Paul Hartman, Frieda Inescort, Helen Westley. Supporting players: Benny Rubin, Muggins Davies, Richard Lane, Martha Tilton. Produced and directed by Herbert Wilcox. Associate producer, Merrill G. White. Screen play, Sig Herzig. From the musical comedy, 'Sunny'; book and lyrics by Otto Harback and Oscar Hammerstein II; music by Jerome Kern. Musical direction, Anthony Collins. Orchestral arrangements, Anthony Collins and Gene Rose. Photography, Russell Metty. Art director, L. P. Williams. Gowns, Edward Stevenson. Edited by Elmo Williams. Recorded by Richard van Hessen. Theatrical decor, Marco Montedoro. Set decorations, Darrell Silvera. Special effects, Vernon L. Walker. Assistant director, Kenneth Holmes. Dances created by Leon Leonidoff; assisted by Aida Broadbent. Previewed at the Academy, Inglewood, May 16. Running time: 97 mins.

Musical-minded ticket buyers will find this version of 'Sunny' to their liking. Tunefully strung together with the melodies of the old stage piece, picture is showmanly handled in all departments to give full value to the Jerome Kern music and the particular talents of its cast headliners. Under the producer-director guidance of Herbert Wilcox, the star, Anna Neagle, clocks off a smart credit, and the two male leads, Ray Bolger with his dancing and funning, and John Carroll with his romantic assignment and vocals, figure importantly.

Story is held to the minimum necessary to provide an adequate basis for the introduction of the musical numbers, but has polished dialog and situations to carry the proceedings off smoothly and logically under the scripting hand of Sig Herzig. Miss Neagle, a circus star, falls in love with John Carroll, a wealthy Southerner, under the influence of a New Orleans Mardi Gras. Plot complications take the form of Carroll's relatives and their attempts to break up the romance, but love triumphs for the happy ending.

Miss Neagle handles her four songs easily with melodic charm, 'Who', which dominates the production; 'Do You Love Me?' 'Sunshine' and 'Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms'. Her dances and dramatic portions are equally impressive.

Bolger, circus dancer and funny man, socks over two dance routines that equal anything previously filmed and makes every bit of his footage stand out. Carroll continues to live up to the promise shown in earlier film ventures, and displays his vocal prowess with 'Sunny' as a solo, and duets with Miss Neagle on two of the other songs.

Edward Everett Horton delivers his standard brand of chuckles in fine fashion. Grace and Paul Hartman don't miss a trick in selling

■ Continued on page 5 ■

Lady From Louisiana

(*Melodrama*)

Republic release of Berhard Vorhaus production. Cast: John Wayne, Ona Munson, Ray Middleton, Henry Stephenson, Helen Westley, Jack Pennick, Dorothy Dandridge, Shimen Ruskin, Jacqueline Dalya, Paul Seardon, Major James H. MacNamara, James C. Morton, Maurice Costello. Director, Benard Vorhaus. Screen play by Vera Caspary, Michael Hogan and Guy Endore. Original story Edward James and Francis Faragoh. Production manager, Al Wilson. Photography, Jack Marta. Supervising editor, Murray Seldeen. Film editor, Edward Mann. Art director, John Victor Mackay. Music director, Cy Feuer. Previewed May 16. Running time: 83 mins.

Romantic, exciting and fast-moving in its melodramatic unfoldment under Bernard Vorhaus' skillful pilotage, 'Lady From Louisiana' stands among the best and most entertaining offerings turned out by Republic.

The story utilizes as plot pattern the control and operation of the old legalized Louisiana lottery and its ramifications, for this narrative, into the realms of power politics and crime. It is a well developed, smoothly told and picturesque script by Vera Caspary, Michael Hogan and Guy Endore, providing credible and interesting roles for John Wayne, Ona Munson, Ray Middleton, Henry Stephenson, Helen Westley and half a dozen other players in support. Original story, carrying the fundamental entertainment elements is by Edward James and Francis Faragoh. Plot core is flanked by many melodramatic excitements, appropriately photographed by Jack Marta—fist fights, two killings, a storm smitten court-house where a trial is in progress and the thunderous thrill of the Mississippi on a violent flood rampage with a steamboat used to ram shut a break in the levee.

All these visual and dramatic elements are thoroughly exploited by Bernard Vorhaus, who carries both the producer and the director responsibilities with unerring showmanship. He also manages to get top performances from the entire cast and to steep the picture in atmosphere which is authentic to the period and the old city behind its then precarious dikes, especially the French tenderloin section where much of the crucial action takes place.

John Wayne turns in a solid enactment as the young northern attorney who comes at request of a crusading reformer, Helen Westley, to eradicate, by legal means, the lottery controlled by Henry Stephenson.

Ona Munson, in her second appearance since 'Gone With the Wind', is beguiling as Stephenson's daughter, a flirtatious belle, who takes over management of her father's properties without knowing their nature until the revelation which reconciles her with Wayne after a

☘ Continued on page 5 ☘

Bury Me Not On the Lone Prairie

(*Western*)

Universal production and release. Cast: Johnny Mack Brown, Fuzzy Knight, Nell O'Day, Kathryn Adams, Harry Cording, Ernie Adams, Jack Rockwell, Ed Cassidy, Don House, Lee Shunway, Pat O'Brien, Frank O'Connor. Directed by Ray Taylor. Assistant director, Charles Gould. Screenplay, Sherman Lowe. Associate producer, Joseph G. Sanford. Photography, Jerome Ash. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, May 16. Running time: 58 mins.

This rough-and-tumble meller harks back to the gold mining era when claimjumpers reasoned things out with bullets. It's moderately exciting fare and serves as a field day for Fuzzy Knight's concertina-playing and mugging. There's the usual quota of fist and gun battling. Story opens with a gold strike by three men who are rubbed out by a group of toughies. One of the prospectors manages to tell of the attack before he expires and Johnny Mack Brown then vows to hunt down the killers.

Fuzzy Knight handles the role of the village clown who wanders off into the hills on a bear hunt, finds gold, loses his memory from a blow on the head, and is captured by the heavies who try to find out where the strike was made. Knight goes completely daffy and insists he's back in the Civil War days.

A few okay cowboy singing sprees unfold as story progresses, with a campfire number possibly the best. Nell O'Day and Kathryn Adams register photographically.

Sheriff of Tombstone

(*Western*)

Republic production and release. Cast: Roy Rogers, George 'Gabby' Hayes, Elyse Knox Addison Richards, Sally Payne, Zeffie Tilbury, Michael Morris, Hal Taliaferro, Harry Woods, Jay Novello, Jack Ingram, Helen Gibson, Carl Sepulveda, Payne Johnson, June Muir, Boots Brown, Roy Bancroft. Directed by Joseph Kane. Screenplay, Olive Cooper. From original story by James Webb. Photography, Bill Nobles. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, May 16. Running time: 60 mins.

Roy Rogers and bewhiskered George 'Gabby' Hayes register unusually good as a team for films of this type—Rogers as the heroic law defender with Hays as the sharpshooting comic. Production has been handled satisfactorily from the staging as well as the casting angles. There are a couple of sequences that are reminiscent and good impressions of more pretentious drama.

Action is maintained at a fairly good pace all the way through, with the usual sprinkling of gunfights, brawls and chasing episodes. Sally Payne puts across a western barroom ballad about a guy named 'Two-Gun Pete', assisted by a bartender chorus. She later sings a torch number which is okay but not quite as suitable. Songstress impresses as a strong entry for comedy and vocal assignments, though not the type for romantic feminine leads.

Story is conventional material patterned about a crooked mayor of Tombstone who hires a notorious killer named Shotgun Cassidy (Harry Woods) as sheriff in order to run the Carson family off their mine. Roy Rogers appears on the scene, impersonates Shotgun for a while, and turns the tables. Zeffie Tilbury, as Granny Carson, turns in a good performance, while Jay Novello and Elyse Knox are adequate in supporting roles.

The Return of Daniel Boone

(*Western*)

Columbia production and release. Stars Bill Elliott. Supporting cast: Betty Miles, Dub Taylor, Ray Bennett, Walter Soderling, Carl Stockdale, Bud Osborne, Francis Walker, Lee Powell, Tom Carter, Edmund Cobb, Rodik Twins. Directed by Lambert Hillyer. Assistant director, Milton Carter. Screen play, Paul Franklin and Joseph Hoffman. Story by Paul Franklin. Film editor, Mel Thorsen. Photography, Philip Tannura. Previewed May 17. Running time: 60 mins.

Standing of Bill Elliott with considerable following among horse opera addicts will carry this one through the grinds for the usual returns. Productionally, however, film lacks speed and drive. Weak comedy sequences are primarily responsible for slowing the proceedings. The Rodik Twins, figuring in this phase as two guitar-playing cowgirls on the make for Dub Taylor, are acceptable, but comedy interludes are overlong, painstakingly unfunny and serve chiefly as interference to smooth narration.

Bill Elliott plays the grandson and namesake of Daniel Boone, frontiersman. He appears in Pecos in the nick of time to prevent the crooked mayor from selling out all the ranchers by means of exhorbitant taxation. Hired to enforce collection of the tax money, Elliott brings the criminals to justice. Plot structure is fundamentally unconvincing and rather uncertain, with climax dependent on pinning culpability on the ringleader because he knew the combination to the sheriff's safe. Bill Elliott registers favorably as the strong, silent (except when shooting) man of the west, handles a gun and a horse with skill, and photographs well.

Henry Grace Renamed

Annual election of officers by the Society of Motion Picture Interior Decorators retains Henry Grace for fourth year as president, and installs Hugh Hunt as vice-president, Paul R. Moyer as secretary-treasurer.

Schwartz WB Deal

Myron Schwartz, writer and producer of the shorts series, 'Hobbies of the Stars', has closed a releasing deal with Warners and delivered the first subject, a polo briefie.

WILLIAM MORRIS
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VIRGINIA GREY
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National Conference Of Writers Opens At UCLA Friday

The first national conference of writers in every field, sponsored by the Authors League of America, opens at 8 p.m. Friday (23) at the University of California at Los Angeles. Ralph Freud, lecturer in public speaking at the university, will deliver the welcoming address. Sheridan Gibney, prexy of the Screen Writers Guild, will act as chairman of the evening's symposium.

Marc Connelly will open the Conference with a talk on 'The Social Function of the Writer'. Mary C. McCall, Jr., will speak on 'Magazine Writing and the Screen'. She will be followed by Preston Sturges, who will deliver an address on 'Writing and Directing for Films'. Georgia Backus, who originated the experimental laboratory which later became the Columbia workshop for the radio network, will speak on 'The Radio—Today and Tomorrow'. 'Form and Substance In the Theatre' will be the subject of an address by S. N. Behrman. The Conference will close with a talk by James Hilton on 'The Point of View of the Novelist'.

The Authors League, which is sponsoring the conference is composed of the Authors Guild, the Radio Writers Guild and the Screen Writers Guild.

Topsy's Now Trianon For Ellington

Topsy's nitery in Southgate has changed its name to the Trianon for the opening (22) of Duke Ellington's band. Deal by William Morris office is the first for the spot. Following the engagement Ellington goes into the sepia revue, 'Jump For Joy', opening July 2 at Mayan.

Yates, Grainger Start Republic Regional

First of Republic's regional sales meetings for the year starts today and continues through tomorrow at the studio, with Herbert J. Yates and James R. Grainger presiding over assembly of branch managers, studio executives and salesmen.

Morris, Jr., Heads In

Arriving over the weekend from New York for a series of huddles at the William Morris office were William Morris, Jr., Johnny Hyde and Nat Lefkowitz.

Lorraine, Ragnan Bow

Lorraine and Ragnan, New York dance team, will make their film debut in 'The Fleet's In' at Paramount.

Liaison For Hop Of Army B-19

Robert Coleson, administration executive of the radio branch, bureau of public relations, of the War Department, arrived from Washington over the weekend to act as liaison between the networks and the air corps on the trial flight of the Army's B-19, scheduled for sometime this week. All major chains will carry a ground description of the plane and take-off.

WHO'S WHO!

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

people employed by them. And right now, this method is a mistake.

There are several hundred or more foreigners employed in studios here. Many of them come from nations that are none too friendly to democracies. Many of them quite possibly could be foreign government agents. And if some of them were compelled to give their entire history, it is quite likely that the United States Government might be interested in them selfishly—yes, selfishly for the good of our government and the people who seek shelter within its domain.

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RECENTLY an effort was made to check on an alien who had been employed in one of the studios. At first the studio stated he was not on the payroll. After being asked to go further into the matter, execs replied the man had been off the payroll for four months. They said the record showed he was born in an Axis power country, had dependents living in another country—but no further information about him was recorded or obtainable. There are around 100 other aliens employed at this particular studio, and should an emergency arise and an effort be made to check the histories of any of these people—should they suddenly vanish—the Government would be out of luck.

☆ ☆ ☆

WE ARE hopeful there are no people employed in the industry who might be destructively inclined toward the United States. But if there are, and should a check be required on them, the studios should start immediately to get a thorough history so that for National Defense purposes the industry would be helpful to its Government.

It might take a little time to get the necessary history of all, but the time taken now will be well worth while should a situation arise internationally that might cause the United States to take under its wing people who quite likely would be found ready to function for governments that are belligerently inclined toward ours.

—A. U.

Universal Continues Insurance For U.S. Service Men

Group insurance held for Universal's personnel will be continued by the company for all men called to the military, the studio has announced.

In addition, up to four weeks salaries will be paid to those draftees or volunteers who have been in the employ of Universal for more than two years. Those on the payroll less than a year will receive one week's salary, while those who have been with the company from one to two years get two weeks paycheck.

Newill To St. Louis

Jimmy Newill left yesterday for St. Louis to sing the lead male role in the Hammerstein-Romberg operetta, 'New Orleans', to get its world premiere June 5 by the municipal opera group there.

In from the East

Milton Feld
S. Barret McCormick
John Hyde
Nat Lefkowitz
Irene Rich
Charles Butterworth
Sam Spewack
Spencer Tracy (SF)
Mrs. Eddie Cantor (SF)

Kent F-WC Group Sked Frisco 20th Buying Session

Larry Kent, film buying and booking head for Fox-West Coast, Cullen Espy, Los Angeles city district manager, and Pete Lundgren, statistician, are scheduled to go up to San Francisco to set product deals with 20th-Fox for the northern California houses.

Local contingent will sit in with Charlie Thall, F-WC theatre and film buying exec in Frisco, and Herman Wobber. Wobber left for San Francisco last week.

'Tiger' For Wilson

Next of Carey Wilson's Miniatures for Metro will be 'The Lady or the Tiger', based on the short story by Frank Stockton.

Heading East

Frank Nugent
Larry Fine (UP)
Lester Guthrie (UP)
William Howard
William Murray
Cole Porter
Arthur Freed
Wynn Rocamora
Charles Davis
M. White
Olivia de Havilland
Arthur Arling
Jane Seymour

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

TED LEWIS, his orchestra and troupe of acts on completion of featured place in Universal's 'Oh, Charley', leave for Kansas City, Mo., for week's personals starting (30) and will remain on tour in east and Canada until fall. . . . Bryan Foy did not get that Majority appointment tendered him in the Picture Division of the U. S. Signal Corps. Physical exam spiked it. . . . The Benjamin Holzmans (he's with William Morris agency) announced engagement of their daughter, Gertrude, to Armin Wittenberg, Jr.

Bob Brewster, Kraft Music Hall producer, is taking bows for picking 'em (out of a hat). Early last week he journeyed down to San Diego to set a test pilot for the guest spot on June 5 broadcast. The chap he booked was none other than Lieut. W. W. Lowrey, who engineered that spectacular rescue of a marine dangling in mid air when his parachute got caught in the plane. Guest date was moved up fast to Thursday.

TEDDI SHERMAN, daughter of Harry Sherman, is rehearsing for appearance in two plays at the Pasadena Community Playhouse. 'Whistling For a Wind', a tragedy, opens June 10 and 'Manana Is Another Day', a comedy, opens June 17. . . . Edward Arnold, Irene Rich, Jackie Cooper, Bonita Granville, John Charles Thomas and Maureen O'Hara participated in the I Am An American program yesterday in Hollywood Bowl. William Farnum took part in similar services between baseball games at Gilmore field. . . . Constance Bennett made a photographer's eyes pop right out of his head Saturday afternoon. She made 13 complete changes of ensemble for a fashion layout in a little less than an hour. Photog had planned to spend entire afternoon in snapping her new wardrobe. You should have seen his face when he climbed back into his car with 36 exposed plates.

'You've Gone', new tune by Harry Peale, RKO cashier, and Allien Lair, has been taken by Dave Marshall for nightly playing at the Florentine Gardens.

BERNIE GROSSMAN and Richard Hageman cleffing three original songs for Frank Lloyd's 'I, James Lewis', at Universal. . . . Paramount is looking for singing role for Martha O'Driscoll after she finishes her next assignment in 'Reap the Wild Wind.' . . . Federal Union dinner meeting will be held at the Beverly Hills hotel tomorrow, with Basil Rathbone as emcee. Program will be transcribed by KMTR, KMPC and KFWB, to be released Wednesday. Federal Union is Clarence K. Streit's proposal that all democracies unite on a single foreign policy. . . . Flock of Warners workers fled from Sound Stage No. 2 Saturday when fire of an undetermined origin caused damage of $1,500.

WB Shorts Subjects Program Hits New High; 86 Skeded

Short subjects program for Warners this year tops all previous schedules with a total of 86, now arranged and classified by Gordon Hollingshead as production head of the department.

There will be six two-reel Technicolors; 12 two-reel black and whites; 10 one-reel Master Melody Bands; 10 one-reel Color Parades; six one-reel Vitaphone Varieties; 16 Looney Tunes and 26 Merrie Melodies, the last two cartoon series produced by Leon Schlesinger.

The 1941-42 program already is under way.

New Extra Deal Seen

A new deal providing for reclassification of extra pay brackets is expected to be set today at a conference between representatives of the Producers and the Screen Actors Guild. The negotiators spent some time Friday discussing the proposals, but finally agreed to adjourn until today.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY DOUBLE-HEADERS

Seattle, 9-5; Hollywood, 7-4.
San Diego, 4-2; Los Angeles 3-5.
Oakland, 5-1; Portland, 1-6.
Sacramento, 22-8; San Francisco, 6-3.

SATURDAY SCORES

Hollywood, 1; Seattle, 0.
San Diego, 8; Los Angeles, 3.
Portland, 3; Oakland, 0.
San Francisco, 7; Sacramento, 6.

FRIDAY GAMES

Portland, 8; Oakland, 3.
Seattle, 5; Hollywood, 4.
Sacramento, 4-8; San Francisco, 2-4 (double-header).
Los Angeles, 9; San Diego, 6.

NAB QUESTIONS FLY'S QUALIFICATIONS FOR FCC

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

been saying. We leave it to the public judgment whether the state of mind exhibited by Mr. Fly qualifies him to be chairman of a government commission calling for judicial impartiality.'

Charge also was leveled by NAB that Fly had made his charges after declining repeated invitations to address the delegates following the talk of Mark Ethridge, in which he flayed Fly's administration of the Federal Communication Commission.

Board of NAB was reorganized without representation from Mutual as Fred Weber, general manager of that network, withdrew his name as candidate for re-election. His act followed the withdrawal of three principal stockholders of Mutual because of differences with the leadership of the other major nets over the FCC monopoly report and dispute with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers.

Representatives of newspaper-owned station met over the weekend and discussed plans for assembling and presenting data at hearings before FCC on whether they should be allowed to continue the dual operation. Harold Hough, manager of three stations operated by Ft. Worth Star-Telegram, presided.

Neville Miller, NAB prexy, said he would appoint a radio national defense committee to confer with officials of the Army, Navy and State departments on developing national defense broadcasts. He declared that radio has helped recruit 375,000 skilled workers for the two branches of the service and will continue its aid for the enlistment of 10,000 flyers for the Navy and 30,000 for the Army wing. He added that radio is assisting in the sale of defense bonds and aided in obtaining nearly $30,000,000 for war relief in Europe and elsewhere.

Five new members elected to the board were James Woodruff, Columbus, Ga.; Don Elias, Asheville, N. C.; Charles Meyers, Portland, Ore.; J. O. Maland, Des Moines; James D. Shouse, Cincinnati.

Interest in the Ascap controversy and the FCC's reports and recommendations attracted 1,100 delegates to the convention, high attendance mark in the history of the organization.

Einfeld Leaves NY

S. Charles Einfeld trains from New York today for the Coast after a month's stay in the east going over advertising and exploitation plans on forthcoming Warners product.

Ill in Pix

RAY GARBER back in Columbia's transportation department after a five-month stay in the Sawtelle veterans' hospital for serious operation.

KAY HARRIS temporarily out of title role of 'Tillie the Toiler' at Columbia until she recovers from a throat operation.

JOE BREEN expected to check out of Hollywood hospital tomorrow after recovering from strep throat condition.

FRANK CAPRA'S MOTHER is seriously ill at the Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

Jack O'Donnell, Par Suit on Pic Credits Transfers Courts

Breach of contract suit filed by Jack O'Donnell against Paramount Pictures, Inc., involving scripting screen credits on 'Arise My Love' has been transferred from the Superior to the U. S. District court on motion of the defendants. Paramount has posted $1,000 bond in accordance with legal requirements when a change under the circumstances is sought. O'Donnell is suing for $50,000 damages claiming that when he sold story for $3,000 entitled 'At Your Service', which was later allegedly produced under title of 'Arise My Love', it was understood that he would receive screen credit. Sydney M. Williams is attorney for the plaintiff.

Le Borg's 'Revels'

Reginald Le Borg has been signed at Universal to direct the second unit on studio's 'Radio Revels of 1942.'

a.m. Dailies

Sell Mix Belongings—

Furnishings, automobiles and some of the horses once used by the late Tom Mix will go on the auction block here Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Sale has been decreed to settle the Mix estate.

Gene Fowler Vacashes—

Gene Fowler, his wife and his son, Will, are en route to Hawaii and the South Seas for a vacation. Writer and family left Friday aboard the Lurline.

Film Previews

Sunny

■ Continued from page 3 ■

their comedy-dance style. Frieda Inescort is an elegant chief menace. Helen Westley does another of her humorous crusty 'aunty' characters. Benny Rubin is funny as the owner of the trained seal. Muggins Davies does well by a small part. Richard Lane is seen briefly as a reporter, and Martha Tilton walks away with a single vocal assignment.

Wilcox brings on the songs and dances logically, holding each to the proper length, and unwinds the production at a pace that belies its 97 minutes' running time. Merrill G. White aided as associate producer. Topnotch credits are earned by the technical names — Russell Metty's camera work; the musical direction by Anthony Collins and his orchestral arrangements with Gene Rose; theatrical decor by Marco Montedoro and art direction by L. P. Williams; the set decorations by Darrell Silvera, the dances by Leon Leonidoff and Aida Broadbent, Edward Stevenson's gowns, and others.

Lady From Louisiana

☘ Continued from page 3 ☘

break fomented by Ray Middleton. Miss Munson's performance is a standout. Middleton has a fine voice and plays his villainous role with exemplary restraint. Stephenson as a powerful city boss is well cast. Helen Westley puts raucous vigor and solid characterization into her attack on the lottery crowd. Jack Pennick makes a good slugging heavy. Dorothy Dandridge reads her lines well as the maid. Shimen Ruskin and Jacqueline Dalya imprint their minor roles skillfully.

River scenes are effectively cut into the dramatic footage and the special effects to sock the spectacular thrills are exceptionally well managed. Cy Feuer contributed an appropriate music score, and the pictorial quality of the picture and its presentation are advantageous to the company and its producer.

SCREEN DIRECTORS' GUILD, INC.

Annual Dinner Meeting

and

Election of Officers

TONIGHT

at

CIRO'S

7:30 P.M.

All Guild Members Are Urged To Attend

Boothmen Threaten 'Road Call' In Universal Jam

Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165 has voted to ask the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes to invoke the 'road call' against Universal Pictures unless the studio agrees to employ projectionists on machines now being operated by film cutters. It was agreed that if the International fails to act, James Brigham, Local 165 prexy, will be instructed to call a special membership meeting to take a strike vote against the company.

A motion to take a strike vote was made at the meeting Friday, but after some discussion an amendment was adopted providing for first asking cooperation of the International. It was pointed out that five projectionists are new being deprived of jobs at the studio, and that efforts to eliminate the situation have extended over a period of years. The membership was unanimous in agreeing that the time had arrived to force action, several stating that the union could eliminate its out-of-work list by strict enforcement at all studios of the IATSE contract requiring that only IATSE members handle projection machines.

It was reported that at least one projectionist is being deprived of a job at RKO, Paramount and Republic under similar circumstances, but that the work of at least five projectionists is being done by film cutters at Universal. It was indicated that the other studios would fall into line if Universal agreed to employ projectionists. It was stated that the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors was anxious to cooperate, but that it had no alternative when its members were directed to man the machines.

If the International agreed to invoke the 'road call' it would mean that the IATSE would refuse to handle Universal productions pending settlement of the grievance.

Technicians Local 683 Backs Committee

Members of Studio Film Technicians Local 683 at a meeting yesterday adopted a unanimous vote of confidence in its negotiating committee. The group meets today with Fred Pelton, Producer-Labor contact, to discuss proposed contract revisions. The negotiating committee is composed of Dave Lory, Russell McKnight, John R. Martin, Melvin Young, Norval Crutcher.

~ Play Reviews ~

PINS AND NEEDLES

Latest version of this perennial Labor Stage musical revue, current at the Biltmore, has lost none of the spicy satire and sparkle that established it as a three-year favorite in New York. Since the one-year Broadway run of this, the most recent of the revised 'Pins' editions, several new skits have been added, notably 'The Poker Players', in which are four easily recognizable characters known as Adolph, Phui, Jot and Benny. This is a hilarious cutthroat play for power sketch about the Nazis, Japs, Fascists and Soviets. 'Alone On a Lone Prairie' and 'Hold On To Your Hats, Boys', also are new additions, all of which were necessitated because of the 16-week run in Chicago and other long engagements on the road.

Song and dance man Bernie Gould displays remarkable versatility in takeoffs on Hitler, Senator Bob Reynolds and the cowboy who hates the lone prairie. Others prominent in the cast are Harry Clark, Al Eben, Millie Weitz, Dorothy Harrison, Ella Gerber, Elise Bregman, Ida Mandel and Allan Saxe. Standout numbers are 'The Red Mikado', a parody on Gilbert and Sullivan and all the recent Mikados on Broadway, in which Lindbergh, Henry Ford and Capital figure largely; 'The Harmony Boys', a satire on Fritz Kuhn, Father Coughlin and Senator Bob Reynolds; 'Paradise Mislaid', in which Clifford Odets comes in for a ribbing.

Tunes, dances and dialog, shrewdly designed to pan groups as well as individuals, including the D.A.R. and G-Man Edgar Hoover, are consistently amusing despite occasional bitterness.

Harold J. Rome wrote the lyrics and music, Joseph Schrank wrote the skits, Robert H. Jordan is responsible for the staging and Louis Schaffer produced. The show is here for a run of two and a half weeks and possibly longer, depending on grosses. It's geared at $1.50 top for Friday and Saturday nights, $1 top week nights, and 75c top matinees.

Tunes For 20th 'Yank'

Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger have completed 'Another Little Dream Won't Do Us Any Harm' and 'Hi-ya, Love', new tunes to be included in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' at 20th-Fox. Their next song writing assignment is for studio's 'Cadet Girl.'

JACK KELLY

Announces the opening

of his

PUBLICITY OFFICES

7046 Hollywood Blvd. HO. 2741

VICTORIA AND HER HUSSAR

This foreign importation fits snugly enough in the operetta revival cycle at the Mason, even at the advanced tariff of 99c, but it won't find sufficient favor with local theatregoers to warrant any extra trips to the bank. It's too dated and continental, albeit well performed and tuneful in its content. It's being staged for the first time in this country, although the notices credit it with great success in the capitals of Europe. Which might conjure up the thought, if it's so terrif, why hasn't it been done here before? It would pale before such competish as Friml, Romberg, Hammerstein, Kern, Herbert, Harbach, et al.

Whatever its fate, it does present a cast standout in Vicki Campbell, recent English musicomedy fav and a definite bet for filmusicals. Possessing a warm soprano voice and a neat flair for dramatics, she is the stately type of the Irene Dunne order. If that isn't enough for the film scouts, she's also a looker and plays the title role with the ease and grace of the finished prima donna that she is. She's worth a few hundred feet of any studio's test celluloid.

Her supporting cast is over par for this operetta cycle. Glen Bard, the romantic hussar, is shy on dash but uncorks a nice set of pipes. Pamela Caveness as the pert maid, and the comedy antics of Herbert Wiere and John Pelletti, lend capable aid to the breezy unfoldment of the Graustarkian tale that roams over Japan, Russia and Hungary for colorful scenic effect.

Considering the scale out front and on stage it is an ambitious effort in mounting and costuming. Chorus of some 25 mixed singers and dancers is well drilled and goes through the routines with precision and verve.

Arthur Spitz, Impresario of Mason operettas, will keep the house lighted through the summer, the reports being that he has fresh bankrolling for the enterprise. There was some talk of closing couple of weeks ago when trade began to dwindle, but the upped night scale and additional backing is expected to give it the needed resuscitation.

Sues Over 'Lizzie' Tune

Action for 'statutory damages' charging G. Schirmer Music Stores, Inc. with infringement of copyright on a song entitled 'Lizzie' has been filed in U. S. District court by Ernest Dale Brown, composer. Brown alleges that the song entitled 'Dina' has theme similar to that in 'Lizzie' on which plaintiff contends he secured a copyright in 1923. Carlos G. Stratton is attorney of record for Brown.

H'wood Antics

Paul Hernried, recently put under contract at RKO, draws a name change to Paul Hammond for film work. He is now motoring to the Coast from New York and reports at the studio around June 1 for his first assignment.

Wedlock, Snyder Report To Capra Today On 'Tomorrow'

Frank Capra has purchased 'Tomorrow Never Comes', new story by Hugh Wedlock and Howard Snyder, and has signed writers to do the screenplay. Capra plans story as his next production, and Wedlock and Snyder report for scripting duty today. They just completed work Saturday on 'San Antonio Rose' at Universal.

Purchase of property gives Capra two stories for filming, the other being 'The Flying Yorkshireman', acquired from Frank Lloyd.

SWG STRIKE MOVE UP TONIGHT

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

they would be acceptable to the membership.

The Producers are said to have offered a minimum wage of $50 per week, and to have renewed their old demands for ownership of all story material turned out by scriveners during their layoff periods. It is understood the two groups also have not been able to get together on the Guild demands for abolition of all speculative writing and for elimination of flat deals under $5,000.

The Guild executive board met Saturday afternoon to complete plans for tonight's session. At that time, the following statement was handed out:

'The Screen Writers Guild faces the most important issue in the organization's history tonight armed with telegrams from the major guilds and unions expressing sympathetic encouragement in the critical stage of current negotiations with the Producers. These wires will be read to the Writers Guild meeting, which promises to overflow in attendance, prior to submitting the film producers' counter proposals by the negotiating committee for the writers.

'Wires poured in over the weekend to Sheridan Gibney, president of the Screen Writers Guild, from Herb Sorrell, of the Painters Local; the Screen Actors Guild, the Screen Directors Guild, Screen Cartoonists Guild, Screen Publicists Guild, Set Designers, Screen Readers Guild, Laboratory Technicians, Screen Office Employes Guild and the Musicians Union. It was reported the SWG would meet with representatives of other unions tomorrow night.

The Producers-SWG pact expired April 10, and at that time the writers announced that the skeleton agreement would not be renewed.

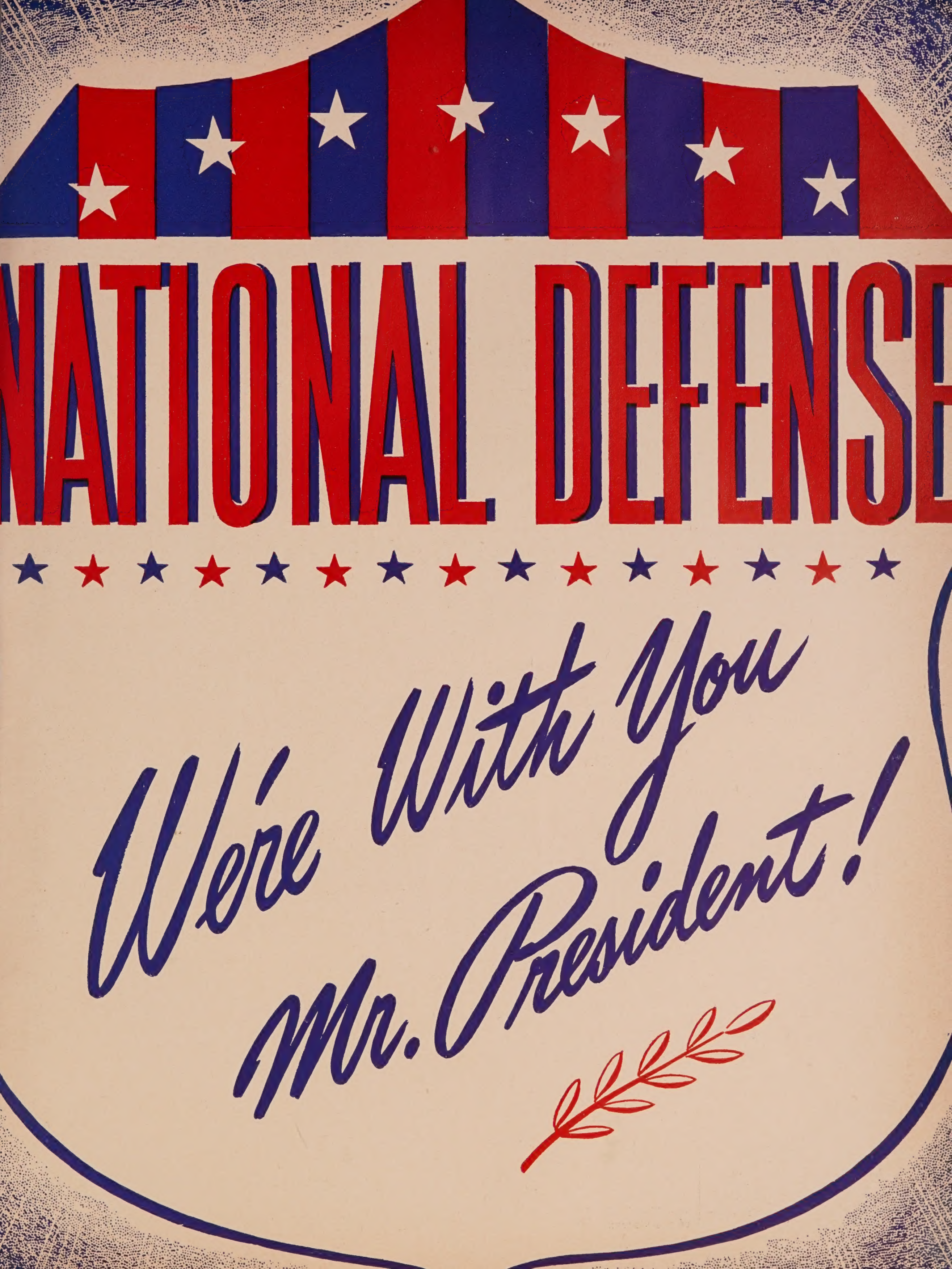
Set Harry Davenport

Harry Davenport joins the featured players in 'Hurricane Smith' at Republic.

Story Buys

Metro has purchased 'The Anointed', novel by Clyde Brion Davis, first published in 1937 by Farrar & Rinehart and republished in 1938 by the Sundial Press.

20th-Fox has purchased 'In Search of Freedom', unpublished novel by Alfonso Pulido Islas.



NATIONAL DEFENSE

We're With You Mr. President!

Minneapolis Arbiter Decision Upholds Distributors

Minneapolis, May 18.—First decision in an arbitration case here upholds the distributors right, under the consent decree, to restrict a particular exhibitor from showing its pictures with vaudeville or from advertising them in newspapers as part of dual bills even though other theatres in the community have been permitted these practices. Paramount gave such violations of application provisions as its reason for refusal to approve a contract with David Gillman for servicing the latter's Gayety, local downtown grind house. Arbitrator P. J. Mackey, ruling in the distributor's favor and against the complaining exhibitor, held that it had not refused to license its pictures to the exhibitor in violation of consent decree's Section 6.

Gillman had charged Paramount's $20 average price for pictures was 'exorbitant' and its restrictions constituted 'unreasonable booking conditions.'

FLEMING RENAMED BY GRIPS 80

Robert Fleming has been re-elected president of Motion Picture Studio Grips Local 80 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. Other officers are Thomas Moore, vice-prexy; Ray Schultz, financial secretary; William Holbrook, recording secretary; W. C. Barrett, business representative; Al Teague, sergeant-at-arms.

Gene Fribourg was elected to the executive board, and Paul Way, Jack Sanders, Frank Thompson and George Callerman were re-elected to the board. Barrett defeated Owen Crompton and Joseph Dixon in a three-way race.

F-WC Seeks Redlands Spot In House Shift

Fox-West Coast is scouting for another location in Redlands where the lease on the State theatre, currently under Fox operation, is reportedly being taken over by an independent exhib beginning Aug. 1. F-WC has operated the Redlands, owned by A. G. Allen, for approximately seven years.

Obituary

JOHN E. REAGAN

Funeral services will be conducted at Pierce Brothers Chapel, probably Thursday, for John Edward Reagan, 56, father of Ronald Reagan, who died from a heart attack here yesterday. He is survived by the actor, his widow and another son, Neil. Ronald Reagan and his wife were at the Variety Clubs convention in Atlantic City when they were notified. They are returning here by train.

LEO H. FELD

Milton Feld returns to his desk at Universal tomorrow after attending the funeral of his father, Leo H. Feld, 74, who died Saturday, in Kansas City. Feld planed east Friday night after receiving word his father was seriously ill.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 1 A.M.

As the result of a poll taken among majority of music publishers, Accurate Reporting Service, which logs radio plugs, last Tuesday (13) eliminated NBC and CBS from its listening posts and confined its network plugs checkup to WOR, New York, key for the Mutual network, which, that same day, resumed broadcasting Ascap music. By its change in policy, Accurate Reporting Service left Broadcast Music Inc. without any established checking source for its own plugs on the three CBS and NBC outlets. BMI announced last Friday (16) it expects to start furnishing this information Monday (19) via master logs obtained from NBC and CBS. Following are the leading plug tunes which prevailed on Mutual during the four days starting Tuesday through Friday night, thus explaining the small number of plugs since the weekend is not included. Furthermore, Mutual network's log, which is a temporary arrangement, now eliminates daytime checking and starts its listening post from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Title	Publisher	Total
My Sister and I	BMI	5
Dolores	Paramount	4
Don't Cry, Cherie	Brown-Henderson	4
Last Time I Saw Paris	Chappell	4
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro-Bernstein	4
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway	3
Until Tomorrow	Robbins	3
Things I Love	Campbell	3
Amapola	Marks	2
Georgia On My Mind	Southern	2
Aurora	Robbins	2
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	2
I Understand	Feist	2
Here's My Heart	BMI	2
Yours	Marks	2

Industry in Huge Welcome To L-A Naval Staff Officers

Mickey Rooney and his break-away drums (strictly an ad-lib on the part of the snares) were a good sample of the enthusiasm behind the film industry's welcoming luncheon Saturday at Metro to the visiting officers of the Naval General Staffs of the Latin-American Republics. An industry affair, each company contributed heavily of production time and talent to clearly show their position on solidarity between the two Americas.

Every available film name, both talent and executive, were on hand to pay tribute to the visitors, with Y. Frank Freeman, president of the Motion Picture Producers Association, acting as official host for the industry. Speeches were brief, as were the introduction of the various personalities in attendance, so that the more serious side could quickly make way for the top array of entertainers to give the naval chiefs a large order of Hollywood hospitality.

Freeman, speaking of the tour of the Latin-American officers, said, 'We are trying in the best way we know how to show our appreciation of the work you are doing for the Americas.' He emphasized the importance of motion pictures doing everything possible to maintain good will among the peoples of North and South America in a brief talk of welcome to the visitors. Jock Whitney called for a toast to the naval visitors, and Vice Admiral Jose Machado de Castro e Silva, Chief of the Naval General Staff of Brazil, spoke briefly and introduced Rear Adimiral Gustavo A. Schroder, Chief of the Naval General Staff of Uruguay, for a short talk. Whitney then took over again and made a fast introduction of the film names present, each coming in for a bow to the crowd of around 400 present.

Cesar Romero emceed the entertainment program, doing the introductions in Spanish for the benefit of the visitors.

SMPE Will Discuss Fine Grain Film At Par Sesh (22)

Production use of fine grain film for sound recording, re-recording and adaptation for release prints; will be topic of meeting of Pacific Coast Section, Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Thursday evening, May 22,at Paramount studio theatre.

James R. Wilkinson, superintendent of Paramount Laboratories, will deliver paper on laboratory aspects in processing the fine grain material; John Hilliard, transmission engineer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer sound department will describe use of fine grain film for recording purposes; and Paramount sound chief, Loren Ryder, will discuss his studio's 100 per cent fine grain film program recently installed throughout, and to include all release printing.

Jack Goldman Called For Army Service

Jack Goldman, owner of the Pico, Park and Empire theatres, has received notice to report for Army service. Draft board officials conceded Goldman 90 days in which to arrange his affairs, taking cognizance of the complicated nature of show business.

Hall At Newhall

Harold Hall, formerly with the Jimmy Edwards circuit, is opening the Newhall theatre in the Valley shortly. He is currently dickering for product along film row.

Jimmy Griffin Shifted

Jimmy Griffin, head booker for Warners in Salt Lake City, has been shifted to sales there.

Film Div. Signal Corps Getting Four-Week Duty at Salinas

Group from Motion Picture Division of Signal Corps, Reserve, will get four-week duty at Hunter Liggett Military Camp, Salinas, from June 1-28.

They will be attached to 60th Signal Corps Battalion for duty. Those included in list are Capt. James Hammond, from Warners sound department; 1st Lieut. Lloyd Goldsmith, Warners sound department; 2nd Lieut. E. B. Levenson, Warners sound department; 2nd Lieut Jules Bick, still photographer; Lieut. Jack L. Warner, Jr., Warners producer and 2nd Lieut. Matthew Milton Sperling, 20th-Fox producer.

Jack Warner, Jr., now in New York gets back this week.

Newman Warns APC Of Trouble Makers

Members of Affiliated Property Craftsmen Local 44 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes met yesterday morning to install new officers. Steve B. Newman, IATSE international representative, and Cappy DuVal, Local 44 business representative, spoke on the activities of subversive elements in the studios. Newman told the members, 'You will always have trouble makers in your midst, but they will be dealt with adequately.' He said the situation was being watched and that very soon the union would have something on 'these people.'

Col. R'cding Parleys Resume Today

Negotiations between Columbia Recording Corp. and its striking employes are scheduled to be resumed at 9:30 a.m. today. The question of seniority rights of workers is the biggest obstacle to be overcome, both groups expressing the belief they could get together on minimum wages if the seniority matter is settled. The company is insisting on departmental seniority, with the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Unions demanding plant-wide seniority.

Picture Players Booked For Greek Relief

Gail Patrick, Rosemary Lane and Cesar Romero have been booked for appearances on behalf of Greek War Relief in Springfield, Mass., May 21, and Boston, May 29. Plan to spend intervening period in New York.

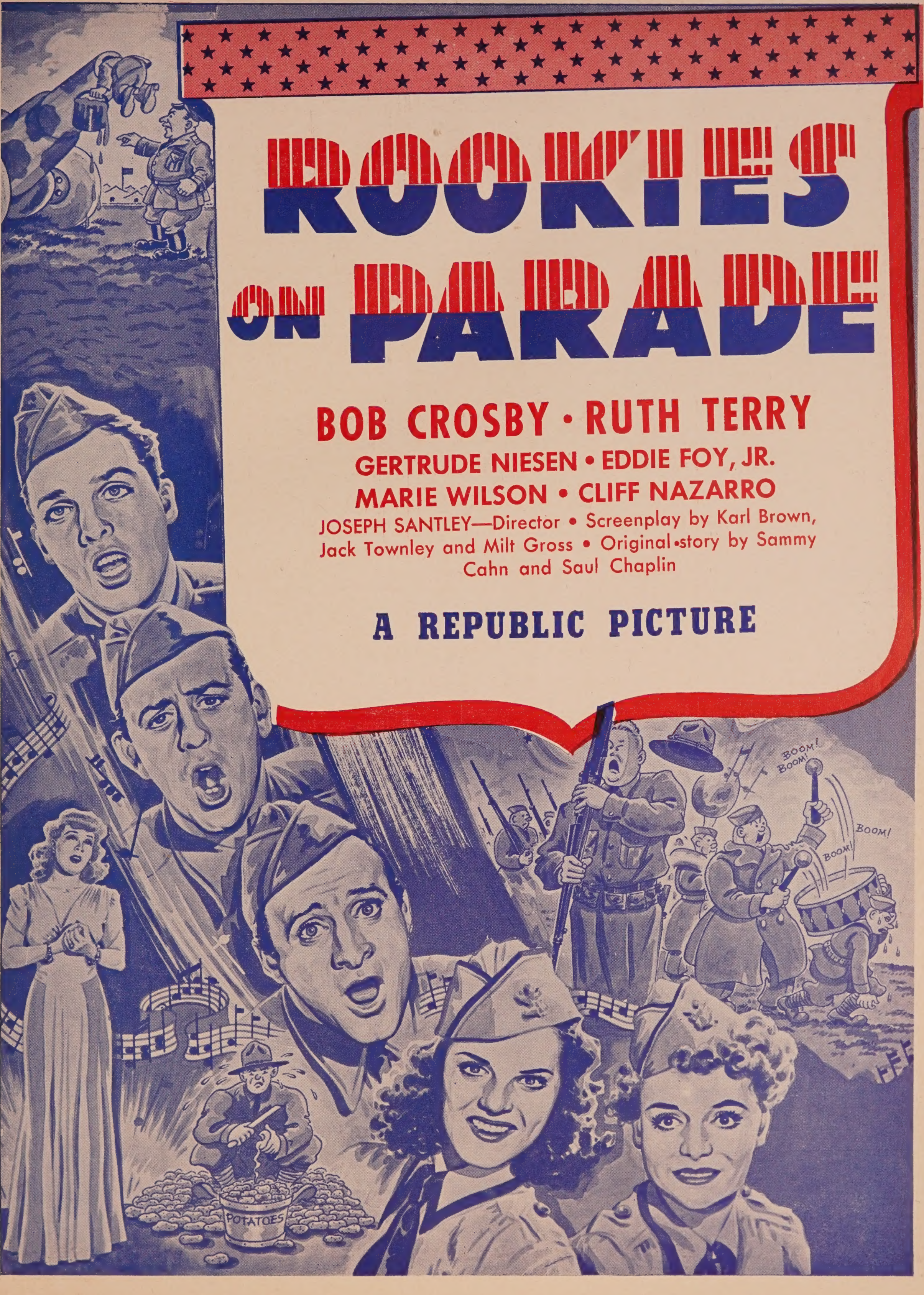
SOEG Talks Resuming

Proposed contract talk between the major companies and the Screen Office Employes Guild are being resumed this week. The SOEG negotiating committee meets tonight with RKO executives, tomorrow night with Universal, Thursday with Metro, and Friday with Columbia.

Title Changes

'Campus Rhythm', Hal Roach, to 'All-American Girl'.

OCEAN FRONT BARGAIN
Two Story Santa Monica Home, like new, offered at terrific sacrifice. Approximately value of lot.
CRestview 67151 GUY PRICE CO.


BOOM! BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!
POTATOES

ROOKIES ON PARADE

BOB CROSBY · RUTH TERRY

GERTRUDE NIESEN • EDDIE FOY, JR.
MARIE WILSON • CLIFF NAZARRO

JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director • Screenplay by Karl Brown, Jack Townley and Milt Gross • Original story by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Schlesinger Closes Studio in Pact Row with SCG

● Continued from page 1 ●

tops said that Schlesinger had jumped the gun, and that his action amounted to a lockout of employes since no stoppage of work had actually started. SCG leaders, however, said the only real difference with the company was over the length of contract to be inked, and expressed hopes that an agreement would be reached within a few days which would permit reopening of the studio.

The SCG submitted a one-year contract, but Schlesinger insisted on a three-year deal. The union said that because of unsettled conditions and the rising cost of living, it did not feel justified in tying up the men's wages for three years, unless the contract provided for reopening it annually on the question of wages, as is provided in contracts of the Screen Actors Guild, Screen Direcotrs Guild and other studio crafts. The union also is demanding a minimum of $85 per week for Class 1 animators, with Schlesinger seeking to set the figure at $75.

The union stated that Schlesinger formerly agreed to a one-year contract, and that it felt this issue was settled when it started negotiating on wages. George E. Bodle, counsel for the Guild, said an answer to the SCG demands was awaited from Harry G. Sadicoff, Schlesinger's attorney, but that none was received and the workers then learned that the plant had been closed.

Attorney Sadicoff issued the following statement for Schlesinger:

'In December, 1940, a committee of employes of Leon Schlesinger called upon him for the purpose of discussing increased wages, etc. Several amicable conferences were held and many of the requests of the employes were agreed to by Mr. Schlesinger, and everyone involved was of the opinion that the friendly relationship that had theretofore existed between Mr. Schlesinger and his employes would continue.

'Thereafter, as a result of outside influence, the monetary demands were increased about 300%. Thereafter, conferences were held culminating in an ultimatum being issued to Mr. Schlesinger on May 17, 1941, by counsel for Screen Cartoonists Guild, that unless the demands were met on or before Monday, May 19, 1941, at 10 a.m., a strike would be called.

'Mr. Schlesinger has answered the ultimatum so given him, by rejecting the demands and accepting the strike, and the studio is now closed. The strike is not of Mr. Schlesinger's choosing and he is sympathetic to his loyal employes and those dependent upon them who will suffer as a result of the strike. He intends to negotiate for an early settlement of the controversy and is hopeful that the studio will not long be closed; but same will be closed as long as the union makes demands upon Mr. Schlesinger that are impossible of fulfillment.'

The union said that about 185 workers would be affected by the closing order.

Variety Clubs Accolade Negro As Outstanding Humanitarian

Atlantic City, N. J., May 18.—Variety Clubs award to George Washington Carver, 82-year-old Negro scientist, as the outstanding humanitarian of the year, closed the seventh annual convention last night. The Tuskegee Institute research department head, who came from Georgia against his physician's orders, accepted the award in a speech aired by the Mutual Broadcasting System. His development of innumerable peanut by-products saved the South from economic strangulation from dependence on cotton.

John Harris, Pittsburgh, Variety Clubs founder, presented the award to Dr. Carver. Father Flanagan, Boys Town founder, who won it two years ago, made further eulogy of the Negro scientist.

Finale banquet was attended by 1,500 members from 24 cities and a flock of filmites, including Dorothy Lamour, Barney Balaban, Lew Ayres, Laraine Day, Andy Devine, Jean Hersholt, Stan Laurel, Oliver Hardy, Wayne Morris, Edward Norris, Helen Parrish, Walter Pidgeon, Phil Regan, Ronald Reagan, Marjorie Weaver, Fay Wray, Jane Wyman, Robert Young, Joe Bernhardt, Stanton Griffith, Jack Cohn, Frank Morgan, Carole Landis, Charles Lang and Walter Wanger.

Wanger, in the principal address, lashed out against the 'group that tells the film industry that it has no right to support the Administration. They attack us for supporting National Defense, this group whose chief spokesman says he is in favor of a negotiated peace,' he declared.

'LAUGHTER NOT ENOUGH'

'Laughter alone is not enough in films, but morale must be hardened so that we can face facts. Radio has made controversy entertainment. We too must accept the obligation to attack ignorance that saps our morale—just as newspapers, magazines, books and radio are doing. Our duty is to entertain, but great entertainment can also be enlightening', Wanger said.

All classic literature is entertainment—but plus an idea, the producer pointed out. His address was a refutation of the charge of Hollywood war mongering. He emphasized that of 350 pictures last year only 10 departed from the usual western and boy-girl stories.

Senator Tom Connally, of Texas, also indirectly hit Senator Burton K. Wheeler's charges by congratulating the film industry on service during the crisis.

The Carver award was a moving and highly dramatic incident in the windup of the most successful convention of the seven years that Variety Clubs have been holding these annual get-togethers.

The convention in 1942 will be held in Hollywood, with the Los Angeles tent as hosts.

Behind the gaiety and the fun a note of patriotic determination pervaded the convention and its numerous meetings. Showmen from all sections gathered to exchange ideas. Censensus is that America is waking to the full realization of the cold, hard facts that the wars in Europe and Asia are now this country's principal concern.

Mayor Taggart paid high tribute to showmen for their continuing contribution to the essentials of national morale.

'The morale of the American people', he said, 'must remain on its present high level. No such undermining of government and people must be permitted here as assisted in the fall of France. In this respect, the Variety Clubs through their sponsorship of amusement and gaiety are making a vital contribution by helping to overcome internal agitation upon which unfriendly parasites exist.'

Summation of the charitable work which the various clubs have conducted during the past year reveals $800,000 as having been raised and distributed in the different localities.

Officers were re-elected. They are John H. Harris, of Pittsburgh, chief barker; R. J. O'Donnell, Dallas, first assistant barker; Harry Kalmine, Pittsburgh, second assistant; Edward Rubin and James Balmer, both of Pittsburgh, property man and billboy, respectively.

Official guests from Washington were U. S. Sen. Tom Connally, Texas; Sen. James Meade, New York; Sen. Carl Hatch, New Mexico; Edwin Halsey, secretary of the U. S. Senate; J. Edgar Hoover, FBI chief, and state officials.

ELECT NEW SDG PREZ TONITE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

two-year terms are David Butler, George Cukor, Howard Hawks, Edward H. Griffith, Frank Lloyd, Richard Wallace, William Wellman and Sam Wood. Board members who still have one year to serve are Frank Borzage, Victor Fleming, Tay Garnett, Henry Hathaway, Ernst Lubitsch, William A. Seiter, George Stevens and Norman Taurog.

Retiring board members who were not eligible for re-election because they had served two consecutive years are Frank Capra, John Cromwell, Garson Kanin, George Marshall, Philip Rosen, Frank Strayer, King Vidor and William Wyler. Alternates who served one year and are retiring are Reeves Eason, Felix Feist, Irving Pichell, Lesley Selander. Alternates are selected by the board to represent westerns, serials and short subjects. New ones probably will be named this year.

Garrett North For 2nd Strawhat Opening

Oliver H. P. Garrett left for Del Monte yesterday to supervise the opening of his new play, 'The Hunters', at the Del Monte Summer Theatre June 2. Piece will be second for the new strawhat group, following 'Constant Wife' with Helen Gahagan. Jerome Corey will direct the Garrett play and Peggy Converse, Mary Servoss and Gwenn Anderson have the leads. Garrett, who arrived last week from Hawaii, will go on to New York shortly after the play's opening to line up piece for Broadway production this fall.

WB-Acad Film On Artillery Starts At Barstow Today

Production starts today at the Coast Artillery Field Range near Barstow on a War Department training film being made by Warners for the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Terry Morse will direct, assisted by Wilbur McGaugh as unit manager. Ted McCord is director of photography. Terry Morse also has been assigned as film editor.

Major A. M. Wilson, Jr., and Major Theodore J. Dayharsh will act as technical advisers.

New Disney Group Org'ed on Eve of NLRB Hearing

★ Continued from page 1 ★

ney employes, pointing out that the agency formerly certified by the NLRB no longer is in existence. The union also said its unfair labor practice complaint against Disney would be pushed before the NLRB. Leaders said the new Disney organization was merely 'the same old company union in a new suit and with a new name.' It also was reported that Anthony O'Rourke, who was retained as an arbitrator between the company and the Federation, would step out of the picture now that the Federation has been abandoned.

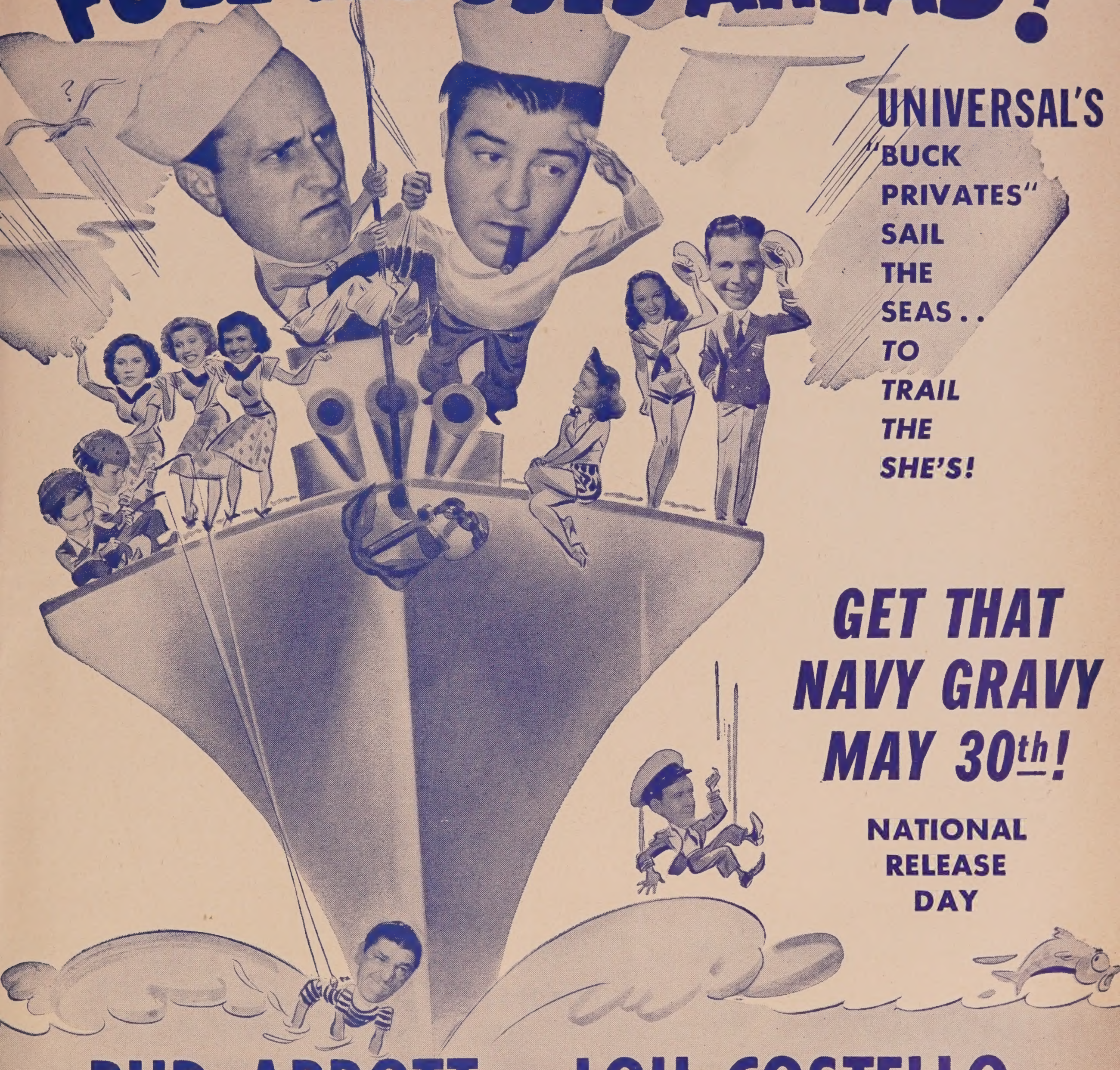
William R. Walsh, acting regional director of the NLRB, was reported studying the case to determine whether to proceed with the hearing. Both the company and the new employe group are expected to oppose holding a hearing on the ground that the organization complained of has been disbanded. Pamphlets advising employes of the action were reported to have admitted that the old Federation was a company union.

The following wire was sent to the company executives by William Littlejohn, president of the SCG:

'Agency formerly certified by the NLRB as collective bargaining agent for Disney employes having dissolved, there is no longer any obstacle to recognition of the Screen Cartoonists Guild Local 852 as bargaining representative for animators, assistant animators, inbetweeners, layout men, sketch artists, painters, inkers and other artistic and production employes, exclusive of persons employed in supervisory or executive capacity and office and clerical employes, cameramen, film, sound and studio technicians, film editors and employes within jurisdiction of recognized studio crafts. Union therefore demands immediate recognition as collective bargaining agency for said employes and commencement of negotiations. Union is willing to exhibit membership records for purpose of establishing an overwhelming majority of said employes have designated union as their sole collective bargaining agency. Immediate reply is requested.'

Disney in a recent statement said he was willing to bargain with the group designated by his employes, adding he was legally bound not to recognize the SCG so long as the Federation remained as the certified agency of the NLRB. American Federation of Labor tops said this obstacle was now removed and that it would push for recognition of SCG.

FULL HOUSES AHEAD!



UNIVERSAL'S
"BUCK
PRIVATES"
SAIL
THE
SEAS . .
TO
TRAIL
THE
SHE'S!

GET THAT
NAVY GRAVY
MAY 30th!

NATIONAL
RELEASE
DAY

BUD ABBOTT & LOU COSTELLO
DICK POWELL

IN THE NAVY

with **THE ANDREWS SISTERS** • CLAIRE DODD • DICK FORAN
BUTCH & BUDDY • SHEMP HOWARD • SUNNIE O'DEA • CONDOS BROS.

Directed by ARTHUR LUBIN • *Associate Producer* ALEX GOTTLIEB

SERVICE FROM WARNERS!

"TEDDY THE ROUGHRIDER"

In Technicolor with SIDNEY BLACKMER • Pierre Watkin • Theodor Von Eltz
Arthur Loft • Original Screen Play by Charles L. Tedford • Directed by RAY ENRIGHT

THE BEST 2-REEL SHORT FOR 1940!

Available For Repeat Bookings Everywhere!

And with grateful acknowledgement to the U. S. ARMED SERVICES for cooperation in filming these 2-reel Patriotic Service Subjects:

"YOUNG AMERICA FLIES"
Civil Aeronautics Authority

"SERVICE WITH THE COLORS"
United States Army
In Technicolor

"MARCH ON MARINES"
United States Marine Corps
In Technicolor

"MEET THE FLEET"
United States Navy
In Technicolor

"WINGS OF STEEL"
United States Army Air Corps
In Technicolor

You 'MUST PLAY' These 'MUST SEE' VITAPHONE SHORTS!

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF TH

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offic

Vol. 31 No. 54 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, May 20, 1941 5 Cents

SWG ORDERS $50,000 WAR CHEST

SCHLESINGER LENSERS ANKLE

Leon Schlesinger Studio was placed on the American Federation of Labor unfair list last night by the San Fernando Valley Central Labor Council. At the same time it was disclosed that cameramen employed at the plant had walked out at noon when advised that the Screen Cartoonists Guild had ordered a strike for 10 a.m. yesterday when the company refused to sign an SCG contract.

Schlesinger, instead of waiting for

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Wm. Koenig Receives New 20th Contract

William Koenig has been handed a new term contract as general production manager at 20th-Fox, post he has held for past two years. New deal starts him on his 20th year in pictures, Carl Laemmle having brought him to Hollywood in 1921 as business manager. From Universal he went to Warners, to Metro, to 20th-Fox.

L-A Navy Entourage Sees 20th 'Sand'

Naval officers of 11 South American nations being hosted here by U. S. Navy representatives were given special showing of 20th-Fox's 'Blood and Sand' at the Ambassador theatre last night. Picture also will be shown to all 20th-Fox exchanges this week, preceding national release date (23).

Pidgeon Lent 20th

Walter Pidgeon has been borrowed from Metro by Darryl F. Zanuck for the role of 'Dr. Gruffydd' in 20th-Fox production of 'How Green Was My Valley.'

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	332
Major Studio Calls	444
FK Studio Service	32
Tinsman Casting Agency	63
Total	871

BAN ON AXIS PRODUCED FILMS UNDERWAY IN U.S.

New York, May 19.—United States Senator James Meade of New York is said to be preparing to take up the matter of banning Axis produced films from the United States with the State department in Washington. Meade, it is said, feels definitely that circulation of such pictures, most of which have propagandistic backgrounds, should be banned from exhibition on American screens, whether in theatres or privately.

Also expected that one of the main subjects to be taken up at the MPTOA convention in Hollywood next month will be recommendations that the Axis made films be banned, with Max A. Cohen, president of the Allied Exhibitors, MPTOA unit of New York, leading the onslaught in that direction.

TENTATIVE DEAL ARRANGED FOR DISNEY CONSENT DECREE

A tentative deal calling for a consent decree to be entered in the unfair labor practice case against Walt Disney Productions was set yesterday at a hearing on the complaint before James C. Paradise, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board. It was agreed that the hearing would be recessed until 10 a.m. Wednesday (21) to give Charles A. Ryan, NLRB attorney, time to draft a stipulation providing for the consent decree so it can be submitted to the Disney attorneys before the hearing is resumed.

Gunther Lessing, attorney and vice-prexy of Disney, tentatively

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

SELLING PROGRESS MADE UNDER NEW MINN. STATUTE

Minneapolis, May 19. — Selling progress is being made under Minnesota's new anti-consent decree law. Although five major companies are reported to fight its constitutionality and are refusing to sell under it, and although it apparently requires distributors to sell the entire season's product, United Artists

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

GEO. STEVENS NEW SDG PREXY

George Stevens is the new president of the Screen Directors Guild. He was elected at the annual meeting last night to succeed Frank Capra, who was not eligible for reelection because he had served for two consecutive years. Capra, how-

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Spot Clyde Cook

Clyde Cook will do the role of 'Bates' in 'Ladies In Retirement' at Columbia.

ACTOR RECLASSIFICATION

The Screen Actors Guild negotiating committee spent some time yesterday in conference with the Producers, and then adjourned to meet later this week when it is believed the proposed contract revisions will be finally approved. These include reclassification of extra pay brackets so as to limit employment of $5.50 extras to calls for 50 or more players, and establishment of a $10 to replace the current $8.25 and $11 calls.

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the SAG, last night gave the Guild board of directors a detailed report of the progress of negotiations. As soon as the pact is okayed a SAG membership meeting probably will be called to approve it.

CALL UNION MEETING TONIGHT

The Screen Writers Guild last night voted to immediately raise a war chest of at least $50,000 as a preliminary to ordering a strike of film scriveners if the SWG contract demands 'are not reasonably met by the Producers.' The membership which packed the Blossom Room of the Roosevelt hotel voted complete confidence in its negotiating committee, and agreed to defer the taking of a strike vote until the results of the committee's next meeting

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Ted Lewis Starts Work In U's Musishort

Ted Lewis and his orchestra started work yesterday at Universal in a musical short. Larry Ceballos is directing. Also in the cast are Jeanne Blanche, LeAhn Sisters, Charles (Snowball) Whittier, Gladys Tell, Geraldine Ross and Kay, Katya and Kay.

Arthur Lubin Directs Next Abbott, Costello

Arthur Lubin has been assigned to direct Universal's next Abbott and Costello starrer, 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', which rolls about June 5. Alex Gottlieb will handle the producer end. The Andrews Sisters also will be in this Abbott and Costello film.

Par Terms Binyon

Claude Binyon's one-picture writing deal at Paramount has been converted into a term contract following completion of his first treatment on 'Take a Letter, Darling' for production by Fred Kohlmar.

Max Fellerman Named In Fred Meyers Spot

Max Fellerman has been appointed chief film buyer for RKO, replacing Fred Meyers, recently resigned. Fellerman, with RKO and Pathe for the past 25 years, was head assistant to Meyers.

PREVIEWED

BLOOD AND SAND
(20th-Fox)

(Preview on page 3)

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Freddie Fralick back from vacation in Mexico City.

Kay Kyser giving his band a four-day outing at Catalina.

Ginny Simms back from a holiday at her Fresno ranch.

P. G. Wolfson back at Columbia after a vacation in Honolulu.

Lewis Allen Weiss returned yesterday from broadcasters convention.

Charles Lang and Helen Parrish planed in yesterday from New York.

Andy Devine flies in from New York today after one month in the east.

Harrison Carroll back at his columnist stint after two weeks in New York.

Cameraman Stanley Cortez starts grinding today on U's 'San Antonio Rose'.

Cesar Romero aired east yesterday to make appearances in New York in behalf of Greek War Relief.

Menu cards at 20th-Fox commissary yesterday quoted new prices, upped five cents on most items.

Hazel Diggins, head of Warners publicity still department, off for six weeks' vacation in New York.

Ray Bolger leaves next week for the premiere of 'Sunny' at the Golden Gate theatre in San Francisco May 28.

Harry Gilmore, Jr., one time sports writer and boxing manager and trainer, now night information man at RKO.

Edgar Bergen's alma mater, Northwestern university, will present him with a master of arts degree June 14.

Jan Savitt orchestra trained in over Union Pacific from Denver yesterday for opening tonight at Casa Manana in Culver City.

Railway companies now running special trains from the army service camps to bring draftees to Los Angeles and Hollywood each weekend.

Patricia Morison and Susanna Foster back at Paramount after p.a.'s in the east, Miss Morison at the Memphis Cotton Festival and Miss Foster at Soldier's Field, Chicago.

One out of every 10 persons used in crowds on 20th-Fox pictures currently must be in some kind of uniform, according to Darryl F. Zanuck's orders, to correspond to proportion of uniformed men to civilians the nation over.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood returns to normal this week. The hosses are coming back.

Hollywood Inside

BARNEY McGILL, a director of photography, who has just recovered from a nervous breakdown, was edged out of a job because Loretta Young chirped 'no dice', union leaders reported yesterday. McGill, who had been idle for some time because of his illness, was called in to relieve Lenser Arthur Miller on Gregory Ratoff's 'Tonight Belongs to Us' because Miller, on loanout from 20th-Fox, had been ordered to return to his home lot. After standing by for a week on salary to see how Miller lighted Miss Young, McGill prepared to take over. Union tops said the star then stepped in and in no uncertain terms stated that McGill could not handle the camera. Union tops were peeved over the move and were attempting to place McGill, who they said was a highly capable cameraman, in another spot.

☆ ☆ ☆

WORD grapevined from network headquarters in New York would indicate that further negotiations for restoring of Ascap music to NBC and CBS stations will have to wait until the Federal Communications Commission's monopoly report is out of the way. Understood that Government jolt will have right of way in all deliberations and that the music fight will be shunted to a siding until such time as the nets can devote full time in negotiating a new contract with the Society. One network exec here guessed that it would be fall before the Ascap situation is brought to a head, adding 'we're getting along alright with BMI tunes, why should we rush into a music deal where there are more vital problems confronting us.'

☆ ☆ ☆

THAT mating call touch in Warners 'The Bride Came C.O.D.', with which James Cagney lures Bette Davis to him, is being waxed by the studio. Discs, when readied, will be sent to colleges throughout the country. Cagney will make the recorded call as he did in the film. Picture has him making a wild coyote yell in the dead of night when he and the actress are alone on the desert. Call is again made at the fade of the picture just as he and Miss Davis enter the nuptial chamber after their marriage. Idea behind sending the platters to colleges is to popularize the mating call among students as it is worked in the picture.

☆ ☆ ☆

U. S. NAVY purchases of small boats along Pacific Coast have complicated plans and schedules for studios using any considerable number of little craft. Many of the marine mosquitos which had been lined up previously by agents for use in various films have been pre-empted by the Navy, compelling film companies to replace them, sometimes with craft regarded not quite so suitable. Latest company to feel the dearth of small boats and forced to make replacements is 20th-Fox for the Dunkirk evacuation scenes in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.', which are to be lensed on the beach at Point Mugu.

☆ ☆ ☆

IN CONTRAST to attitude of Coast publicity directors toward attendance of critics at sneak previews the RKO home office press department is staging sneak previews on 'Sunny' for newspaper and magazine writers. RKO is labeling the pre-release showings 'sneak previews.' Company has arranged 35 single-performance showings of the picture in theatres throughout the country. Critics are told in advance what they will see, but regular patrons have no idea. Theatre merely advertises there will be a 'sneak' preview at a certain time, keeping silent on the name of the film.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE secret which Walter Winchell was going to let all the clippers and ships at sea in on Sunday night is still very much his own. Just as he blurted 'it's no secret' the mike went dead when the control chappie flipped the switch. Although no info was forthcoming yesterday from New York, best guess around NBC here was that he tried to slip through a verboten item and probably chuckled that he put one over on the monitors. It's not so easy to laugh off a cold mike.

☆ ☆ ☆

FINAL legislative approval was given yesterday to the Metzger bill legalizing the present method of computing race track 'breakage'. The Senate concurred in Assembly amendments which made the bill effective until Dec. 25—prior to the opening of Santa Anita. Speedy action on the measure was requested to enable Hollywood Park, which opens May 23, to continue on with the present breakage methods. Bill now goes to the Governor for his sig.

Russell Borg Succeeds WB's Olson in Omaha

New York, May 19.—Gradwell L. Sears, general sales manager for Warners, today announced that C. K. Olson, branch manager in Omaha, Neb., has resigned from the company. Russell Borg, Warners salesman in the Kansas City office, has been upped by Sears to the position occupied by Olson.

'Bahama' Lensing

Production on 'Bahama Passage' was started yesterday on Salt Cay in the British West Indies, 636 miles southeast of Miami. The Technicolor production for Paramount remains on the island location for 23 days. Edward H. Griffith is producing and directing with Madeleine Carroll and Stirling Hayden in the leads.

Producers Submit Lab Proposals

Producers yesterday submitted a counter proposal to Laboratory Technicians Local 683 calling for increases in the minimum wage scales ranging from two cents per hour to 11 cents. The Local 683 negotiating committee headed by Dave Lory was reported to consider the offer unsatisfactory, but agreed to present it to the union executive board at a meeting Saturday (24). The union is demanding much larger tilts in the minimum pay rates.

Renew De Wolf

Karen De Wolf's writing contract at Columbia has been renewed for another year. She is currently scripting 'Lady Buckaroo', Penny Singleton starrer.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

You knew he was a cowboy, for he wore a cowboy hat
And high-heel boots and jingling spurs and doodads such as that.
He also bore a golf bag full of putters and the like,
Which startled hardened natives as he ambled down the pike.

★ ★ ★

RKO is forgetting gin rummy long enough to play a poker hand with 'Four Jacks and a Queen.'

★ ★ ★

Old Doc Baker, the celebrated hoss picker, came back from a tour of the eastern tracks and didn't have to walk.

P.S.—HE HITCH-HIKED.

Current history is taking both the map makers and the film makers for a merry-go-round ride. By the time they draw a bead on the brass ring, it ain't there any more.

There was a time when stolid cows
In yonder fields were wont to browse
In pastoral content
But since the urban actors flock
To rural scenes for summer stock,
The cows have temperament.

★ ★ ★

'Copy cats', said the Tattooed Lady in the sideshow when she heard about those new Hollywood blouses.

★ ★ ★

Harvard has a new form of spring football practice — making passes (with oranges) at Hollywood glamour gals.

John Halliday spends his time between pictures at his home in Honolulu, just outside the Los Angeles city limits.

If he doesn't come pretty soon, 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' will perish of starvation.

★ ★ ★

A moppet who becomes a star, acclaimed throughout the land,
Would rather be a drummer in a corny little band,
A fond ambish that any kid can plainly understand.

★ ★ ★

If every childhood ambition were realized, this land would be populated largely by drummers, aviators and halfbacks.

★ ★ ★

Some call it 'Charley's Aunt' and some call it 'Charlie's Aunt.' Maybe Jack Benny can tell us the answer, if he asks one of the Quiz Kids. By the way, who was Charlie McCarthy's aunt? Evidently one of the nut trees.

Southgate is going Bevhills. Topsy's nitery is changing its name to the Trianon.

Brian Donlevy will feel right at home in the role of Andrew Jackson, who was a hard-nosed hombre and quick on the trigger.

★ ★ ★

How short is the life of the busy bee.
How brief the career of the nimble flea.
But even an insect's life is long
Compared to the life of a popular song.

Preview

★

Blood and Sand

(*Drama*)

20th-Fox release of a Darryl F. Zanuck production. Stars Tyrone Power. Features Linda Darnell, Rita Hayworth, Nazimova, Anthony Quinn, J. Carrol Naish, John Carradine, Lynn Bari, Laird Cregar and Vicente Gomez. Balance of cast: William Montague, George Reeves, Pedro D Cordoba, Fortunio Bonanova, Victor Kilian, Michael Morris, Charles Stevens, Ann Todd, Cora Sue Collins, Russell Hicks, Maurice Cass, Rex Downing, John Wallace, Jacqueline Dalya, Cullen Johnson, Larry Harris, Ted Frye, Schuyler Standish. Directed by Rouben Mamoulian. Associate producer, Robert T. Kane. Based on novel by Vicente Blasco Ibanez. Screenplay by Jo Swerling. Photographed in Technicolor. Photography, Ernest Palmer and Ray Rennahan. Technicolor director, Natalie Kalmus. Music direction, Alfred Newman. Art direction, Richard Day, Joseph C. Wright. Film editor, Robert Bischoff. Costumes, Travis Banton. Set decoration, Thomas Little. Previewed May 19. Running time: 123 mins.

This potent drama of love and danger, pride and death, if given its natural line of exploitation, may well be one of the foremost grossers of the year. In Technicolor it gets magnificent presentation, and the grip of its fundamental tragic story cannot be denied. Tribute to the narrative, from the Ibanez novel, is the fact that many of the older film customers still recall so vividly its first screening, back in 1922, when Valentino delivered his memorable Juan. Since then much writing about the ritual and punctilio of bullfighting and the mood in which the Spanish folk attend this theatre of death in the sanded arena have more or less familiarized Americans with the national sport-drama of many Latin countries and its hazards.

This new version, then, has more latitude in some respects, despite the closer censorship restraints on the actual maneuvers in the arena. The lives of the principal characters have been farther expanded, made more familiar to American audiences. In this very aspect it may also have lost something of tragic passion for the more exacting audiences. But 'Blood and Sand' has great holding power for the masses in its characterizations, its atmosphere, its lesser excitements, pomp and spectacle and finally in its great moment when the toreador, reconciled with his young wife after an escapade with a notorious siren, walks into the arena to be tossed to death on a savage horn.

The scenes on the hot sand as the capes flash scarlet before the charging bull and the sword does its appointed service, the scenes in the balconies, the whole elaborate ritual, are breath-taking both in color and sustained suspense. Actual long shots made in Mexico City are deftly matched in with the close work of Tyrone Power and his fighting quadrillo. Here the Technicolor blazes and dazzles and excites to high emotional pitch.

Tyrone Power plays the role of the

● Continued on page 7 ●

PAR 'DRAFT' PREEM FOR ARMY CAMP GIVEN WASH. GO-BY

Paramount's request for permission to hold its press preview of 'Caught In the Draft', service comedy, at Camp San Luis Obispo, in conjunction with a regular Tuesday night Bob Hope broadcast has been turned down by Army Headquarters in Washington. Nix was made on the grounds that such a stunt would hamper draftees' training by losing an entire day, plus setting a precedent for other studios to act upon. Army has no objections to regular evening broadcasts at the various training camps because little if any time is lost.

'Caught In the Draft' will now have its press preview at the Alexander theatre, Glendale, Friday night. Hope's Tuesday (27) air show, dedicated to the picture in which he appears, will broadcast from San Luis Obispo under official approval. Dorothy Lamour, also in the film, will go along with Hope's air troupe of 47 people to appear on the show.

Paramount had first tried to stage its preview at Fort Ord, but was unable to work the matter out with the Army. Officers at San Luis Obispo are understood to have favored stunt if Washington's approval came through.

Ray Collins Receives RKO Contract

Ray Collins, who played the role of Gettys in 'Citizen Kane', has been signed to a term contract at RKO, making the fourth player from the Orson Welles picture to draw a pact on that lot. He is now appearing in the play, 'Native Son' and reports to the Coast as soon as he can be replaced in the legiter. Others from 'Citizen Kane', besides Welles, now under contract to RKO include Dorothy Comingore, Ruth Warrick and Joseph Cotten.

Boyd Davis Spotted

Boyd Davis, from the cast of 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', has been signed at Columbia for a featured part in 'The Girls From Panama.' Sam Arnow agented.

In from the East

Meredith Willson (TWA)
Patricia Morison
Susanna Foster
Dave Diamond
Charles Lang
Helen Parrish
Andy Devine
Laraine Day
Walter Wanger
Wayne Morris
John LeRoy Johnston

Heading East

K. T. Stevens
Cesar Romero (AA)
Judith Anderson (AA)
Irena Baranova (AA)
Jose Iturbi
Hazel Diggins
George W. Weeks

Pic Defense Group Forms Committee To Handle Acts

The Motion Picture Production Defense Committee has announced the formation of a sub-committee to be known as the Committee on Talent and Camp Recreation to handle all future requests for the appearance of picture talent in Army and Navy camps. Because of the ever-increasing demand for talent, the Committee stated this was the only way in which the work could be co-ordinated.

Y. Frank Freeman, chairman of the Production Defense Committee, announced that members of the new sub-committee will be Edward Arnold, chairman; Kenneth Thomson, Sheridan Gibney, Bert Allenberg, Abe Lastfogel, Charles Feldman and Frank Vincent. Adrian McCalman will act as secretary for the sub-committee. In the future all requests for talent received by studios and individuals will be routed to the sub-committee for approval.

Chairman Freeman also announced that he had appointed four members of the Artists Managers Guild, Bert Allenberg, Abe Lastfogel, Charles Feldman and Frank Vincent, as members of the Production Defense Committee to represent the Guild on the parent committee on all industry matters regarding defense.

There is a possibility that 'smileage books' used during the last World War will be adopted again. These were sold to parents, who in turn sent them to soldier sons in camp to be used for admission to the camp theatres. Funds derived from sale of the books were used to defray the costs of operating the theatres and furnishing other entertainment.

Buckner to See Cohan On WB's 'Dandy'

Robert Buckner, after completing his first draft of the script for Warners 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' plans to leave for New York early in June to confer with George M. Cohan. Picture deals with the song and dance man's life.

Tune Carroll Show

Ray Gilbert and Bobby O'Brien have been engaged to write the music and lyrics for the new Earl Carroll nitery show.

Rep Rolls 'Sonora'

Republic's last Three Mesquiteers picture for 1940-41, 'Gangs of Sonora', will roll today, with Jack English directing.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

SANDY CUMMINGS in from Fort Bliss, Tex., on eight-day furlough socializing around town in his spick cavalry uniform. . . . Mrs. Eddie Cantor in from month in New York. Cantor follows next week. . . Sophie Tucker having score of dinner parties framed in her honor during stay here next week. . . . The Jon Whitcombs (Mary Brian) will be at home after May 22 at Darien, Conn., friends here have been informed. . . . Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom has been auditioning recently for job at Charlie Foy's valley cafe. . . . The Lee Tracys move shortly into their Benedict Canyon home. . . . Hollywood Park publicity staff has done a tremendous pre-opening publicity job and Fred Purner is pretty much worried how he will be able to conceive some new stunts for opening of Santa Anita.

George Weiss, ad manager for 20th-Fox, is buying drinks for all just as if he had made a hole-in-one. Occasion for celebration, he broke a 90 on the golf course for the first time. Weiss has been hitting (?) the elusive pill for little more than a year.

WHEN Sen Yung blew up on his Chinese language lines in 20th-Fox's 'Charlie Chan in Rio' several times, Director Harry Lachman suggested the filming proceed anyway, since who would know the difference. But No. 2 Son demurred, saying 'My father's people in China wouldn't like to see me imperfect.' . . . Lucile Gleason will give a five-way birthday party Sunday (25), celebrating the natal days of James Gleason, Hugh Webster, her brother, Cynthia Hobart Gleason, her daughter-in-law, Frank McHugh and Ben Alexander. . . . Marion Hawks was given the Bob Hope trophy at a Paramount luncheon yesterday for having beaten Count Oleg Cassino 7-9, 6-4, 6-4 at the Paramount Tennis Tournament held Sunday at the Beverly Hills Tennis Club. Karl Strauss and Phil Reed collected the Bing Crosby trophy by beating Marion Hawks and Keith Richards 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

Lum and Abner's radio theme song, 'Eleanor', having been ruled out due to its Ascap pedigree, Sybil Chism, organist for the bucolics, composed a new number, 'Evalina', which will be used when the Pine Ridge comics return to the air via NBC (26). Team likes the ditty so well it may be used as the themer of their next film, 'Hayseed Hero.'

CLARK GABLE and Carole Lombard return from their vacation drive next week, and Gable immediately goes into preliminary scenes in Metro's 'Honky Tonk' in which he co-stars with Lana Turner.

DARLA HOOD Our Gang Comedies Under contract M-G-M WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc.

RKO BRITISH WAR RELIEF PICTURE IN PRODUCTION

Production on 'This Changing World', British War Relief picture that is being financed and distributed by RKO at cost, went into production at RKO-Pathe studio Sunday. Herbert Wilcox is directing as the first of five directors who will contribute their services, along with players and writers, on the picture. Later Alfred Hitchcock, Victor Saville, Edmund Goulding and Frank Lloyd will direct one of the film's five parts.

Working Sunday and yesterday in the picture were Anna Neagle, Ray Milland, C. Aubrey Smith, Dame May Whitty, Claude Allister and Allen Edmiston, plus standins and three stunt men. Shooting will continue according to the availability of players and directors. Russell Metty is doing the camera work for Wilcox and Lloyd Richards is the assistant director. Sir Cedric Hardwicke is taking care of the production guidance.

So far committee on special feature reports acceptances from practically every British player in Hollywood, except Charles Chaplin, who, according to report, has not yet signified whether he will be able to appear in the picture.

Nine Angels

Bob Garred, KNX newscaster, picked up two new sponsors yesterday for a total of nine bankrollers weekly of his news reporting periods. Ford is underwriting two quarter hours weekly and Planters Peanuts five-a-week.

SCHLESINGER LENS MEN WALK OUT

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the strike hour, had closed his plant over the weekend and posted a sign, 'Closed on Account of Strike'. Cameramen, however, were admitted to the plant yesterday morning, but when they went out for lunch they did not return, having notified the Guild they would conform with its request for cooperation.

A new attempt to reach an agreement with Schlesinger executives will be made this afternoon when a committee from the Schlesinger Guild unit and other SCG representatives confer with Harry G. Sadicoff, company attorney. The Guild negotiating committee is composed of Chuck Jones, John Carey and Jerry Chiniquy. Other Guild representatives who will participate in the parley are Attorney George E. Bodle, Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644; Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters; Aubrey Blair, AFofL international representative, and Rita Raven, SCG secretary.

The major difference between the two groups now deals with the length of contract to be signed. Schlesinger is insisting on a three-year pact, with the Guild seeking a one-year agreement. The Guilders, however, have offered to draft a three-year contract, if provision is made for reopening it each year on the question of wages. The union said it did not feel justified in tying up the men's salary for three years because of unsettled conditions due to war and the rising cost of living.

'Maisie' Goes Tomorrow

'Ringside Maisie' starts at Metro tomorrow under direction of Edwin L. Marin, J. Walter Ruben producing. Pre-recordings on jitterbug numbers with Ann Sothern, and Lennie Hayton conducting band, were completed yesterday.

Story Buys

Metro yesterday purchased 'Two Women', novel by Maxence Van Der Meersch. Book won the important Goncourt prize for literature in Europe last year and was translated into English under the title of 'Hath Not the Potter'. Dave Diamond agented the sale.

Guthrie Seeks U.S. Aid For Custer Film

William Guthrie, head of Warners location department, is in Washington, D. C., to arrange details for U. S. Army cooperation in filming 'They Died With Their Boots On', saga of General Custer.

Hardwicke, Basserman Set For RKO 'Joan'

Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Albert Basserman will have featured roles with Michele Morgan in 'Joan of Paris', David Hempstead production at RKO.

'Yearling' in H'wood

Having secured all scenes necessary to establish the location in the Florida scrub, Metro's 'The Yearling' company's main unit is back from Ocala with Spencer Tarcy, Ann Revere and Gene Eckman ready to start interiors at studio tomorrow under direction of Victor Fleming.

McCormick Huddles

S. Barret McCormick, accompanied by David Strumpf of RKO's advertising department, trained in yesterday to start work at the studio on the 1941-42 year book and setting up details for announcements at the company's forthcoming sales convention in New York.

Massey West May 31

Raymond Massey leaves the cast of the legit presentation, 'The Doctor's Dilemma' in New York (31) and comes to the Coast to play the heavy lead in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount.

WB Rolls 'Ghost'

Warners 'The Smiling Ghost' will roll today, with Lew Seiler directing. Brenda Marshall and Wayne Morris are co-starred. Joan Winfield is the latest addition to the cast.

Skelton's 'Hattie'

Red Skelton has featured comedy spot in Metro's 'Panama Hattie.' This will be first assignment on Skelton's new term deal at Metro.

Mutual Sews Up World Series

Mutual network has again sewed up the World's Series for Gillette and also holds an option on the 1942 fall baseball classic. It marks the third successive year that the games will be heard exclusively here on KHJ. Chain hooks up 300 stations for the series and has completed arrangements for shortwaving the games to South America for the first time.

John Harris Due In Shortly To Organize Variety Clubs Tent

John H. Harris, national president of the Variety Clubs, is due here in 30 days to organize a Los Angeles tent in preparation for the next national convention, to be held in Hollywood. Laraine Day, Helen Parrish, Walter Wanger, Wayne Morris and John LeRoy Johnston arrived yesterday via plane from the Atlantic City convention.

Other film names who attended affair check in later in the week. Dorothy Lamour, Lew Ayres, Andy Devine, Edward Norris, Marjorie Woodworth, Jean Hersholt (who will do his Dr. Christian broadcast from New York Wednesday) plane out from New York tomorrow, accompanied by Cliff Lewis. Laurel and Hardy, Walter Pidgeon, Phil Regan, Ronald Reagan and Jane Wyman trained out of Atlantic City Sunday night for Hollywood.

Examine Loew's Exec In 200G Suit

New York, May 19.—Stephen Tamas, author, will examine Jesse T. Mills comptroller of Loew's, Inc. Wednesday in the State Supreme court in connection with his $200,000 suit against Loew's, Metro Pictures Corp. and Metro Distributing Corp. Tamas claims he submitted a scenario, 'Moscow, Paris and Return', to the defendants in 1938, that they rejected it, but that 'Ninotchka', made later, was based on the story. Plaintiff says Metro has realized more than $1,000,000 as a result of the alleged plagiarism.

Prod-Labor Committee Sesh on ADG Demands

The Producer-Labor relations committee is scheduled to meet today to discuss the proposed contract with the Art Directors Guild. Pact would provide for recognition of the Guild as collective bargaining representative, screen credits, etc., but would not call for establishment of minimum wage scales.

Sign Rhys Williams

Rhys Williams, Welsh actor, director and writer, has been signed at 20th-Fox to act as technical adviser on 'How Green Was My Valley.' He is currently in the Broadway legit, 'The Corn Is Green', and reports here after June 1.

Trumbo at Par

Dalton Trumbo checked in at Paramount yesterday to start working on the screen play of his novel, 'The Remarkable Andrew', which will have Brian Donlevy and William Holden in the cast.

NBC Settlement With Agency on 'Kids' Program Expense

NBC has effected a settlement with the Davis & Pearson agency for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in preparing 'Kids of the Week' program, which NBC rejected as encroaching on the format of 'Quiz Kids'. Amount of payoff was not given but it is reimbursement for printing of circulars and other expense incidental to preparing the program for the air.

Attorneys for Lime Cola Co. of California, which was to have sponsored 'Kids of the Week', and NBC are still trying to reach an amicable basis of settlement.

COL ROLLS PAIR; ASTAIRE WORKS

Columbia gives the go-signal to 'You'll Never Get Rich' today, along with the first of the Bill Elliott-Tex Ritter westerns, 'King of Dodge City'. The Fred Astaire-Rita Hayworth musical will be directed by Sidney Lanfield with Sam Bischoff producing. Sunnie O'Dea, Martha Tilton and Kay St. Germain are new cast additions.

'Dodge City' will have Lambert Hillyer directing and Judith Landen in the femme lead, with Walter (Dub) Taylor featured. Others in the cast include Gus Ashe, Rick Anderson and Pierce Lyden.

Producers, SDG Meet On Minimum Wages

The Producers and Screen Directors Guild negotiating committee are scheduled to go into conference today on the Guilders demands for minimum wages for directors employed on small budget pictures. The SDG is also requesting a 90-10% Guild Shop, and guaranteed terms of employment.

'Broadway' Release

Hal Roach's 'Broadway Limited' is set for national release through United Artists June 13. Pennsylvania railroad, whose train is the Broadway, is co-opping on ad campaign in national mags, newspapers and railway station leaflets and one-sheets.

U Terms Songsmiths

Universal yesterday signed Gene de Paul and Don Raye to term songwriting contracts. Tunesmiths are currently knocking out two songs for 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', the next Abbott and Costello picture and will do eight for 'Hellzapoppin'.'

Tyson Joins NBC

Leo Tyson, former manager of KMPC, yesterday joined Alex Robb's program and talent sales department at NBC. He replaces Carroll Tornroth and will handle clients for radio.

UMG Election

The Unit Managers Guild meets tonight at the Screen Directors Guild headquarters to elect officers.

Births

SON, born yesterday to Mrs. Ed Cooke at Good Samaritan hospital. Father is Los Angeles exchange manager for Universal.

RKO Starts Trainee Film Today At Camp Seeley

Production starts today at Camp Seeley on a War Department training film, 'The Light Machine Gun Platoon, Horse Cavalry Rifle Troop'. The film will be made by RKO for the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Dewey Starkey will direct, with Roy Hunt acting as director of photography. Lieut. Col. Alton W. Howard has been assigned as technical adviser, with Capt. Robert H. Bungay, Jr., acting as War Department liaison officer.

Play Review

RIO RITA

There's little else besides the comicalities of Joe E. Brown to distinguish this initial offering of the L. A. Civic Light Opera Assn. from a dozen other productions of the lilting operetta since it left Broadway for the provinces. The casting misses fire in more than one part. Voices are adequate but looks and glamour are lacking, save for Mary Healy, who isn't the happiest choice for the juvenile partnership with (her husband) Peter Lind Hayes as the newlyweds.

That there are plenty of folk among the citizenry still pushovers for the nostalgic tunes of Harry Tierney and Joseph McCarthy, with a few modern embellishments by Maestro Edward Ward, Bob Forrest and Chet Wright, was amply testified by the packed Philharmonic at the seasonal takeoff of the four-week festival last night. They were hanging from the top shelf, which is tantamount to watching the show from the Goodyear blimp.

Brown is sure-fire for laughs as the scheming attorney, mistaken for the Kinkajou. His facial contortions and perfect timing of gags make for excellent foiling against the background of intrigue and romance back and forth across the Rio Grande.

Suzanne Sten's Rita lacks sparkle, although her voice carries her through the role acceptably. Walter Cassel, late of radio, is the dashing ranger heart interest without the dash. A strong set of pipes stands him in good stead. Hayes carries the second comedy lead effervescently but fails to distinguish the part. The others are typical of a home town production. Lillian Bond makes a belated appearance in the second act.

Best of the production numbers is 'If You're In Love You'll Waltz', backed up by the Aida Broadbent dancers. Cassel lends his robust voice to this standout as he does to most of the others. 'Kinkajou', 'Song of the Rangers', 'Following the Sun Around' and the title number will be somewhat disappointing to those who remember the Ziegfeld production. If any of the McCoy Texas Rangers walked into the house they'd probably start shooting up some of the chorus men acting as the hardy law enforcers along the Panhandle.

Considerable license is taken with the book of Guy Bolton and Fred Thompson to effect a modern streamlining. Program credits Milton Lazarus with the book revision. Comedy is so broad and timely that Peter Hayes slips in a plug for the Grace Hayes Lodge and Brown alludes to a strong drink as 'Ascap applejack'. Edwin Lester produced and Zeke Colvan staged.

Being a civic promotion the piece won't languish. The downtown dailies will see to that. Strictly on its own, it wouldn't pay off any fancy dividends.

NATHANSON MOVE EXPECTED TO FOMENT HYPO BIZ

Toronto, May 19.—Resignation of N. L. Nathanson as president of Famous Players of Canada and all Canadian members of board of directors is expected to precipitate sharp competition in theatre operation across the Dominion. Pitted against Nathanson and his associates will be J. J. Fitzgibbon and a new Famous Players directorate. Nathanson is expected to draw an important post in Canada's aircraft industry and will devote more time to his position as vice-prez of Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

Main issue which culminated in the walkout of Nathanson and his directors was whether Famous of Canada is to be governed by Americans or Canadians. Resigning with Nathanson were W. D. Ross, F. B. McCurdy, A. E. Dymant, Major A. P. Holt, T. J. Bragg and Clarence Robson. Elevated to the presidency is Fitzgibbon, Paramount representative and v.p. in charge of theatre operations. New directors are N. S. Robertson, N. G. Barrow, Angus MacCunn, L. G. Goering, all of Toronto; Wendell Farris, Barney Balaban, Stanton Griffis and August Keough.

Paramount controls over 300 of the 1,150 theatres in Canada, most of them de luxers in principal cities. Nathanson holds the Canadian franchise for all Metro pictures. He is also managing director of Empire-Universal Films, which releases the product of many British companies. Nathanson's son, Paul, heads the Odeon chain of theatres, which operates 75 houses in western Canada. Young Nathanson also is prexy of General Theatres, another fast-expanding chain.

Capra's 'Yorkshireman' Deal Signing Today

Papers transferring title to 'The Flying Yorkshireman' from Frank Lloyd Productions to Frank Capra and Robert Riskin will be signed today. Dave Diamond, who handled the deal, returned from New York yesterday. Diamond also set publication on Houston Branch's novel, 'River Lady', which Lloyd has purchased for $50,000. Book will be issued by Farrar & Rhinehart, with the publishing house to spend $10,000 in advance exploitation. Lloyd makes the picture for 1942 release.

Col Terms Quartet

'The Simp Phonies', quartet that worked in 'The Medico of Painted Springs' at Columbia, have been signed to a term deal to appear in future Charles Starrett westerns. Weber-Kaufman agented.

Stevens' 'Bonanza'

Louis Stevens has been signed by Republic to do the screenplay on 'Big Bonanza.'

Field Day

Columbia has called 172 extras for work at the studio ranch today in scenes for 'Texas' under the direction of George Marshall.

BIOFF REVEALED AS IA TIE ON DEFENSE PIX

Willie Bioff, convicted panderer and now facing trial on income tax exasion charges, has been designated by George E. Browne to see that there is no labor tieup involving production of Defense Program films for the Army and Navy. The appointment of Willie as personal representative of the prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes with his authority limited to Defense pictures was disclosed yesterday when he appeared in United States District Court with his attorney, George Breslin, to ask for a continuance of his trial, which had been set for June 24.

Judge Paul J. McCormick ordered the case continued until the September term when it will be reset, after William F. Hall, assistant U. S. attorney, stated he had no objection to a postponement. Hall said he was desirous of interviewing several witnesses, and that the government would not object to have more time to prepare its case.

Breslin displayed a batch of telegrams from Browne, one notifying Bioff of his appointment, and another advising Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact, that Willie was the 'logical man' to see that film production in connection with the Defense program goes ahead without any interference or labor tieups. The attorney said the government was anxious that there be no delay in producing the films, and said Browne had stated Willie 'was the only labor official available' who could give necessary orders to assure 'immediate shooting'.

It was pointed out to the court that many of the pictures will be produced at widely separated Army posts, and that labor disputes might arise at any of them. It was indicated that Bioff would try to remain in Hollywood and handle any differences by telephone and telegraph.

Start Whitley Short

RKO puts the second of its Ray Whitley musical western shorts into work today under the direction of Roy D'Arcy. Virginia Vale, Ethan Laidlaw and Harry Harvey have top spots.

Weeks Out on Biz

George W. Weeks, producer of the 'Ranger Busters' westerns for Monogram release, leaves for New York today for business confabs with executives of Major Film Laboratories.

D.O. Selznick Appointed Chairman of H'd Chinese Relief

New York, May 19.—Appointment of David O. Selznick as chairman of Hollywood United China Relief committee was made today by James G. Blaine, chairman of the national campaign. Selznick also is a member of the national group. Serving with Selznick on the United China Relief board of directors are Eugene Barnett, Pearl Buck, William C. Bullitt, Paul Hoffman, Thomas Lamont, Henry R. Luce, John D. Rockefeller III, Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., Robert Gordon Sproul, Wendell L. Willkie and Charles F. Williams.

First official duty for Selznick in his new post will be the direction of a nationwide broadcast to originate (27) in Hollywood.

SCRIBES DISCUSSION OVER KNX SUNDAY

'What Can Writers Do to Help American Freedom?' will be broadcast over a national radio hookup from KNX from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Sunday (25). The question will be discussed by novelists, playwrights, film writers and air scripters in a round table talk as a climax to the National Conference of Writers opening Friday (23) at the University of California at Los Angeles, under the auspices of the Authors League of America.

Those who will participate in the round table discussion include James Hilton, Sheridan Gibney, S. N. Behrman, Marc Connelly, Mary C. McCall, Jr., Preston Sturges and True Boardman. Thomas Freebairn-Smith will act as moderator at the round table. Arrangements for the broadcast were made with Charles Vanda, of Columbia Broadcasting Co., by John Howard Lawson, of the Screen Writers Guild, and Hector Chevigny, of the Radio Writers Guild.

Farnol Handles RKO, Goldwyn Films

Lynn Farnol has been signed by RKO to act as New York publicity representative for the two Samuel Goldwyn pictures to be released by the company during 1941-42 season. Farnol leaves New York tomorrow for the Coast to huddle with Goldwyn on exploitation plans for 'The Little Foxes', now shooting, and the forthcoming, 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen.'

Castings For 'Blind'

Marie Wilson, Nils Asther, Roger Pryor and Grady Sutton are set for featured roles in 'Flying Blind', third of the Pine-Thomas aviation features for Paramount release which Frank McDonald will direct.

Betty Miles Spotted

Betty Miles, who has appeared in several Bill Elliott westerns at Columbia, has been set by Gregory Ratoff for a circus sequence in 'Tonight Belongs to Us.'

Title Changes

Warners 'The Gentle People' to 'Out of the Fog'.

First Arbiter Case Under Decree Here Gets Postponement

The first clearance case filed in Los Angeles territory with the American Arbitration Association under the consent decree, involving George Bromley and Alex Mounce (Campus theatre), scheduled for hearing on Thursday, has been postponed. Ezra Edward Stern, attorney for the plaintiffs, has waived place on the calendar due to illness of George Bromley until such time as Bromley recovers.

As a result of the Campus theatre case postponement the O. W. Lewis complaint in connection with the Mission Playhouse of San Gabriel will be heard instead. Herbert Cameron, attorney for the State Railroad Commission, will act as arbitrator.

O. W. Lewis, owner of the Playhouse, claims that first run houses are getting too much clearance protection over his theatre. His complaint names Paramount Pictures, Warner Brothers, Vitagraph, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Inc., and the MGM Picture Exchange. Rufus Bailey, attorney for Lewis, is asking general reclassification of clearance in San Gabriel, Alhambra and vicinity.

GEO. STEVENS NEW SDG PREXY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

ever, was unanimously voted an honorary life membership in the Guild.

Ernst Lubitsch was elected first vice-president, and Norman Taurog was given the post of second vice-president. William A. Seiter was named secretary, Tay Garnett treasurer, and Philip Rosen, assistant treasurer.

Board alternates to represent westerns, serials and short subjects probably will be elected at the next meeting of the new board of directors. The board is now composed of David Butler, George Cukor, Howard Hawks, Edward H. Griffith, Frank Lloyd, Richard Wallace, William Wellman, Sam Wood, Frank Borzage, Victor Fleming, Tay Garnett, Henry Hathaway, Ernst Lubitsch, William A. Seiter, George Stevens and Norman Taurog.

Dandridge Chored

Dorothy Dandridge has been signed for role in Paramount's 'Bahama Passage' and also will do two soundies for Sam Coslow. Arthur Silber agented.

Stacey Gets 'Boots'

Eric Stacey was set yesterday as unit manager on Warners 'They Died With Their Boots On.'

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Columbia)

'You'll Never Get Rich'
Dir.: Sidney Lanfield
Asst.: Gene Anderson

'King of Dodge City'
Dir.: Lambert Hillyer
Asst.: Milton Carter

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(RKO)

'The Outlaw Trail'
Dir.: Edward Killy
Asst.: James Casey

TENTATIVE DEAL ARRANGED FOR DISNEY CONSENT DECREE

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

agreed to the stipulation when it was explained the company would not be required to admit that it had dominated or attempted to dominate the recently scuttled Federation of Screen Cartoonists. It was stated the decree would merely require the posting of a cease and desist order, and the disestablishment of any relations between the company and the Federation, which was certified by the board in 1939 as collective bargaining representative for the workers.

Ryan said he would like to confer with William R. Walsh, acting regional director of the NLRB, today before officially agreeing to the stipulation. Lessing, who had asked for the continuance because his services were necessary at the studio the next few days, also stated he would like to confer with a company attorney who is now in Sacramento.

Following the hearing it was reported that Disney executives had requested a meeting for 8:30 a.m. today with the grievance committee of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. It was understood, however, that the committee would refuse to meet with the executives unless the SCG attorney, George E. Bodle; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and Aubrey Blair, organizer for the American Federation of Labor, were permitted to attend. These three have handled most of the negotiations with the studio. The meeting was called off, however, when Hugh Presley, Disney personnel manager, stated he was meeting with the group as a committee of employes and not as representatives of SCG.

After the government had introduced its exhibits at the hearing, Gunther Lessing read a statement denying the company had dominated or attempted to dominate any organization of employes, and offering to bargain with any union 'that fairly represents a majority of the employes'. He also introduced two pamphlets, one stating the Federation of Screen Cartoonists had been disbanded, and the other telling of the formation of the American Society of Screen Cartoonists. He also displayed a wire from Attorney Bodle demanding immediate recognition of the SCG and offering to display its membership records for the purpose of establishing that it 'represents an overwhelming majority of the Disney employes.'

Lessing interjected several remarks that the government should investigate to see if it was 'trying a dead body', the Federation having been disbanded. Examiner Paradise promptly reminded him that the 'body' being tried was Walt Disney Productions. It was then that the examiner suggested the two parties apparently were not far apart and inquired as to the possibility of stipulating on a consent decree.

a.m. Dailies

Trio on Ill-Fated Boat—

Philip Faversham, actor son of the late William Faversham; Arthur Tilden Jeffers, former screen writer, and Ray Colcord, Jr., also a film actor, are listed among the passengers on the Egyptian steamer Zamzam, reported sunk in the South Atlantic.

Rob Syd Gillis—

Three men held up Syd Gillis, manager of the Cinema theatre on Western ave., and escaped with around $500, part of which was the theatre's jackpot for tonight's bank night.

Rainer Gets Final Decree—

Luise Rainer was granted her final decree of divorce yesterday from Clifford Odets.

Sam Milner Boosted

Sam Milner, Universal salesman, has been upped to post of Denver branch manager. Al O'Keefe, U's western district manager, left with Milner for Denver on Sunday to install him in new position.

Herbel Goes North

Henry Herbel, Warners western district manager, planed out yesterday for Portland, Seattle and San Francisco on swing around company exchanges.

'Fantasia' Closing

'Fantasia' is scheduled to be withdrawn at the Carthay Circle first week in June, with the house going dark until suitable product can be lined up.

SELLING PROGRESS MADE UNDER NEW MINN. STATUTE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

and Warners interpret it to permit them to license single producer's output, even though output numbers but one picture.

Columbia has taken the same view relative to spot bookings. These actions agree with construction of Northwest Allied, law's sponsor. Consequently, United Artists is licensing Chaplin's 'The Great Dictator' and Alexander Korda's 'That Hamilton Woman'. Warners is licensing Frank Capra's 'John Doe', under law, and Columbia has spot booked 'This Thing Called Love' into Loop sure-seater Esquire, currently. Columbia and Universal are doing unrestricted selling.

Sam Marx Readying Metro 'Married'

Sam Marx is readying the second production in the Metro young married couple series, 'Keeping Married', which S. Sylvan Simon will direct. John Shelton and Ann Rutherford will again head the cast as they did in the first, 'Keeping Company'. Cameras will turn in about two weeks.

Scola Adapts 'Nymph'

Kathryn Scola is making screen adaptation of Margaret Kennedy's play, 'The Constant Nymph', at Warners.

Support For 'Ghost'

Lee Patrick, Helen Westley and Roland Drew are in support group of Warners 'The Smiling Ghost.'

PCCITO Committee Meets Here Today On Convention

The program committee of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, is meeting at the Ambassador hotel today to arrange program details and appoint various committees for the convention to be held here June 9-12. Rotus Harvey and Ben Levin, trustees, arrived from San Francisco yesterday to huddle with trustees Hugh Bruen, of Whittier, Cal., Jack Berman, Los Angeles, Bob Poole, executive secretary, and others.

Decisions will be made today regarding industry problems to be discussed during the convention and speakers to be heard. The consent decree most likely will figure prominently in discussions.

Col. R'cding Parleys Set for Today

Negotiations between Columbia Recording Corp. and its striking employes will be resumed at 1 p.m. today in the offices of Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator. Following a meeting between the two groups yesterday, Robert Kennedy, chairman of the negotiating committee for the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union, stated he felt there 'were possibilities of progress being made.'

The three major obstacles to an immediate agreement were reported to be the company's demand for a no-strike clause in the contract, departmental seniority, and minimum wages. The union is insisting on continuance of plant-wide seniority, and is insisting on the right to strike if the company violates the agreement. The company has offered a wage tilt of two cents per hour, with the union demanding a raise of 10c per hour.

Kreisler Here Sunday On U Briefies

B. B. Kreisler, Universal short subject sales manager, arrives here Sunday (25) to address western division bookers and salesmen on revised short program for 1941-42. Kreisler, who has been holding meetings in U offices throughout the country, will discuss special runs for 'Riders of Death Valley', serial.

Obituary

J. E. Reagan Rites

Rosary for John Edward Reagan, 56, father of Ronald Reagan, will be held at 8 p.m. at the Pierce Brothers Hollywood chapel Thursday. Funeral services are set for 9 a.m. at the St. Victor church Friday with burial following at Calvary cemetery. The elder Reagan died of a heart attack Sunday and is also survived by another son, Neil Reagan, radio announcer.

Laughs, Laughs, Laughs!
at
SLAPSY MAXIE'S
with
BEN BLUE & CULLY RICHARDS
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. WEbster 9513
Management: Sammy Lewis

Antrim Short Named As Exec Assistant To Philbrick

Appointment of Antrim Short as executive assistant to Howard R. Philbrick, general manager of Central Casting Corp., was announced yesterday. He takes over the post vacated by the resignation of Harold Melniker to enter military service.

Short has resigned as head of the claims department of the Screen Actors Guild, effective Saturday (24), will take a week's vacation, and assume his duties as head of the Central casting staff on June 2. Short, who was a member of the SAG negotiating committee, is popular both with the Producers and a majority of the extras, having met most of them while acting as a Guild checker.

Preview

● Continued from page 3 ●

bullfighter, from an ardent boyhood to married manhood, with an uneffected, direct manner, taking his deadly craft as a matter of fact but acknowledging also always the hour of fear between the time of prayer and the moment the bulls charge in. Very girlish, very naive, is the complementary role of his young wife, played by Linda Darnell who gives it charm and sympathetic appeal. Seductively contrasting is Rita Hayworth as the temptress of the arena aces who for a devastating interval takes Power away from his ingenuous bride. Miss Hayworth takes another stride toward her assured position among the stars-in-demand. Acting honors, however, actually go to Nazimova as Power's mother, sad with the clairvoyance of his fate and sadder still to see him decline from the high pinnacle of his profession because of defects of character. Anthony Quinn contributes a notable performance as a rival matador. J. Carrol Naish has several indelible scenes as a discarded veteran of the bloody sands. John Carradine, in revolt against his profession and one of power's entourage, is excellent. Lynn Bari is the bullfighter's sister. Laird Cregar creates an arresting figure in the role of the top ranking bullfight critic, whose notices make and unmake the dandies of the ring. A dozen other players make their parts impressive, including Pedro De Cordoba, Fortunio Bonanova, Vincente Gomez (with his guitar), William Montague, Maurice Cass, and Rex Downing in the juve role of Power as a boy.

Director Rouben Mamoulian parades his characters in sharp relief and his alternately gay and sombre narrative with fascinating suspense against the broad colorful canvas of cafe and bullring, serenade and boudoir. He marches the tempo slowly to build up the fateful moment in the afternoon when the bull outmatches the man, caught in an instant of relaxed caution as he faces the two women who have rivaled for his loyalty. Mamoulian, dramatist and artist in his sense of color, has translated the great Ibanez tale to the level of the general American audience for widest appeal and has capped every entertainment element with brilliant direction.

Darryl F. Zanuck has packed all his showmanship into the production, with Robert T. Kane as his associate, giving it prodigal presentation, careful organization, a quality brand from every department.

Jo Swerling's screenplay vividly and coherently achieves his task of selective character portrayal and narrative from the riches of the novel. Ernest Palmer and Ray Rennahan speak in eloquent Technicolor with their cameras, and Alfred Newman gets extraordinary musical virtue into his haunting score, foreboding and tragic to fit the picture's keynote.

SWG ORDERS $50,000 WAR CHEST

★ Continued from page 1 ★

with company representatives is known. The next parley is scheduled for Tuesday (27).

It also was announced that representatives of all major Guilds and unions now in negotiations with the Producers will meet with the SWG executive board tonight at Guild headquarters. It was stated the purpose of the meeting is for a discussion of common problems, exchange of industry information and adoption of unified methods to be used in collective bargaining.

The meeting was one of the largest attended Guild sessions since the SWG campaign which resulted in dissolution of the Screen Playwrights, Inc. The membership was unanimous in voting confidence in its negotiating committee. Between 600 and 700 writers attended the session, presided over by Prexy Sheridan Gibney.

When the suggestion of war chest was made a motion was offered that a chest of $100,000 be raised. This was amended to call for a minimum of $50,000, but it was indicated that the fund probably would reach $100,000. Subscriptions of $500 and $1,000 were offered from all parts of the floor. It was suggested that an assessment be ordered so it would hit all scriveners who are working and everybody would carry a part. This was promptly okayed, but it was agreed that all who desired could make donations. Marc Connelly and other top writers were the first to okay the war chest and offer donations. The meeting opened with a report from the negotiating committee. The committee stated that the Producers in the last few days had shown an inclination to talk, and for the first time had offered counter proposals to the original demands of the Guild. They said while these proposals were not satisfactory, they indicated that the Producers were more inclined to make a deal.

It was disclosed that in answer to the Guild's demands for a minimum wage of $150 per week for writers with one year's experience the Producers had offered a minimum of $50 for a writer after one year's experience, $75 after two years, and $100 after three years. The Producers also refused to raise the minimum of 80% Guild shop. The Guild asked for a one year agreement, with the Producers insisting on a 10 year contract. Company representatives agreed to the elimination of speculative writing if some method could be found for defining it, but insisted on the ownership of all material written by writers during their layoff period.

PRODUCERS COUNTER

The Guild demanded a minimum of two weeks employment for writers receiving under $500 per week, and the Producers countered with an offer of two weeks guarantee for scriveners receiving under $250 per week, and one week's guarantee for writers receiving between $250 and $500.

The Guild asked for abolition of all flat deals under $5,000, but finally reduced this to $2,500. The Producers counter-proposal called for abolition of all flat deals under $1,000 for westerns and $1,500 for features.

After the meeting Prexy Sheridan Gibney handed out the following statement:

'More than 600 members of the Screen Writers Guild meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt last night unanimously voted a minimum war chest of $50,000 and empowered the Writers bargaining committee to stand on original contract demands from the Motion Picture Producers. If the results of the negotiations are not acceptable to the membership, a strike vote will be called. Additionally the membership gave a unanimous vote of confidence to the negotiating committee.

'The Blossom room of the Hotel Roosevelt was filled to overflowing when Sheridan Gibney, Screen Writers Guild prexy, called the meeting to order. A brief history of the contract demands and the series of negotiations opened the meeting. Twenty-one telegrams of sympathy and support were read from every major union and guild including the State Federation of Labor and the CIO, the latter which offered the support of its 100,000 Los Angeles members. Personal telegrams were received from Orson Welles, Lillian Hellman, Dudley Nichols, Moss Hart and Alice Duer Miller.

VOLUNTARY PLEDGES

'Before the war chest resolution, which taxes each member, was put into form and adopted, $28,000 was spontaneously pledged from the floor and members were continuing voluntary pledges of from $25 to $500 and $1,000 after the meeting was adjourned. This $28,000 is in addition to the $50,000 goal.

'The turnout for what was considered the most crucial meeting in the history of the Screen Writers Guild, was the largest since the body was formed many years ago. The general feeling of the membership was in complete accord with the negotiating committee in the matter of the Producers' counter proposals being unacceptable.'

How'd Hawks Reaches Goldwyn June 2

Howard Hawks checks in at Samuel Goldwyn studio June 2 to prepare for director post on 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen', next Gary Cooper starrer which RKO will release for Goldwyn following 'The Little Foxes.' Charles Brackett and Billy Wilder are now doing the screen play and shooting is expected to get underway July 1.

K. B. Options Yarn

K. B. Productions has optioned Martin Mooney's original, 'Mr. Celebrity', as possibility for its second picture for Producers Releasing Corp. K. B. just completed Mooney's 'Paper Bullets'.

Test Jack Briggs

Jack Briggs, New York legit player under contract at RKO, will be tested today for one of the leads in 'Four Jacks and a Queen.'

Planted

Universal

Jack Sterling, Charles Sullivan, Stubby Kreuger, Dave Webb, John Roy, George Allen, King McJave, Fred Zander, Harry Warren, Dave Wengren, Bob McNeisid, Julie Bescos, Ed Hall, Tom Curtis, Leo McMahan, Chuck Morrison, Jimmy Dime, Denny Sullivan, Harry Sempleton, George Barton, Roger Imhof, 'I, James Lewis'.

Producers Releasing Corp.

Judy Duncan, I. Stanford Jolley, Richard Clarke, Paul Bryar, Johnstone White, Rodrigo de Medici, Kenneth Harlan, Ric Villon, Don Forrest, Thornton Edwards, Jose Perez, Lita Cortex, Blanca Vischa, Frank Hagney, Jose Tortosa, Paul Ellis, Harry Depp, Jack Hendrick, 'Desperate Cargo'.

Warners

Tommy Jackson, Clif Clark, Dmetris Emanuel, 'King Rubber'.

Charles Halton, 'The Smiling Ghost'.

Howard da Silva, Emmett Vogan, 'Navy Blues'.

Republic

Helen McKellar, Robert Frazer, Bud Buster, Jack Lawrence, Bud Geary, Buddy Roosevelt, 'Gangs of Sonora'.

Metro

Robert Winkler, William Forrest, new 'Hardy Family' picture.

'Lewis' To Catalina For Two Weeks

Frank Lloyd's cast and crew for 'I, James Lewis' left Universal studio yesterday for two weeks exteriors to be filmed aboard the 180-foot schooner, Tonquin, off Catalina Isthmus. Principals are Franchot Tone, Walter Brennan, John Carroll, Carol Bruce and Nigel Bruce. Roger Imhof joins cast. Lloyd and Jack Skirball also are on the trip.

Anna Lee Lent 20th For 'Valley' Spot

Anna Lee has been borrowed from RKO by 20th-Fox for 'How Green Was My Valley', in which Maureen O'Hara, another loan from RKO, will have top femme role. Miss Lee has just finished in 'My Life With Caroline' with Ronald Colman.

Horner on 'Victory'

Harry Horner has been signed by Sol Lesser to work with Erno Metzner as production designer on 'Strange Victory', forthcoming Martha Scott starrer for United Artists release.

Castings for 'Lady'

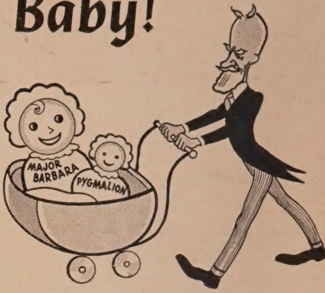
Gene Lockhart has been signed by Edward Small to play the heavy in 'International Lady.' George Zucco and Francis Pierlot also draw heavy assignments.

River Ends 'Bonanza'

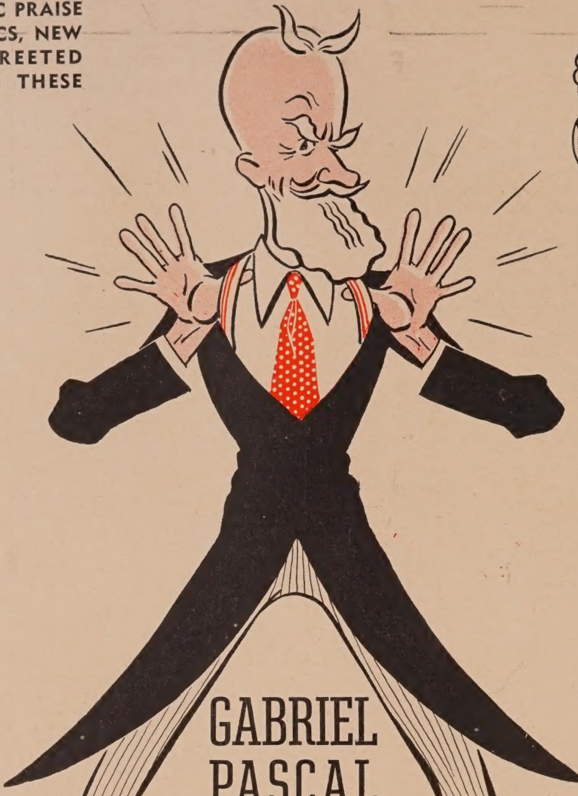
W. L. River has completed his treatment of 'Big Bonanza' for production by Armand Schaeffer at Republic.

The East and West agree!

It's My Prize Baby!



ECHOING THE ENTHUSIASTIC PRAISE OF THE LOS ANGELES CRITICS, NEW YORK FIRST NIGHTERS GREETED "MAJOR BARBARA" WITH THESE COMMENTS:



"Gabriel Pascal, who did such a splendid job of filming 'Pygmalion', has translated a second Shaw play to the screen with great taste and brilliance . . . Magnificent acting throughout . . . Resourceful direction. A vastly entertaining show . . . A miraculous achievement . . . As witty as any film you can think of . . . Wendy Hiller is enchanting . . . A delightful screen comedy."

—Howard Barnes,
N. Y. Herald Tribune

"To call it a manifest triumph would be stingy with words . . . It is a more triumphant picture than any the British have yet sent across . . . This screen version probably does better by the play than was ever done it by the stage . . . Mr. Pascal has pointed the wit which crackles in Mr. Shaw's lines . . . Much fun."

—Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times

"Gabriel Pascal, who brought Shaw's 'Pygmalion' to the screen, worked another miracle with 'Major Barbara'."

—Lee Mortimer,
N. Y. Daily Mirror

"Broadway captured by 'Major Barbara' . . . Studded with true Shavian wit . . . Pascal's direction is extraordinarily good . . . A series of superb performances from a star studded cast . . . Rex Harrison delightful."

—Kate Cameron,
N. Y. Daily News

"So beautifully written, so magnificently performed that it must be set down as a brilliant contribution . . . Wendy Hiller charming, delightful . . . The principals are in every manner and mannerism superb . . . A most stimulating production which is all the more unusual because of its timeliness."

—Irene Thirer, N. Y. Post

"Makes the audience proud of itself for being there . . . Wendy Hiller is completely enchanting."

—Cecelia Ager, PM

"The best comedy in town . . . Brilliantly witty, provocative and stimulating . . . The acting is excellent . . . Wendy Hiller plays Barbara with dignity, clarity and beauty . . . Rex Harrison gives a lively and intelligent performance . . . Robert Newton and Emlyn Williams stand out."

—William Boehnel,
N. Y. World Telegram

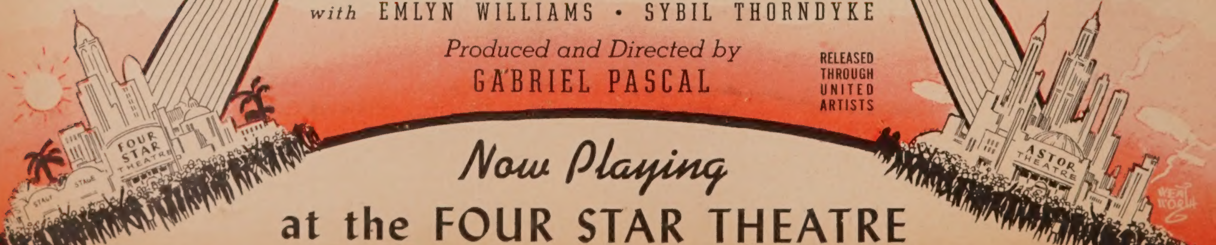
GABRIEL
PASCAL
presents
WENDY HILLER
REX HARRISON • ROBERT MORLEY
in
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW'S

"MAJOR BARBARA"

co-starring ROBERT NEWTON
with EMLYN WILLIAMS • SYBIL THORNDYKE

Produced and Directed by
GABRIEL PASCAL

RELEASED
THROUGH
UNITED
ARTISTS



Now Playing

at the FOUR STAR THEATRE

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 55 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, May 21, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offic

SCHLESINGER STRIKE CALLED OFF

REP CITES BIG BIZ JUMP

Increase in Republic's business around the country during the past six months was attributed to the general improvement in product and the heavy trade paper and fan magazine advertising campaign the company is conducting. Product improvement has opened new Class A playdates for Republic pictures, aided by the consistent advertising exploitation, salesmen in the Western division

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

Par, Sparks Florida Buyout Nears Ink

New York, May 20.—Paramount's negotiations with Edward J. Sparks for purchase of his interest in 85 theatres in Florida for approximately $1,300,000 are nearing completion and may be closed soon. Many details remain to be worked out, however, due to the complicated Sparks corporate setup and the fact that Mrs. Sparks and other relatives own stock. The Sparks family owns 40% of the stock, Paramount already owns 50%, and the other 10% is owned by various Sparks officials.

Al Alleborn Named UMG President

Al Alleborn is the new president of the Unit Managers Guild. He was elected last night to succeed David A. Friedman, who retired after serving two terms. Other officers are H. Keith Weeks, vice president; Eric Stacey, secretary, and A. Mack D'Agostino, treasurer. The board of directors is composed of the four officers and Charles J. Hunt, J. Marchant, Fergi Petschnikoff, Sydney Street. Future plans and policies will be worked out at the next meeting of the new board.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported fo. today:

Central Casting	342
Major Studio Calls	366
FK Studio Service	5
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	719

SO LONDON'S HAPPY

London, May 20. — While American exhibitors cry about daylight saving, theatre men here are rubbing their hands gleefully over double daylight time. Clocks, which were pushed one hour ahead last winter, advanced another hour recently. So daylight now lasts until nine o'clock and will be even later as the season advances. The longer it remains light the more people can go to the theatre, as bombers don't arrive until dark.

DISNEY CONSENT DECREE SIGNING EXPECTED TODAY

A stipulation calling for a consent decree to be entered in the unfair labor practice case against Walt Disney Productions is expected to be approved today, when the hearing on the complaint is resumed before James C. Paradise, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board. The decree would carry a cease and desist order for company executives not to interfere with labor affiliations of Disney employes, and would dis-establish any relations between the company and the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, which was scut-

★ Continued on page 6 ★

SAY BETTE DAVIS ANKLING 'FOXES' PERMANENTLY

Bette Davis is out of 'The Little Foxes', with the reason given as illness, and probably will not be back in the picture. Her lawyers have conferred with attorneys for Samuel Goldwyn to seek a solution to the dilemma which leaves the producer without a star.

Disagreement between Miss Davis and William Wyler, who is directing

♣ Continued on page 3 ♣

Guests Sophie Tucker

Sophie Tucker guests on Monday broadcast of 'What's On Your Mind' over KNX.

PROJECTIONIST DEAL SET AT UNIVERSAL

A deal calling for the employment of four projectionists to man studio projection machines currently operated by film editors at Universal was set yesterday at a conference

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

8,000 Workers Forming Union, Guild Group

The formation of a Studio Union and Guild Committee to act as a clearance house for collective bargaining problems took initial form last night when representatives of 12 crafts representing more than 8,000 film workers met in the offices of the Screen Writers Guild. It

● Continued on page 5 ●

STYMIED ON WESTERNS

Deal between Producers and the Screen Actors Guild is being stymied by certain companies which specialize in the production of westerns. Executives are apprehensive that the proposed agreement to limit the employment of $5.50 extras to calls of 50 or more players would up the cost of cowboy films to a prohibitive figure.

The SAG is gathering figures to offset this contention, and will arrange another meeting with the company representatives as soon as this data is completed. A tentative agreement has already been reached to abolish the current $8.25 and $11 brackets and to replace them with a $10 ticket. This reclassification, however, is interlocked with the $5.50 limitation.

DEAL ASKS FOR 100% GUILD SHOP

The strike at Leon Schlesinger Studio was called off last night. Company executives okayed a contract agreement with the Screen Cartoonists Guild, and announced the plant will be reopened today. The deal was approved unanimously by members of the Schlesinger unit of the SCG at a special meeting last night, and orders were issued for the cartoonists to report for work this morning.

The agreement was reached late

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Chas. Koerner Indicates RKO Division Changes

New York, May 20.—Indications are that Charles Koerner, new RKO theatre head, will seek to eliminate some of the division setups of the RKO circuit and consolidate several of these groupings into more easily handled units. It is reported that Koerner is considering setting up a circuit pattern to reduce RKO groups to four divisions. It is also likely that Denver will be taken out of the Los Angeles division and added to the Chicago division.

CBS, Ascap Sesh Thurs. On Licensing Pact

New York, May 20.—CBS meets with American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers Thursday for continued discussion of the licensing agreement but NBC apparently is marking time on the matter. Number of Ascap members lately have been urging that Society start anti-trust and conspiracy suits against NBC, Columbia and National Association of Broadcasters.

Report SDG Progress

The Producers and Screen Directors Guild in a joint statement last night reported that satisfactory progress is being made in negotiations on the Guild's request for establishment of minimum wages for directors on low budget pictures.

PREVIEWED

SHINING VICTORY
(WB)

(Preview on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Yola D'Avril boats it to Honolulu tomorrow.

George Kopp of the local Ascap staff is in the army.

Charles Spangler has joined Terry DeLapp's publicity staff.

Max Steiner is writing music score for Warners 'Sergeant York'.

Jesse Hibbs assistant director on 'King Rubber'. Charles Novi is art director.

Anthony Quinn has broken out the fishing tackle for couple weeks at Guaymas.

Jack Kapp, Decca recording prexy, in from New York for a coupla weeks.

20th-Fox Studio Club is tossing a dinner dance at the Florentine Gardens June 15.

The Moving Picture Painters Local 644 has voted to buy $5,000 worth of Defense bonds.

Harold Medford is scripting couple of two-reelers at Warners, 'Ice Frolics' and 'Old Doll's House'.

Harry Hammond Beall has taken his daughter, Bobbie, into his publicity organization as junior vice-prez.

Lloyd Bacon, a commander in the Naval Reserve, is acting as his own technical adviser on Warners 'Navy Blues'.

Tony Martin, expecting his draft questionnaire next week, is interviewing those who have filled out their forms.

Joseph B. Polonsky has been named by North American News-Press, Canadian syndicate, as Hollywood correspondent.

Ann Dvorak is working as volunteer garage mechanic, repairing trucks and battle buggies, in England, according to word just received here.

William Gargan and the missus leave on two weeks' fishing jaunt on the Frank Morgans' yacht soon as Gargan finishes in Universal's 'Flying Cadets'.

RKO is enlarging its reading department with the addition this week of John Webber and George Cicala as readers under Collier Young, head of the story department.

Robert Stack planed for New York yesterday, planning to return by the end of the week. Universal picked up his option. On the same plane was John Payne, going to visit his family in Richmond, Va.

Benny the Gouge sez—They are always talking about composite actors, but put them all together and what's the answer? Laird Cregar.

Hollywood Inside

WHEN war broke out, and even before it came, Hollywood studios made several pictures with full war backgrounds. 'Confessions of a Nazi Spy' was the most successful of these. Public reaction to many of the pictures was not as strong as their producers had hoped, with the public apparently not requiring proof that the Nazi philosophy is inimical to democracy. The drama of war, however, is not being neglected in what appears to be a new trend in films with the war as background. Paramount started the new trend with 'One Night in Lisbon', using the war only as atmosphere. Now Edward Small, in 'International Lady', is making a war background picture with no political implications. There is no propaganda in Small's film and the Nazis are not mentioned by name.

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SPECIAL meetings of branch and district exchange managers will be held by several of the major distributors prior to the start of the selling season in each case in order to acquaint sales staffs as much as possible with the workings of the consent decree. As far as the majority of exchange men are concerned the consent decree is still a closed book, with sales policies to be formulated by the trial and error method. As evidence that New York home office executives are not a great deal wiser on consent problems than their men in the field is the fact that branch and division managers in Los Angeles and elsewhere have been asked to send along any ideas they may hit upon which may even remotely aid in clarifying future sales policies.

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TWENTIETH-FOX is having difficulty finding sufficient office space to accommodate the unusually large number of new executives and a total of 55 writers on the lot. Jam-up of space has resulted in a number of scribes having to do their writing chores at their homes or other quarters until shifting around of studio offices can be arranged to take care of everyone. Company had five writers doing their work off the lot, in addition to Marcus Goodrich, author of 'Delilah', who has been scribbling at home for the past two weeks. Yesterday space was found to quarter him at the studio and he moves in to continue scripting on 'Sioux City', the J. Hiatt Downing novel which Harry Joe Brown will produce.

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ACTRESS drawing down a good salary recently found herself unable to get much attention from the publicity department of the studio which has her under contract. Reason given her was that stills were proving difficult to plant, that her roles, so far, had not been heavy enough to warrant heavy interest. Last week she hired a private flack and let it be known that she had done so. This week, so far, she's had her days full sitting for new stills at the studio and news items featuring her are being whipped out in some quantity.

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KALEIDOSCOPIC wardrobe to cost $100, consisting of at least five basic costumes and susceptible of 17 color variations, has been devised by Warners fashioneers and has been worked into top commercial tieup with a leading Hollywood store as a promotional feature for 'Million Dollar Baby.' Stunt will carry total store display, feature yarns, ad tieups and radio plugs in advance of local showing of film. On Monday also, Grace Nolan plugs unusual campaign on newscasts over KHJ and KECA.

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INDIVIDUAL members of the Hollywood correspondents group are being told by a studio publicity top that their difficulties on the preview situation can be ironed out quickly if they will drop a certain newspaper man who considers himself a 'fuehrer' from their committee. Correspondents thus approached have all nixed the idea of dropping the man named. Feud between the publicity director and the correspondent in question began several years ago and has never been forgotten.

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DESPITE unfavorable criticism and the generally pessimistic attitude that prevailed during roadshow engagements 'The Great Dictator' now promises to make a tidy profit for Charlie Chaplin. Indications are that the film will better $1,000,000 on domestic gross alone. The production actually cost about $1,400,000 instead of the $2,000,000 generally reported.

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COLUMBIA'S KNX carried off one of the richest prizes in competition at National Association of Broadcasters convention in St. Louis. Award, a desk set, was for the best program presentation and was presented yesterday by Donald W. Thornburgh to George Moskovics, head of KNX sales promotion department.

Coast League Baseball Results

Sacramento, 7; Los Angeles, 5.
Hollywood, 6; Portland, 3 (11 innings).
San Francisco, 9; San Diego, 0.
Oakland, 7; Seattle, 3.

Set Bennett Cohen

Bennett Cohen is assigned to screenplay on 'Oregon Trail' at Republic. This is first of the 1941-42 Don Barry westerns.

MG to Use Title, Songs Of 'Red, Hot' Comedy

New York, May 20. — Metro bought the rights to 'Red, Hot and Blue', musical comedy of the 1936-37 season, produced by Vinton Freedley with Jimmy Durante, Ethel Merman and Bob Hope starred. Studio doesn't want the story material but will use the title and possibly some of the songs. Price is $15,000. Book for the show was written by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, co-authors of 'Life With Father' and co-producers of 'Arsenic and Old Lace.'

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There once was a time when the White Wings ranged in the lee of the prancing steeds
Arrayed in their glistening polo hats to attend to the civic needs.

But the snappiest group in the civic line from the North to the Southern Pole
Is the squad that toils on the boulevard as the Hollywood Paper Control.

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With all the hosses working on studio ranches and studio race tracks, the chief impediment to traffic on Hollywood blvd. these days is paper, consisting largely of rejection slips, torn-up manuscripts, date notes and whatnot. The literary clean-up is performed daily by a squad of paper-picker-uppers whose uniforms would make a squad of admirals look like a squad of okies. Hollywood can shoot a snipe on the curb with more aplomb than a belted earl shooting a pheasant on his game preserve.

Cliff Nazarro is worried about playing a half-wit in 'Miss Susie Slagle's.' He is wondering if they will hand him a half-salary. In which case, he will double-talk his agent.

Milton Berle, who has departed temporarily from what he calls the corner of Clinging Vine and Hollywood, is in New York aiming to produce 'Keep Punching, Brother', a tale of gag writers—not pugilists. If he could scare up a few heavyweights imbued with that idea, Milton could move into the Garden as co-producer with Mike Jacobs.

Hollywood's good will campaign has achieved amazing results in South America. The boys down there are playing gin rummy.

It behooves those collegiate orange-throwers to have a care. Maxie Rosenbloom is about to play 'Harvard, Here I Come.'

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First is was 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith.' Now comes 'Mr. and Mrs. Cugat.' Hollywood grows more and more domesticated.

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One of the most expressive utensils of household equipment is the bathtub. Cecil DeMille's were carved out of marble and plated with gold to indicate the luxury of ancient Rome. Now comes 'Belle Starr', a tale of rugged pioneer days. So the heroine is dunked in a tin tub.

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Old Vicente Blasco Ibanez will be warmed, spiritually, by the news that his 'Blood and Sand' is going over so well. The book netted him approximately one dozen tamales.

'Fair as a star when only one is shining in the sky', an old poet wrote before films were invented. It still goes when Hollywood throws a picture with only one femme in the cast.

Errol Flynn is the logical candidate for the role of 'Gentleman Jim Corbett', another actor who achieved fame with a straight left.

Preview

★

Shining Victory

(*Drama*)

Warners production. Features James Stephenson, Geraldine Fitzgerald, with Donald Crisp, Barbara O'Neil, Montagu Love, Sig Rumann and George P. Huntley, Jr. Supporting players: Richard Ainley, Bruce Lester, Leonard Mudie, Doris Lloyd, Frank Reicher, Hermine Sterler, Billy Bevan, Clare Verdera, Crauford Kent, Alec Craig. Director, Irving Rapper. Executive poducer, Hal B. Wallis. Associate producer, Robert Lord. Screenplay Howard Koch and Anne Froelick. From the play by A. J. Cronin. Photography, James Wong Howe. Art director, Carl Jules Weyl. Film editor, Warren Low. Sound, Dolph Thomas. Gowns, Howard Shoup. Orchestral arrangements, Hugo Friedhofer. Technical advisor, Dr. George C. McDaniel. Musical director, Leo F. Forbstein. Music, Max Steiner. Assistant director, Jesse Hibbs. Previewed at Warners Beverly theatre, May 20. Running time: 86 mins.

'Shining Victory' is distinguished by top flight performances, easy direction and production, and neat scripting to mark it as a capable dramatic entry sure to find favor with nearly every type audience. Its best playing time will be outside the key city first runs because of lack of known draw names. Irving Rapper, former Warners dialog director making his feature directorial bow, had the advantage of the talents of James Stephenson and Geraldine Fitzgerald to make the event worthy of note. He has presented the picture's problems with distinction and well rates further directing assignments. His style is smooth and he has given importance to every contributing bit in the film to add to the dramatic values.

Adapted from the A. J. Cronin play by Howard Koch and Anne Froelick, screen play is compact and believable in spite of the old plot basis around which it is woven. Stephenson, a medical research genius is cast out of Budapest after he protests the theft of his long work into mental disorders and their treatment by a government-favored doctor. He takes his bitterness to a sanitarium in Scotland where he has a chance to continue his work on new patients. There he finds success, love for his assistant, Geraldine Fitzgerald, and a great tragedy when she dies in a fire set by an insanely jealous coworker, Barbara O'Neil. The death of Miss Fitzgerald will seem unnecessary to many viewers, who will probably wish for a Hollywood compromise so that the story could have ended on a happier note.

Stephenson and Miss Fitzgerald tellingly put over their characters, each complementing the other for full realization of every phase. Both are particularly outstanding. Donald Crisp merits a big credit for his work as a supporter of Stephenson's experiments. Miss O'Neil is fine as the hospital attache, slowly reaching insanity through physical repressions. Montagu Love is extremely capable as the commercial head of the institution. Sig Rumann emphasizes an important bit. George P. Huntley, Jr. makes his part of a young doctor count. Billy Bevan and Alec Craig, with brief and lighter roles, are good. Leonard Mudie and Doris Lloyd contribute excellent support, as do the others in the cast.

Associate Producer Robert Lord has given the production skillful handling and good taste. James Wong Howe's camera work is noteworthy, as are the musical and other credits.

Bund or German Govt. Finances NY Nazi Propagandist Flicker

New York, May 20.—The Bund or the German government is financing the overflow attendance during the last two weeks at the New York showing of the Nazi propaganda film, 'Sieg im Westen', it is charged. DAILY VARIETY has learned that many of the so-called patrons of the theatre in the Yorkville section pay no admission but present membership cards in various Nazi organizations. The theatre is later reimbursed by 'some other source'.

The heavy attendance, frequently resulting in a line of 400 persons outside the 500-seat house during the two-week period ending today, is not spontaneous. Besides the free admission angle Nazi and Fascist organizations in the metropolitan New York area are pressuring members to attend or else.

Watch Jukers

Seattle, May 20.—Maintenance and servicing of juke boxes has been placed under the jurisdiction of Motion Picture Operators, it was ruled by Northwest District Council No. 1.

SAY BETTE DAVIS ANKLING 'FOXES' PERMANENTLY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

the picture, it is understood, led to the actress checking off the lot last week. Since that time she has been ill, remaining at home in bed.

Goldwyn announced last week that Miss Davis had taken a 10-day layoff because of overwork and the strain of wearing the tightly-fitting, early 1900-period costumes required for her role.

Preparations on the film have not halted entirely as a result of the disagreement between the actress and the director, but little footage had been shot before Miss Davis left the lot to go home.

Prod. Labor Committee Acts on ADG Plans

The Producers labor relations committee met yesterday to review a proposed contract submitted by the Art Directors Guild. The executives passed certain clauses and sent others back to the Guild for revision. The proposed agreement calls for recognition of the Guild as collective bargaining representative, but does not fix minimum wage scales.

Wallis to NY Friday

Hal B. Wallis goes to New York on the Super Chief Friday on seasonal trip to look at plays and scout for prospective talent and story properties. Warners executive producer expects to be east for couple weeks.

Kane Starting 'Riches'

Joe Kane, associate producer and director on Republic's 'From Rags to Riches', starts pre-production at Hollywood Park Saturday, and will get into regular production June 2.

Milt Gross at WB

Milt Gross is at Warners to begin story development on an original by Matt Webster, 'You're In the Army Now', dealing with daily routines of the draftees.

Blumenthal Federal Subpoena Situation Passed To U.S. Court

New York, May 20.—The fate of A. C. Blumenthal today passed into the hands of Federal Judge Grover Moscowitz, who will consider, after receiving an affidavit from the promoter in Mexico City, whether to quash a Federal subpoena served on him. Blumenthal was served as a witness in the Joseph M. Schenck-Joseph Moskowitz income tax trial, but pleading illness, he failed to appear.

If the court refuses to quash the subpoena and the government proceeds against Blumenthal, he is liable to a fine of $100,000.

Sternberg Will Direct Pressburger Pic

Josef Von Sternberg will direct the first of the Arnold Pressburger productions for United Artists release, 'The Shanghai Gesture.' Start is set for early July on the Hal Roach lot. Projected series for UA is first Pressburger will have produced in this country, having come here from Vienna.

MacKellar at Rep

Helen MacKellar reports at Republic today for one of the leads in the new Three Mesquiteers western, 'Gangs of Sonora', on a deal agented by Mitchell Hamilburg.

In from the East

Dorothy Lewis
Stan Laurel
Oliver Hardy
Jack Kapp
Jules Stein
Walter Pidgeon
Phil Regan
Ronald Reagan
Jane Wyman

Heading East

James A. FitzPatrick
Jean Pettebone
Julius Lefkowitz (TWA)
Herbert J. Yates (TWA)
James R. Grainger (TWA)
Nat Lefkowitz (TWA)
Mrs. Paul Muni (SF)
William deMille (SF)
Gail Patrick (AA)
Rosemary Lane (AA)
John Payne (AA)
M. Pivar (AA)
Ronald Colman
Mrs. Ronald Colman
Joseph H. Steele
Robert Stack
Jack Scholl

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

RONALD COLMAN and Mrs. Colman, accompanied by Joseph H. Steele, of the RKO flackery, plane out today for New York where the actor will take a week's vacation. This will be his first trip to New York in seven years. Next Friday night he goes to Buffalo to make a personal appearance for a war relief show. . . . Irving Sindler, property man on 'The Little Foxes', will have his name in that picture in bigger type than it's ever been set in before. 'Sindler & Son, Meats' is the legend on a billboard used in one scene. Sindler had first worked his name out on a burlesque theatre playbill, but it had been scratched off when the camera rolled. He has had his name displayed in every picture he has worked on.

Ben Oakland figures he hasn't done so badly by being placed in class 3A by the draft board. 'It's better than my Ascap rating', he flipped.

RENNY McEVOY, son of J. P., is writing the continuity for his father's comic strip, 'Dixie Dugan.' . . . Commodore of one of the oldest and most exclusive yacht clubs of southern California, who is also a pic name, has been shorn of office and membership because of unpaid bills. . . . Milton Berle has written his 43rd song, 'As Far As I'm Concerned', and will introduce it at his NY Paramount theatre appearance June 11.

Ninety per cent of Warners 'Out of the Fog', screen version of 'The Gentle People', is composed of night scenes, the remainder of murky daylight and fog. Cameraman James Wong Howe had peculiar lighting problems for which there was no precedent.

TWENTIETH-FOX had its top call of chorus boys and girls and extras yesterday, using 258 in three pictures. Finale sequence in 'Sun Valley Serenade' used 80 skaters; 120 extras were employed in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' and balance worked in 'Belle Starr.' . . . Harriet Hilliard is coming back to films after a year's retirement, and will move here with her family. Ozzie Nelson, her husband, plans to make flying visits to the Coast and Miss Hilliard will ditto east between pictures. . . . Gloria Swanson will give the winning wreath away Saturday to the victorious horse in the Ben Ali Haggin Stakes at Hollywood Park. . . . Paul Gerard Smith will lecture before the Beverly Hills Women's Club June 2 and the Wilshire Ebell Club June 9, on the subject of 'Lancashire Lad', which he wrote with Pat O'Malley. . . . Helen Welty is staying at NBC as secretary to Robert Schuetz in the Recording department. . . . Jean Pettebone, fashion editor and mag contact, airlined to New York for a week's style scanning. . . . Dorothy Lewis is in from New York to prepare for femme lead in Republic's 'Ice-Capades of 1941.' She has been starring in the Hotel St. Regis ice show. Studio has her under options.

Schlesinger Strike Called Off; 100% Closed Shop Dealt

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

yesterday at a conference between Harry G. Sadicoff, Schlesinger attorney; Henry Bender, production manager; Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer; George E. Bodle, Guild counsel; Rita Raven, SCG secretary, and a Guild committee composed of Chuck Jones, John Carey and Jerry Chiniquy. The pact is effective immediately, and calls for a 100% closed shop.

Other provisions provide for an eight-hour day, five-day, 40-hour week; all workers to be hired through the Guild, with a proviso that if the union can not furnish the desired men within 48 hours, the company can hire outsiders. Such employes, however, must join the Guild within 15 days.

All employes receiving $35 per week and under must be raised to the minimum scales. No worker is to receive an increase of less than 10%. The workers are given six holidays off per year with pay, and one week's vacation with pay. The deal provides that an arbitration committee will be set up to handle all grievances and disputes.

Union tops estimated that the total wage increase granted workers will amount to approximately $36,000 per year. They said the original offer of the company called for a tilt of only $19,000. There was a difference of only $5 per week on one classification, and Schlesinger finally agreed to concede it. The contract will run for three years, with provision for opening it annually for wage changes.

Both groups expressed their satisfaction that an amicable agreement had been reached. Schlesinger closed the studio Sunday after receiving notice from the Guild that a strike would be called at 10 a.m. Monday unless a deal had been set. The cameramen joined the walkout at noon Monday, having advised the Guild that they would conform with its request for cooperation.

The Guild adopted a vote of thanks to the International Photographers Local 659, Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399, and Laboratory Technicians Local 683 for their support, and thanked other film unions for their offers of cooperation.

W. B. Lewis in From NY On CBS Business

W. B. Lewis, CBS vice prez in charge of programs, is here from New York to lay out a summer schedule for commercial programs on hiatus. 'Forecast' series which showcases weekly change of guest stars, will be revived to fill the Monday night spot to be vacated by Lux.

Ill in Pix

THOMAS MITCHELL has checked out of Cedars of Lebanon and will complete recuperation from his accident injuries at home. Chief injury was concussion.

PAUL MANTZ checking out of Hollywood hospital after being confined there since May 4 with injuries received in an auto accident.

Speakers Listed for Confab Of Writers at UCLA Sat.

Speakers who will address some 2,000 delegates to the National Conference of Writers Saturday (24), the closing day of the conclave, were announced yesterday by the Screen Writers Guild, which is in charge of program arrangements. The meeting opening Friday (23) at the University of California at Los Angeles is sponsored by the Authors League of America.

Paul Franklin, vice-prexy of the Western Region of the Radio Writers Guild, will be chairman of the morning session. The growth of mechanized entertainment and what it means to the creator and the audience will be the keynote of his address.

Ralph Block will speak on 'The Motion Picture', Hector Chevigny will talk on 'The Radio', and Dwight Taylor will speak on 'The Temperament of the Writer'. Discussion and questions from the floor will follow, with the morning session adjourning at 12:30 p.m.

Following luncheon in Kerckhoff Hall at the University, the writers will resume in the afternoon with Sidney Buchman, vice-president of the Screen Writers Guild, acting as afternoon chairman. Speakers for the afternoon session include R. C. Sheriff, who will talk on 'The Motion Picture Audience', and John Howard Lawson, who will talk on 'Copyright—Its History and Significance'.

Participating in a round table discussion and open forum on creative possibilities of radio and screen will be Tess Slesinger, Nunnally Johnson, True Boardman, Ralph Freud, Arthur Kober, Arch Oboler and Brainerd Duffield. Sheridan Gibney, prexy of the SWG, will give the summary and concluding remarks for the first national gathering of writers.

Bowes Bowing Out

New York, May 20.—Major Bowes' Capitol Family goes off the air Sunday after nearly 1,000 weekly programs dating back to 1922. Simultaneously Bowes is lessening his activities around the Capitol theatre, of which he is part owner, but won't relinquish his title as managing director.

PROJECTIONIST DEAL SET AT UNIVERSAL

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

between Cliff Work, Dave Garber, and John F. Swartz, business representative of Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165. The projectionists will take over the first of next week.

As a result of the agreement Local 165 is recalling its request for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes to invoke the 'road call' against Universal productions. Steve B. Newman, IATSE international representative, aided Swartz in arranging the parley which resulted in the agreement to take film cutters off projection machines.

Sub for Bob Hope

New York, May 20.—Lord & Thomas closed for a serial script, the theme dealing with a female 'Andy Hardy', to substitute for Bob Hope on the 13-week stretch for Pepsodent beginning (24). Agency hasn't decided on a title.

Spot Herrera Twins

Herrera Twins have been booked into the El Paseo club in Santa Barbara for an indefinite run. Girls will do three broadcasts a week from spot over KHJ and will be given time off to fulfill previous film commitments.

Jules Stein West

New York, May 20.—Jules Stein, president of Music Corporation, returns to the Coast this week after a brief stay here during which he supervised installation of a new enlarged office.

GREEN PUTS XTRA WAIL TO AFL

William F. Green, prexy of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter to an extra leader here yesterday, stated that the extra setup in the Screen Actors Guild will be called to the attention of the AFofL Executive Council which convened in Washington Monday.

The extra had charged that the SAG took in 20,000 when there is daily work for only 800, had promised them their own organization to be known as the Junior Screen Actors Guild, but later canceled the original setup. He said the Class B members outnumbered the Class A members 8 to 1, and yet were denied a vote or voice in the affairs of the organization.

A Guild spokesman stated last night that it was rather peculiar that Green said he had no authority to remove George Scalise, now serving a prison term; Willie Bioff, and others, and yet suddenly did find he had authority to interfere in the affairs of an AFofL organization whose policies and the very things he proposed to investigate had been endorsed by a vote of the Guild members themselves.

Kilian in 'Wild Wind'

Victor Kilian joins the supporting players in 'Reap the Wild Wind', Cecil B. De Mille production for Paramount, starting in three weeks. Deal was agented by Mitchell J. Hamilburg.

DeMond Ends 'Sonora'

Albert DeMond has completed the screenplay for 'Gangs of Sonora' and has checked off the Republic lot.

Big Wigs

Columbia yesterday had a record number of 47 makeup artists and hairdressers working on various pictures. 'Texas', under way at Columbia ranch, required 175 character makeups.

Commentator Arden Airs After Release On U.S. Charges

Robert Arden, whose commentary under the billing of 'Your Foreign Correspondent' is heard five times a week over KFWB, was back on the air last night after being released on bond on charges of illegal entry into this country from Austria. Immigration authorities yesterday took him into custody, the specific charge being that he overstayed his leave on a visitor's visa.

In referring to his predicament on last night's broadcast, Arden, whose real name is Robert Kligler, quoted Mark Twain, saying, 'Reports of my death are greatly exaggerated'.

Dr. Cowen, dentist, who bankrolls the Arden series, will continue the broadcasts, it was said last night. Arden will appear for hearing before immigration officials in six weeks.

Arden went east a week ago purportedly to arrange for a series of short wave broadcasts to South America in six languages. Understood trip was for the purpose of getting straightened out with immigration authorities in Washington.

Clifton Fadiman on Receiving End

Clifton Fadiman, who tosses those questions at the board of experts on Information Please, will be at the receiving end on broadcast Tuesday, which marks beginning of four years on the air. Deems Taylor will be the inquisitor. Program is heard here on KECA at 7:30 p.m.

John Barrymore Returns To Sealtest Thurs.

John Barrymore will be back on Sealtest program Thursday, but will have to forego today's rehearsal on account of throat trouble, which kept him confined at home for a week. Hans Conreid will sub at the warmup.

Obituary

FRED BEHRLE

Fred Behrle, 50, film character actor, died of a heart attack yesterday shortly after reporting for work at the Columbia ranch for his role in 'Texas'. Behrle had said he was not feeling well after pushing his stalled automobile on his way to the film location. His body was taken to the Powell mortuary in Burbank and funeral arrangements are expected to be completed today.

Behrle, who was born in San Diego, entered the motion picture business back in 1909 when he became an actor with the old Vitagraph Co. He is survived by his widow, Marion L. Behrle; a four-year-old son, Melvyn, and a sister, Louise Behrle.

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
New York City
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager

Republic Reports Big Jump In Western Sales

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

were told yesterday as the first quarterly meeting was concluded after a two-day session at the studio.

Republic had a 35% increase in actual playdates and liquidation in its Western sales division for the six months period ending June 1 over the corresponding period for last year. Same figure, said Herbert J. Yates and James R. Grainger, who presided at the meeting, was generally maintained for the company all over the country.

Republic product for the same period was shown in more Class A houses than ever before in the company's history. Pictures included 'Sis Hopkins', 'Melody Ranch', 'Mr. District Attorney' and 'Rookies On Parade'. Same note of optimism was sounded at the sales confab for the next three months period because of the advance bookings on such films as 'Lady From Louisiana', 'Angels With Broken Wings', 'The Singing Hill', 'Puddin' Head' and 'Ice-Capades of 1941.'

Exchange men and salesmen reported that Republic's serials currently in release, 'Adventures of Captain Marvel' and 'Jungle Girl', would turn in business comparable to grosses on 'The Lone Ranger', which played 8,000 theatres and grossed a million dollars.

In the Westerns field, the record made by the Don Barry pictures was cited for its increase from 4,000 accounts when the feature started to a current 5,700 in a year's time.

Company has three times as many players under contract at the end of the six months period as it ever had before, totaling 32. Policy of developing new talent will be continued full tilt, Yates stated. Procedure of bringing in top-notch radio talent from various districts, a policy initiated by Republic, also will be maintained.

Present at the meetings Monday and yesterday were J. T. Sheffield, franchise manager of Republic Pictures for the Northwest; Francis Bateman, Los Angeles branch manager; Sid Weisbaum, San Francisco exchange manager; Ed Walton of Seattle, and Gene Gerbase of the Denver exchange.

Yates and Grainger planed to Chicago last night to preside at the combined Midwest and Southern regional quarterly conventions (22-23), and from there will go to the final meeting in New York (27-28).

Zorina in for Test

Vera Zorina flies out from New York over the weekend to test for Paramount's 'Louisiana Purchase', returning to go into the show in the east immediately after the test.

Oriental Film

San Francisco, May 20.—First oriental film ever made in Chinatown, a 10-reeler called 'Golden Gate Girl', is having its initial run at Grand View theatre. English titles are to be used in prints for general release. Esther Eng, China's only woman director, supervised the production.

WHITNEY, FOREIGN MANAGERS DISCUSS L-A PROGRAM

New York, May 20.—Jock Whitney talked with foreign managers of major film companies in the Hays office this week regarding plans to carry out the industry's Latin-American good will program. He also apparently fathered a good will program of his own, being elected to ex-officio membership in the Foreign Managers Group.

The action followed criticism by export men that Whitney's division of the Rockefeller Committee was taking steps in South America without consulting exporters. Such squawks reaching Whitney's ears resulted in the meeting at which he agreed they probably know better than anyone else what South Americans want by way of a good will program.

During the discussions means of using a lend-lease law to extract frozen coin from England also were considered.

8,000 Workers Forming Union, Guild Group

● Continued from page 1 ●

was decided to take immediate steps for concerted action on common phases of contract negotiations and to extend mutual cooperation in the future by establishing fact-finding committees for the exchange of information and research data.

The group's organizational plans are along the same lines as those under which the Producers Association operates. The union representatives discussed ways and means to launch a publicity campaign to acquaint all Guilds, Unions and the public with problems confronting crafts in Hollywood. Sidney Buchman, vice-prexy of the SWG, acted as chairman of the meeting.

Ruth Burch Appointed Roach Casting Dir.

Ruth Burch has been named casting director at the Hal Roach studios, replacing Hal Roach, Jr., who becomes co-producer with LeRoy Prinz on company's series of musicals for release by United Artists during 1941-42. Miss Burch has been acting as Roach's assistant.

Ed. Sutherland Given Warners Contract

Edward Sutherland has been signed to a term directing contract at Warners and will do 'The Smiling Ghost' with Wayne Morris and Brenda Marshall, as his first assignment. Deal was negotiated through the Sam Jaffe agency.

Madero in 'Panama'

Marquita Madero, dancer from Mexico City, has been given a featured role in Columbia's 'Girls From Panama', her first assignment since being brought to Hollywood.

Rosenthal Assigned

Harry Rosenthal draws a featured comedy role in Paramount's 'Sullivan's Travels' after he finishes in 'Birth of the Blues' at that studio.

Don Terry in 'Charlie'

Don Terry goes to Universal for additional scenes on 'Oh, Charlie', after checking out of the 'Barnacle Bill' unit at Metro.

Lorimer for 'Cadets'

Louise Lorimer has been signed at Universal for role in 'Flying Cadets' through the Leo Morrison office.

Refueled

Seattle, May 20.—Although prohibited from playing Ascap music on local programs due to the state law against the Society's operation, KOL, Mutual outlet, is permitted to carry Ascap tunes fed the station by the network. Society's suit to have the statute voided is up before U. S. Supreme court.

20th Files Claims To Two Police Gazette Titles

New York, May 20.—20th-Fox surprised the trade last week by filing a claim to the titles, 'Sins of New York as Exposed By the Police Gazette' and 'Sins of America as Exposed By the Police Gazette'. Studio doesn't intend to use either tag, but merely wants to protect the angles of a Police Gazette expose contained in the script of 'Coney Island'.

Script was just completed by Edward Van Every, New York Sun sports writer.

Navy's Newsreel Censor of Strike Indicative

New York, May 20.—The Navy Department's censoring last week of newsreel coverage of shipyard strikes is seen as an indication of possible things to come. The Navy's explanation for scissoring virtually all the material on the subject was that it showed vessels under construction. The action climaxed the increasing strictness in banning items which newsreel men say contained nothing of military value.

Of the 400 feet made by Paramount in a roundup of the whole shipyard strike situation the company received less than 50 feet back from the Navy as 'suitable for release'.

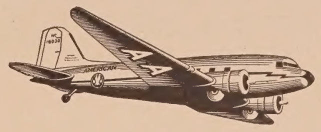
Another Meeting Today On Col. R'cdg Strike

Columbia Recording Corp. executives met yesterday with a committee representing its striking employes, but when the session was adjourned the two groups were still far apart on seniority rights, and a non-strike clause. It was stated another meeting will be held today in the offices of Edward Fitzgerald, United States labor conciliator.

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(20th-Fox)

'Dressed To Kill'
Dir.: Eugene Forde
Asst.: Sam Schneider



NEW YORK

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★ Five American Flagships daily along the Southern route through Arizona and Texas to Washington, New York, Boston and all the East. Luxurious skysleepers. For reservations, call your Travel Agent or STanley 7-1511. Ticket Offices: 6735 Hollywood Boulevard and 512 W. 6th Street.

AMERICAN AIRLINES Inc.
ROUTE OF THE FLAGSHIPS

Newman To Sit in On Projectionists 150 Wage Hearing

International Representative Steve Newman of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes is scheduled to sit in at a special meeting of the Projectionists Union local 150, to be held tomorrow night to map negotiations for wage scale deals.

Confabs will primarily revolve about counter proposals recently submitted by Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast prexy, with Newman advising on policy to be adopted by boothmen.

The projectionists originally asked circuit operators for vacations with pay. Theatre chains nixed this proposal and offered a 5c per hour increase for boothmen providing the latter agreed to a three-year contract. Union officials then offered to compromise on a 5c per hour increase each year for three years, with Skouras submitting a new counter proposal. Projectionists will meet again with F-WC execs within a few days.

Council No. 2 Meets

A meeting of Projectionists Council No. 2 was held last night in San Bernardino to discuss proposed contracts with theatres in Southern California. Locals here were represented by Jack Payne, John F. Swartz, and Hal Roddan.

RKO Seeking Delay In Nicholls Case

Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. yesterday entered a motion in U. S. District court for a delay until June 10 to plead to the amended complaint filed in connection with the $15,000 suit on behalf of the estate of George Nicholls, Jr. Action, under a group insurance claim, which was filed several months ago, has the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, administrator-with-will-annexed of estate of George Nicholls, Jr., as the plaintiff. Mitchell, Silberberg, Roth & Knupp are attorneys of record for RKO.

20th '41 Sked Washup

Final washup on the remaining two 1940-41 productions on the 20th-Fox slate will be completed by tomorrow when final recordings on 'Man Hunt' and 'Dance Hall' are finished.

DISNEY CONSENT DECREE SIGNING EXPECTED TODAY

★ Continued from page 1 ★

tled recently when its officers organized the American Society of Screen Cartoonists.

The Studio laid off 18 workers yesterday. The company said the move was designed to cut expenses, but the Screen Cartoonists Guild was closely checking the situation to determine if any of the employes were released because of their Guild activities. It was reported that one of those given a layoff was treasurer of the Disney unit of the SCG and that several others were members.

The complaint against Disney was brought by the Screen Cartoonists Guild, which is now demanding recognition as collective bargaining representative for the workers. The Guild claims to represent an overwhelming majority of the employes, and has offered to disclose its membership records for the purpose of establishing that fact.

If the consent decree is approved, Disney will not be required to admit that he 'dominated and interfered' with the Federation. Its abolition, however, removed the organization as a certified NLRB representative for the employes.

Planted

Universal

George Melford, John Maxwell, 'Flying Cadets'.

Walter Deming, Mel Ruick, Bert Howard, Jack Gardener, 'Radio Revels of 1942'.

Bobby Barber, William Ruhl, Frank Richards, Thurston Hall, 'Oh, Charlie'.

Warners

Peter Whitney, 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'.

Tom Dugan, 'The Smiling Ghost'.

Creighton Hale, 'King Rubber'.

Auctioning Tom Mix Belongings Today

Tony the Second and other possessions of the late Tom Mix go on the block during the three-day auction of the Mix Ranch in Van Nuys, which begins today. In addition to Tony there are about 10 or 11 other horses. Tony the First was willed to Tom Mix's attorney. The ranch house bedrooms hold extra size beds measuring about 12 by 14 feet. Ranch area consists of approximately 17 acres.

Reties Stanley Clements

Stanley (Stash) Clements, 14-year-old Brooklyn Major Bowes' amateur, has had his 20th-Fox contract extended for another term after doing two pictures on the lot, 'Tall, Dark and Handsome' and 'Accent on Love.'

Sincere Appreciation to the . . .

International Photographers Local 659
Laboratory Technicians Local 683
Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399
and all the other Unions and Guilds
For their ready support in winning
Our contract at Leon Schlesinger Studio

Screen Cartoonists
Local Union 852
Brotherhood of Painters,
Decorators and Paperhangers
of America

a.m. Dailies

Wm. Fox Testimony—
William Fox testified in Philadelphia yesterday that he had given a total of $27,500 to J. Warren Davis, retired United States circuit judge. Statement was made by Fox at the opening of the government's case against Davis and Morgan S. Kaufman, former Fox attorney, charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice and to defraud the United States.

H'wood Club Benefit Check—
Hollywood Turf Club has turned over check for $22,726 to the State Controller as California's share of the charity day races during the last season. State racing tracks have turned over a total of $238,325 to the state under an agreement granting additional days of racing.

Dedicate Fairbanks Sarcophagus—
Marble sarcophagus where body of Douglas Fairbanks will rest will be unveiled and dedicated Sunday at 3 p.m. in the Hollywood Memorial Park cemetery. Brief public memorial services will be held.

Dyar Hearing Put Over

Hearing in the case of Otto Dyar, who has taken action against the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industries local 659 and five major film studios for damages on the charge that he was refused employment for lack of a union card, was yesterday postponed in Superior court until next Tuesday (27). Those named as defendants in the complaint, in addition to IPMPI local 659, are Samuel Goldwyn Studios, Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., 20th Century-Fox, Paramount Pictures, Inc., and Columbia Pictures Corp.

Pierson's 'Pony Boy'

Joe Pierson has turned in script for 'Pony Boy', a Gene Autry picture, at Republic, and has checked out.

Hit Sidewalk Fotogs

New York, May 20.—Sidewalk photographers in Cleveland are calling themselves 'United Artists', with the result that O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, New York attorneys for the film company, have warned them against use of the name.

PCCITO To Follow Through on Ascap Seat Tax Here

Independent exhibitors are planning to follow through on action contemplated for some time past, on the Ascap theatre seat tax, currently ranging from 10c to 20c per seat annually, during the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners convention which is to be held at the Ambassador hotel June 9-12. The seat charge will be among the major problems to be tackled. Other subjects which will figure prominently in the discussions will be the consent decree, 5-group picture buying, possible theatre expansion, arbitration and short subjects.

Advance registrations indicate an attendance of over 1,000 theatre owners, including approximately 400 from the West Coast and about 600 from other parts of the country. The convention committee of the PCCITO, composed of Rotus Harvey and Ben Levin of San Francisco, Hugh Bruen and Jack Y. Berman of Los Angeles, and Bob Poole, executive secretary, in session yesterday to complete details, will continue confabs for a few days more. The committee has met with Jock Lawrence and Frank Seltzer, representing the Association of Motion Picture Producers, to discuss arrangements for complete industry cooperation with both the MPTOA and the PCCITO. The Pacific Coast group will act as hosts to MPTOA visitors.

Lustig, Sims Sell Tower At Santa Rosa

B. H. Lustig and Herman Sims (Intercoast Amusements, Inc.) have sold the Tower theatre, Santa Rosa, to the King-Reavis Amusement Co. The transfer became effective as of May 18, with deal involving $137,500 in real estate and other considerations. Lustig and Sims have operated the Tower since Oct. 1939. The new owners, King-Reavis, operate a circuit in northern California in which Mike Naisy, Robert McNeill, Gene Emmick and Vern Taylor are partnered.

Build 850-Seater

Shane & Moss, formerly Oakland, Calif., theatre operators, are building a new 850-seater at 30th st. and Crenshaw. New situation is several blocks from Lou Bard's Adams theatre.

Births

GIRL, seven pounds, nine ounces, to Mrs. Bobby Agnew at Good Samaritan Monday. Father is in special effects department at Warners.

DAUGHTER, seven pounds, one ounce, to Mrs. Richard Evans, May 16, San Fernando hospital. Father is script clerk at Metro.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

Vol. 31 No. 56 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, May 22, 1941 5 Cents

IA PRESSURE ON PRODUCERS

AMUSEMENT TAX GRAB LOWERED

Washington, May 21. — The Federal grab from amusements during April nosedived to the lowest point since last August, the first month the new rates were in effect, according to a Treasury report issued today. Payments based on March wicket grosses were only $5,627,394, the first time in seven months that the

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Seaton Goes to Coney To Check on Yarn

George Seaton planed for New York to obtain background material on 20th-Fox's 'Coney Island.' Writer will confer with Frank S. Tilyou, Edward Tilyou and George C. Tilyou, Jr., members of the family which helped build Coney. Laird Cregar will have one of the major roles in the film. Picture will be the first to utilize Coney Island as background.

New Col Producers

Columbia will have two new producers next week. They are Lou Edelman, who comes over from 20th, and Edward Kaufman, who left 20th a year ago.

Weidler to Terp

Virginia Weidler goes into the cast of Metro's 'Babes on Broadway.' She will sing and dance for the first time on the screen.

Doc Baker Pushes Off Friday

Old Doc Baker, the Swami of the Stables, who looks into a feed-bag instead of a crystal ball, climbed the fence at Hollywood Park yesterday and slept on a bale of alfalfa last night to inhale diplomatic secrets from the hosses who are about to step out tomorrow in Inglewood's opening day. Doc plays a double header on the first day of his feed-bag gazing. His Friday predictions will appear in Daily Variety. As there is no Saturday edition, his selections for that day may be learned by phoning the Daily Variety office, HO. 1141, Saturday.

FRED ALLEN TIME TURNED OVER TO U.S. GOVT.

The Texaco Company has turned over to the United States Government Treasury department the Fred Allen hour, on a coast-to-coast hookup from 8 to 9 p.m. New York Daylight Saving Time (12 midnight to 1 a.m. Pacific Coast time), from July 2 to Oct. 1. It is likely the Government will use the time for programs aiding the sale of U. S. Defense Bonds.

Robson Wests Fri.

New York, May 21.—May Robson leaves for the Coast after a guest appearance on the Kate Smith program Friday night.

LEADERS URGE STRIKE VOTE TO HURRY DEALS

Group leaders in several studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes are urging that membership strike votes be taken in an effort to force the Producers to act on their requests for contract revisions covering wages and conditions. It is reported that at least one local has already secretly voted authority to its negotiating committee to call for a stoppage of work if company executives fail to act on their demands within a reasonable time.

Many of the unions, after months of paging the International for help

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	300
Major Studio Calls	354
FK Studio Service	11
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	671

SOEG STREAMLINES BATTLE OUTFIT TO SPEED CONTRACTS

The Screen Office Employes Guild has reduced its negotiating committee to four members in an effort to coordinate the work and speed up agreements for the 2,000 White Collarites employed by major companies where the Guild has been designated as collective bargaining representative. Members of the committee are Blanche Cole, George Macon, Ben Batchelder, Glen Pratt, with Attorney George E. Bodle sitting in to call the legal shots.

The Guild formerly had different committees to negotiate with the various studios, drawing its personnel from a panel of 19. In addition, the Guild is considering a plan to employ a full-time business representative to handle the affairs of the organization. The proposal has already been okayed by SOEG tops and will be submitted to a membership vote at the next general meeting early in June.

REP LINES UP FOUR PIX FOR MARY LEE

Republic has lined up four productions in which Mary Lee will be given star billing on next season's program, in line with studio's decision to take the young singer out of the Gene Autry westerns for a spot of her own. Her last Autry was

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Cain on 'Gesture'

James M. Cain has been signed by Arnold Pressburger to write the screenplay for 'The Shanghai Gesture', to be released through United Artists.

BIG RKO BUDGET BOOSTS

Minimum budgets are being hiked up to 100% increase on number of forthcoming RKO pictures which heretofore would have been held to rigid coin allotment in the B brackets. Studio also has decided at recent conferences presided over by George Schaefer not to make any more quickies. Step is part of the preparation for the blocks-of-five quality which will meet the strong initial competition from all companies affected by the consent decree in August.

On 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost', latest entry in the 'Spitfire' series, the budget has been upped around 25%. On 'Parachute Battalion' the increase has been 50%, represented largely in stronger cast. 'The Marines Are Ready' also will get healthy budget boost. These three are first to feel the application of broader latitude in coin levels, with merit rather than classification as the gauge.

KENT, PLACE DUE HERE AROUND (1)

President S. R. Kent and Herman G. Place, recently elected to succeed Joseph Schenck as chairman of the 20th-Fox board of directors, will visit the studio within the next two weeks. They leave New York June 1.

Kent and Place will come here for

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Einfeld Arrives Today From H.O. Huddles

S. Charles Einfeld, head of advertising and publicity for Warners, arrives today from New York where he has been the past three weeks realigning his home office staff and discussing advertising and exploitation plans on forthcoming product. While east Einfeld shifted and added to his New York staff and also increased the number of field workers. He was accompanied by Mrs. Einfeld.

Cabot Dumps Baggage

Bruce Cabot is back today from month in New Orleans, Dallas and New York and checks in at Walter Wanger to begin his term contract. First assignment will be either in 'Sundown' or in 'Eagle Squadron'.

PREVIEWED

NAVAL ACADEMY
(Col)

MILLION DOLLAR BABY
(WB)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
FOUNDED BY SIME SILVERMAN
News of the Show World
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Alan Marshal taking a course in writing.

Arthur Lubin heads for a week in the desert Saturday.

Arthur Lee is in town on deals involving Art League films.

Jack MacKenzie is lensing RKO's 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost'.

Franklin Pangborn reported in at Columbia for 'Tillie the Toiler' role.

Andrews Sisters open a three-week stand at the Palladium Friday night.

Alfred and Mrs. Newman leave Saturday for a vacation trip to Tahiti.

Edna Harris, radio comedienne, here from New York to audition a new program.

Ted Lewis and his musical crew leave for Kansas City Tuesday, opening there (30).

Lionel Toll, editor of Independent Exhibitor, comes in by plane today from New York.

Joe Cunningham and his son, Jared, off to Boulder Dam on camping-fishing junket.

Radio and agency execs yesterday lunched with and heard a talk by Bruce Barton at the California Club.

Joan Woodbury coaching Jinx Falkenberg for dance pair will perform in Columbia's 'Girls From Panama'.

Diana Dill, recently pacted in the east by Warners, checks in at the studio today for her first acting assignment.

C. A. Simons, theatre operator from Needles, Calif., is in town on a combination of product buying and vacation.

Burt Kelly is reading scripts preliminary to selection of first picture he will make as associate producer at Paramount.

Burgess Meredith taking progressive vacation of a month, first to Catalina, then to Monterey and finally to New York.

Irene Dunne will guest star on 'Your Happy Birthday' radio show tomorrow night in New York, coming in here over KECA.

Howard Lichy, handling publicity for Sophie Tucker, was in town yesterday. He was lining up an 'old-time opening' for Soph at the Orpheum next Wednesday by listing up all those reserved seat patrons who used to patronize the house regularly on Sunday nights.

Benny the Gouge sez—It amounts to somepin. Last night he saw a reveler in a car in a restricted theatre parking zone laffing. His radio was going full blast.

Hollywood Inside

THE proposed suit by independent exhibitors to restrain Ascap from collecting the theatre seat tax may be filed in the U. S. District court before the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners convention gets underway June 9. The convention committee of the PCCITO yesterday met with Attorney Albert J. Law, who has just returned from Washington after an absence of about a month, for consultation on the contemplated action. The complaint, formulated several months ago, has been delayed while a number of exhibitors were making decisions to become party to the action which is now prepared and ready for submission. The PCCITO does not figure in the complaint as a corporate body since it never paid any seat charges to Ascap. The brief, as now outlined, seeks an accounting of the monies paid to Ascap by theatre owners during the past few years and damages as well as the halting of all future seat tax payments. The possibility of filing the action before the convention opens has been discussed but this will depend on whether a numerically and otherwise imposing lineup of exhibitor plaintiffs enter their names in the complaint before June 9. Other exhibitor problems were also discussed with Law by the convention committee yesterday. Rotus Harvey and Ben Levin, committee members from San Francisco, are scheduled to pull out either today or tomorrow.

☆ ☆ ☆

ONLY three days stood between Don Woods continuing his character in the Lord Epping series at RKO, and also doing 'Skylark' at Elitch's Gardens in Denver. When player made his deal with RKO he was to have been cleared from the film in time to leave for Denver June 9 to start rehearsals for the Gardens' opening play, which starts June 16. Shift in the picture's shooting schedule changed his release to June 12, just three days too late to make his play connection. Actor bowed out of the feature, 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost', rather than miss the chance to appear at Elitch's Gardens, where he was given his first start in 1931.

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THE tourist invasion of studios is producing the annual and ever-increasing headache for the departments upon which falls the burden of piloting them around and the actuaries who figure the cost of this kind of enforced 'entertainment.' Recent influx resulted from the Women's Bowling Congress with its 100 teams, each comprising from two to six members, and each team having a letter to studios from some exhibitor or home town newspaper editor. Studios already are beginning to feel the backwash of tourist trade which used to go to countries now in war area and who now are heading west to California and Hawaii.

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PARAMOUNT, first to announce studio wage payment policy for drafted employes, already has made payments to 23 men. Studio has some 600 more men of draft age who are eligible to military call. Studio is paying sum equal to six weeks pay allowance in 12 weekly installments to all employes who join the service, on weekly or hourly basis, provided latter have worked for 1,000 hours during 12 months preceding call to colors. Paramount also has pledged itself to return jobs to men after they have completed term of training. Same goes for volunteers.

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IF THEY never see Florida again, it will be soon enough for members of the production crew of Metro's 'The Yearling', which returned this week from the location near Ocala. Several of the gang claim that the worst spots of California are paradise locations compared to the trip. One member of the crew was bitten by a snake—but quick first aid prevented serious consequences. When a deadly coral snake was killed near the location, production crew voted unanimously to be friendly with the rattlers and sidewinders of California.

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THE Warners press preview of 'Million Dollar Baby' last night at Studio City theatre, prior to which various members of the Warners publicity department staff had as dinner and cocktail guests correspondents and reviewers of various publications at Eaton's Rancho, was carefully checked by at least two representatives of other studio publicity departments. The checkers will make reports to their bosses on whether Warners was overstepping the Studio Publicity Committee ban on dinner splurges before or after previews.

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HOWARD HUGHES and Jack Frye, president of TWA, have brought out a new 64-passenger ship called the Constellation which will make the flight from Los Angeles to New York in eight and one-half hours. The first Constellation is scheduled to be put into service next spring. Hughes and Frye have been developing plans for the plane for two years at the Lockheed-Aircraft plant. Each of the ships, with speed of 350 miles per hour, will cost $500,000. TWA has placed an order for 40 planes.

☆ ☆ ☆

ARTHUR SPITZ has withdrawn as producer of pop-priced operettas at the Mason theatre and cast of 'Victoria and Her Hussar' has taken over the show on a co-op arrangement. Stagehands and musicians are also in on the pooling of receipts. Spitz lunched the operetta series April 1 with a 59c top but the venture proved unsuccessful despite good audience reaction.

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SERVING on the radio committee in the campaign by United Service Organizations to raise $10,765,000 for the entertainment of draftees in camps are Don Gilman, Lewis Allen Weiss, Donald Thornburgh, Harry Maizlish and Harry Witt. Quota for Los Angeles is $248,000, with the drive getting under way next month.

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ARTHUR UNGER, handling theatrical setup for a local cosmetic outfit and describing himself as a former New York trade newspaper man, should not be confused by show folks as being Arthur Ungar, Editor of Daily Variety.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Good Will center of the world—that's Hollywood, although it requires a crowbar, a jimmy and a stick of dynamite to crash the gate.

When the Chamber of Commerce in Zilchburg, Kansas, wants an added attraction for its annual Hog Calling contest, where does it look for talent? Hollywood. Eloise Twinkle, born Lizzie McTwitch in Flatbush, hastens out there and knocks 'em dead, particularly the students of Zilchburg Agricultural College, who elect her Hog Calling Queen of 1941, although the only hog she ever called was a fat guy who tried to make a pass in the B.M.T.

Is there a Cotton Festival, or a Sugar Beet Carnival, or a Sausage Soiree, or a Nut & Bolt Manufacturers' Convention? Call up Hollywood. Good Will is a blonde in a bathing suit.

'Ringside Maisie' opened with 150 jitterbugs in action and Maxie Rosenbloom, the waltz champion, picking up some new ideas for his next fight, if any.

Wilbur and Orville Wright never visioned what wonders they were performing when they hopped that chicken crate off the hill at Kitty Hawk. Nowadays an actress can hop all the way from Broadway to Hollywood in one day—for a screen test.

★ ★ ★

A Brooklyn rancher feels at home
in San Fernando Valley.
He might as well be in a flat—his
ranch is in the alley.

★ ★ ★

Dick Nelson has grasped the idea of Bobby Burns' ancient rhyme about the fleas who had other fleas to bite 'em, and so on, ad infinitum. Dick has a job at the Santa Monica club, putting on imitations of imitators of Hollywood stars.

★ ★ ★

Fortunio Bonanova, once a toreador in Spain, sings a song in 'Blood and Sand.' Meanwhile, Babe Ruth plays golf.

George Bricker quit his writing job at Columbia and became an associate producer at Monogram, purely out of curiosity. After turning out 34 scripts in seven years, he wanted to see what one would look like if it were produced the way he wrote it.

South American admirals, who came here to inspect ship building, learned more about streamlining in Hollywood than they did in all the shipyards.

★ ★ ★

The strawberry blonde song has been warbled so often that Bill Powell gets that way in 'Love Crazy.'

★ ★ ★

The equine star in yonder stall
enjoys a hossy laugh
When someone ups and asks him
for his equine autograph.
'I wrote my hoof-prints on the
track at four o'clock today',
He whinnies in his coltish glee
while munching a this hay.

Film Previews

Million Dollar Baby

(*Comedy*)

Warners production. Stars Priscilla Lane, Jeffrey Lynn, Ronald Reagan. Features May Robson, Lee Patrick, Helen Westley, George Barbier. Supporting cast: Nan Wynn, John Qualen, Walter Catlett, Fay Helm, Richard Carle, John Ridgely, Maris Wrixon, James Burke, Charles Halton, John Sheffield. Director, Curtis Bernhardt. Executive producer, Hal B. Wallis. Associate producer, David Lewis. Screenplay, Casey Robinson, Richard Macaulay and Jerry Wald. From a story by Leonard Spigelgass. Photography, Charles Rosher. Art director, Robert Haas. Dialog director, Hugh Cummings. Sound, Charles Lang. Film editor, Rudi Fehr. Music, Frederick Hollander. Musical director, Leo F. Forbstein. Gowns, Orry-Kelly. Assistant director, Chuck Hansen. Previewed at the Studio City theatre, May 21. Running time: 100 mins.

Here is a rollicking bit of nonsense that hides a lot of heart beneath its foolishness and seems destined to capture a considerable quantity of its title dollars at the box office. 'Million Dollar Baby' is brimful of fun and some spicy lines that gathered gasps from the preview audience. Credit for this one rests squarely upon the shoulders of its principal players, Director Curtis Bernhardt and the scripters, Casey Robinson, Richard Macaulay and Jerry Wald.

May Robson comes back to the America she deserted 31 years ago to right a wrong done by her father. Determined to give $1,000,000 to the heirs of the wronged man, she finds a granddaughter, Priscilla Lane, is the only descendant. What happens when a bargain store salesgirl is suddenly the mistress of that much money gives ample justification for the erratic and laugh-provoking behavior of the characters. Finding she is losing her happiness because of the coin, Miss Lane, in a wild, sustained spree, sheds her bucks and recaptures the musician who spurned her money.

The three young people in the starring roles, Miss Lane, Jeffrey Lynn, the attorney aiding Miss Robson, and Ronald Reagan, the musician, are a delight to watch. The breezy romance between Miss Lane and Reagan is skillfully commanded. Both rate high praise. Lynn gives his role an easy assurance that merits equal rating.

Miss Robson, the Miss Wheelwright who discovers America (the picture's former title) makes the younger cast members work hard to match her delivery. A flawlessly conceived characterization. Lee Patrick contributes another of her perfect hard-boiled gals, this time a bubble dancer. Helen Westley is swell as the slatternly old boarding house keeper. George Barbier, a sly lawyer; Nan Wynn, John Qualen, Walter Catlett, Fay Helm, Richard Carle and other supporting players each stand out in their assignments.

Bernhardt's direction captures every laugh and puts tenderness into the wisecracking love scenes. Pro-

★ Continued on page 5 ★

Naval Academy

(*Drama*)

Columbia production and release. Features Freddie Bartholomew, Jimmy Lydon and Billy Cook. Balance of cast: Pierre Watkin, Warren Ashe, Douglas Scott, Warren Lloyd, James Butler, Joe Brown, Jr., David Durand, Tommy Bupp, John Dilson, William Blees. Directed by Erle C. Kenton. Based on story by Robert James Cosgriff. Screenplay, David Silverstein and Gordon Rigby. Photography, John Stumar. Film editor, William Lyon. Assistant director, Tommy Flood. Previewed May 21. Running time: 65 mins.

The naval school training theme has been given compelling and intelligent, though not very original treatment in this 'teen-age cadet drama. But though the idea of turning boys of indifferent moral and mental calibre into staunch, loyal, honest, fearless defenders of the nation has been told on the screen before, it's a subject which has mellowed rather than deteriorated with the passing of time. Basically the story is reminiscent of 'Tom Brown's School Days', especially since Freddie Bartholomew and Jimmy Lydon are teamed up again with Billy Cook as the third musketeer. Given naval uniforms and appealing to current national defense sentiment, the production holds interest following a slow start and builds up to several intensely absorbing episodes.

Jimmy Lydon gets the strongest play as the kid from the reform school who is given a chance to make the grade in the naval academy. On his showing rests the fate of other boys in the reformatory under a plan to give them the same break if Jimmy comes through.

The sullen, bitterly cynical boy with two strikes called on him from the start because of his reformatory background, starts off on the wrong foot at the academy by challenging the established conception of heroism. He derides the institution to which his father, a naval hero, first gave his health and eventually his life.

Gradually the boy is won over by suggestion and environment rather than disciplinary measures and the time comes when he insists on taking a petty robbery rap for another cadet because he thinks the latter belongs to the navy through his family and upbringing. The climax, with a school court martial as the setting, has Bartholomew refusing to let another take the blame for his mistake, and the real culprit, Billy Cook, arrives for a last minute to save all concerned.

Films of this type are both topical and useful at this time in fostering and developing national unity and the proper respect and admiration for the country's fighting services. That the story is familiar in both theme and treatment does not detract too greatly from the essential principles of entertainment. Comedy efforts in the school hazing sequences are strained and unnatural,

● Continued on page 5 ●

Attorneys Seek To Slow First Arbiter Case Before AAA Here

Attorneys for all the major film and theatre companies involved in the first clearance case under the consent decree in the Los Angeles district, coming up before the American Arbitration Association today, have entered a motion with Walter H. Elliott, secretary of the AAA, to postpone the hearing until next week. Rufus Bailey, attorney representing plaintiff, O. W. Lewis, operator of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, has offered no objections to the delay, but postponement of the hearing will be governed by the decision of Herbert Cameron, attorney for the State Railroad Commission, who will act as arbitrator.

In his complaint Lewis is asking for product 28 days after Pasadena instead of 21 days after Alhambra. Fox West Coast Theatres, the Alhambra Amusement Co. and the Edwards Theatre Circuit are concerned as well as Paramount Pictures, Warner Brothers, Vitagraph, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Inc., and the MGM Picture Exchange.

If granted this will be the second postponement on the calendar of the American Arbitration Association, the first being in connection with the Campus theatre case which was given a hoist due to the illness of George Bromley, one of the operators.

Sked Gross Play

Seymour Gross, Columbia contract writer, has placed his new play, 'Wool in the Wine', a three-acter with a college background, with the Bliss-Hayden theatre for presentation in June.

Stanton Joins 'Aunt'

Will Stanton will have a featured role in 20th-Fox's 'Charley's Aunt.'

Heading East

Manny Strauss (AA)
William Morris, Jr. (AA)
Jock Whitney (AA)
Margaret Roach
Mrs. Richard Carle (UP)
David Strumpf
Wm. R. Walsh
J. Cheever Cowdin
John Charles Thomas (TWA)
George Seaton

In from the East

Diana Dill
Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Einfeld
Richard Condon
Arthur Greenblatt
Fay McKenzie
Bert Lahr
Dorothy Lamour (AA)
Bruce Cabot
Cliff Lewis
Patricia Payton (SF)
Charles Henderson

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THE MASQUERS are giving their last testimonial dinner of the season on June 10 in honor of Jack Benny. Dinner is being billed as a Pan Roast, with Edward Earle in charge of preparations and William Collier, Sr., as toastmaster. . . . Bert Lahr just in from the east will be guest of honor at cocktail party Mike Romanoff is tossing in his cafe Sunday. . . . Metro employes will hold their 13th annual golf tournament at the Fox Hills and Baldwin Hills golf courses Sunday, June 22. Harry Rapf heads the committee, with W. K. Craif as vice-chairman. E. J. Mannix will be handicapper. Other committee members include W. P. Hendry, Fred Gabourie, Danny Gray, Walter Draper, George Schneider, C. S. Pratt, Merrill Pye, Lou Kolb, Lester Ebert and Eddie Hannan. . . . Mrs. Louis Victor and son, Bobby, in from a vacation in the Black Hills.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Paulette Goddard seeing the town with Jimmy Walker in a white jersey evening gown designed for her to wear in 'Nothing But the Truth', by Edith Head. Dress features a long waistline with double wrap-around skirt. Fitted bodice had high neck and tiny short sleeves. A diagonal row of gold and white swallows trimmed the gown from shoulder to waist. Wrap was white jersey coat with fitted princess lines. Earrings and bracelet were gold and diamonds. Hair was dressed high in a distinctly oriental fashion.

GEN. RUSSELL MAXWELL, chief of the United States Export Control, Lieut. Conde Hamlin, his aide, Lieut. R. E. Maxwell, his son, and Frank Hawks, father of Howard Hawks, were guests of H. M. Warner at Warners studio yesterday. . . . The Bud Abbotts and Lou Costellos gave a shindig for party of friends last night at Leone's. . . . Leonard Sues, trumpet specialist at Charlie Foy's Supper Club, starts role of Kelly Friday in next Andy Hardy picture at Metro. P.S. He must be set for something good as he will NOT play his trumpet. . . . Self-proclaimed young actor has set up tent on service lot across street from main gate of Paramount studio and has erected a placard slogan which reads that he'll be in C. B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind' or bust. . . . Brookins and Van open a six-week stay at the Rhumboogie (27). Cee-Pee Johnson, current headliner at the night spot, stays on. . . . Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball have bought four riding horses for their ranch to get away from having to fork their farm neighbors' nags every morning for exercise of the animals.

WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc. Represents . . .
RUTH HUSSEY
"Philadelphia Story"
"Flight Command"
Under contract M-G-M

NY Court Dismisses 200G Agent Suit On Blumberg

New York, May 21. — Supreme Court Justice Shientag today dismissed the suit filed by Emil Nuegebauer, agent, against Nate Blumberg for $200,000 damages.

The plaintiff claimed he discovered Gloria Jean and sought damages for alleged failure on the part of the defendant to pay commissions due for having turned over the juvenile film star's services to Universal. The court ruled there was no cause of action.

Wm. Walsh Planes Out For NLRB Confab

William R. Walsh, acting regional director of the National Labor Relations Board, planed out last night for Washington to attend the conference of NLRB regional directors and attorneys opening there Friday (23). He will return Monday (26). It is probable that a new director will be named during the conference to fill the vacancy created here by the resignation of Walter Spreckels.

Temple, Others Ether For China Relief

Shirley Temple, Claudette Colbert and Tyrone Power appear in a special broadcast over CBS for United China Relief (27). Miss Colbert will read Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek's letter to the children of America, to which Shirley will reply. Carroll O'Meara produces the quarter hour special airing at 6:15 p.m. from KNX, preceding the fireside chat by President Roosevelt.

'Lives' for Sutherland

'Nine Lives Are Not Enough', original by Jerome Odlum which Fred Niblo, Jr., screenplayed, is titled for Edward Sutherland's first chore at Warners under the new director's contract signed this week. It starts June 2. Howard da Silva and Vera Lewis are first cast assignments.

Colbert's 'Darling'

'Take a Letter, Darling' is set as Claudette Colbert's next starrer for Paramount. Picture will start when Miss Colbert completes her current assignment at 20th-Fox's, 'Remember the Day', around July 14. Claude Binyon is writing the script.

Dunne Shifts Stints

Philip Dunne has finished revisions on his script for 'How Green Was My Valley' and has shifted back to his writing stint on 'Benjamin Blake', also at 20th-Fox.

'Serenade' Winds Up

'Sun Valley Serenade', under direction of H. Bruce Humberstone, finished shooting yesterday at 20th-Fox. Final scenes were of Sonja Henie's ice routines.

Births

DAUGHTER, born to Mrs. Leo Iscovitz, at Cedars of Lebanon. Father is in the electrical department at Paramount.

LEWIS SEES SUMMER MUSIC, COMEDY CYCLE

Accent will be on music, comedy and variety this summer, with a diminution of heavy dramatics and audience participation shows. That's how the radio picture looks to W. Bennett Lewis, vice-prez in charge of programs for CBS, here to parley with Charles Vanda, Columbia's western division program chief, on another series of 'Forecast' airplays. From 10 to 16 programs will comprise the series, evenly split in originations between the two coasts, with Vanda producing those emanating from KNX.

New ideas and techniques will be tried out on the summer time, Lewis said, on the dual premise of experimentation and showcasing for fall buyers. Series takes off July 14 and likely moves into the Monday time niche vacated for the hiatus period by Lux.

Among the new summer shows will be two series dedicated to defense workers and those in military service. Programs will be piped into the camps as the government has tabooed broadcasts from cantonments.

Lewis said fewer shows are dropping off for the summer this year than ever before, necessitating fewer substitutes and maintaining a high standard of entertainment throughout the off-season. He will remain here for two weeks, interviewing new talent and auditioning various types of programs for the 'Forecast' series.

GOLDWYN DENIES DAVIS RIFT

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday issued a statement saying that Bette Davis is not on a 'sit down' strike and denying rumors that she would not return to the cast of 'The Little Foxes'. Goldwyn said that Miss Davis had been declared ill and unable to work in the film by two physicians, Dr. Paul Moore, her personal physician, and Dr. Dorrell G. Dickerson, representing Lloyd's Insurance Company. It was the opinion of these doctors, Goldwyn said, that actress should rest for at least another week or 10 days before returning to cast, and he and Director William Wyler would proceed upon that advice, arranging the shooting schedule accordingly. Production, meantime, is continuing uninterrupted.

Neither Bette Davis nor her attorney, however, issued any statement that she wished to continue working in 'The Little Foxes'.

Wm. Morris OK's Plan For Agency Addition

William Morris, who arrived last Friday to discuss agency matters with Abe Lastfogel, left for New York Tuesday night. Morris okayed expansion plans for the company's office, including an addition to the present quarters. Morris will return here in July.

Jordan Cuts Comersh

Bert Jordan is cutting a Technicolor short made at the Hal Roach studio by Wilding. Picture, produced for the Aluminum Corporation of America, is 'Unfinished Rainbows.'

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 10; Portland, 5.
Sacramento, 10; Los Angeles, 2.
Seattle, 4; Oakland, 3.
San Francisco, 18; San Diego, 5.

Air B-19 Flight

KNX today broadcasts the first trial flight of the Army's mammoth bomber, B-19, between 3:30 and 4 p.m. Airing will be from March Field, Riverside, where the giant plane makes its landing.

KENT, PLACE DUE HERE AROUND (1)

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

product conferences and to lay plans for the 20th-Fox convention, which will probably be held in Chicago about June 25. If it is held at that time there is little possibility that the studio will have more than two or three pictures ready for showing. Studio will have by late July, however, at least 10 ready for trade screenings, two packages of five to be offered exhibitors by the time the consent decree goes into effect.

Herman Wobber is still on the Coast, conferring with exchange men here and in San Francisco. Wobber will probably remain until Kent and Place arrive and join with them in studio meetings.

Thompson, Peary Sub For 'Fibber, Molly'

Summer substitute for 'Fibber McGee and Molly' will be built around Bill Thompson and Hal Peary, dialect comics on the show.

Mamoulian's Next?

Rouben Mamoulian may draw 'Confirm or Deny' as his next assignment at 20th-Fox. Director and Darryl F. Zanuck have been huddling during the past week on his first for the 1941-42 season.

Hop Precedent

Eleanor Stewart for second time has been handed femme lead opposite Bill Boyd in Harry Sherman's production, 'Timberwolves', thus shattering seven-year precedent. In 37 'Hopalong Cassidy' films, there have been 36 different leading ladies.

U. S. Tax Grab On Amusements Hits Low During April

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

10% bite has yielded less than $6,000,000.

The amusement tax for April was $1,477,562 under the prior month's collections and the largest drop recorded since Congress upped the tariff last summer. The previous record slump was from November to December, when the yield went down $470,254. The rise over the comparable 1940 stanza, under the old rates, was $2,000,902, while the Federal grab for the first four months this year amounts to $25,810,910 as compared with $7,731,130 in the same portion of last year.

Gleasons to Headline Labor Program

James, Lucile and Russell Gleason will headline the 'This Is America' labor program tonight over KFWB from 8:30 to 9 o'clock. Others appearing on the show include Rosemary DeCamp, Gordon Jenkins orchestra and Martha Tilton. Program also includes 'This Is Our Heritage' by John Boylan. Air show is being sponsored by unions and guilds to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Strumpf Planes Out After RKO Sesh

David Strumpf of RKO's New York ad department planes back east today. He came here with S. Barret McCormick last Monday to line up advertising ideas and campaigns for new year book and RKO convention to be held in New York June 16 to 19. McCormick remains here until first of next week.

Fidler Bows July 4

Jimmie Fidler starts his new series for Tayton cosmetics over KNX July 4, following the summer substitute for Kate Smith on Friday nights. Quarter hour program will air on six stations of Columbia's Pacific network.

Chas. Henderson Back

After 10 days in New York, Charles Henderson returned to 20th-Fox yesterday to start song rehearsals on 'Week End In Havana' and 'Cadet Girl'.

Story Buys

Metro yesterday bought all rights to an original unpublished story, 'Bugles Blow at Midnight', by William Lipman.

BILL JORDAN'S
Bar of Music
HOLLYWOOD ★ MIAMI BEACH
GALA OPENING
TONIGHT
Starring
BILL JORDAN & GEORGE KENT
at the two Steinways
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DICK WINSLOW AND HIS MUSIC
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Official Washup Of Disney Case Skeded Today

An official washup of unfair labor practice charges against Walt Disney Productions is scheduled for today, when a stipulation calling for a consent decree to be entered will be presented to James C. Paradise, trial examiner for the National Labor Relations Board. The hearing was recessed yesterday until today to give attorneys for the company, the NLRB and the Screen Cartoonists Guild time to give the stipulation a once-over. All parties have tentatively agreed to it, although there may be some discussion today on its phraseology.

In the meantime, the SCG was pushing its demands for recognition as bargaining representative for Disney employes, claiming to represent 85% of the workers. However, John Gray, hired by Disney to handle publicity, stated he had been advised by the American Society of Cartoonists that it expected to have a majority by tonight and would then demand recognition.

The Society was organized by officers of the old Federation of Screen Cartoonists, which was scuttled after the NLRB issued a complaint charging that the Federation was a 'company dominated union'. The SCG claims the Society is the same organization, dressed up in a new suit and with a new name, but Federation officers insist it is independent and that company executives had nothing to do with its formation.

American Federation of Labor tops are scheduled to meet tonight to discuss the Disney situation and plan future moves. The San Fernando Valley Central Labor Council has already named a committee with power to act to investigate the advisability of placing Disney products on the AFofL unfair list. The Teamsters is one of the AFofL crafts seeking recognition, and there is a possibility they would be asked to stop deliveries if the SCG decides to take drastic action in an effort to force recognition.

Disney has stated he is ready to bargain with any fairly designated union selected by his employes as their bargaining representative, but his attorney, Gunther Lessing, is insisting on an NLRB election before extending such recognition.

The one-day strike at Leon Schlesinger Studio has been settled, and the workers returned to their jobs yesterday. The company signed a three-year contract with the SCG, calling for substantial wage tilts for all employes, a five-day, 40-hour week, and improved working conditions.

Condos Bros. Spotted

The Condos Brothers opened at Slapsy Maxie's for two weeks headline spot. Dance team just completed work in Universal's 'In the Navy.'

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

UNIVERSAL ALLOCATES 160G FOR IMPROVEMENTS

Universal has appropriated $160,000 to continue its new building and improvements at the studio under a plan that will eventually result in complete modernization of the lot and equipment. Work will get under way immediately on a new two-story office building to quarter 30 directors and writers.

Building will be erected back of the recently constructed executive quarters and the present writers structure will be moved to accommodate new building. A new fireproof vault building is scheduled for construction alongside the accounting offices and the lot's school house will be remodeled.

All streets on the lot will be covered with macadam paving and complete modernization of the machinery department and the prop department will be included in the current fund.

IA GROUP LEADERS URGE STRIKE VOTE PRESSURE

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

in forcing reopening of their agreements, have about given up hope of getting any aid from that source. In fact, many of them are openly charging that Prexy George E. Browne and other IATSE leaders have given orders for the Producers to negotiate with the locals, but not to make any deals without getting an okay from the International.

Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, has been in the east for several weeks, but no move has yet been made to set a date for the annual Studio Basic Agreement Conference. The international head of one of the studio unions recently stated there was nothing of sufficient importance to warrant holding a conference at this time. Since then, however, several of the studio unions in the agreement have forwarded their demands east with a request for action. The IATSE is not in the Studio Basic Agreement, but usually meets with Producer representatives about the same time the Conference is held.

There is a possibility that the groups may get together at the conclusion of the Washington meeting of the American Federation of Labor Executive Council which convened Monday. If the session is called, the Producers are prepared to demand an eight-hour day instead of the current six hours, and probably will oppose demands for any drastic pay increases.

The agitation for action on the local demands is being headed by old-line IATSE members who were not affiliated with the United Studio Technicians Guild. They are anxious to secure the support of the International, but are opposed to letting the negotiations get out of their hands for fear of being handed another one of those 10% wage tilts like last year, when they claim the workers were 'sold down the river'.

'The Watchman' in the 'Hollywood Merry-Go-Round' takes a shot at the International on the question of local autonomy for the locals. After reviewing the efforts of International Photographers Local 659 to end dual unionism in the camera field, The Watchman has the following to say about autonomy:

'There are two methods by which a local's membership may be deprived of its full and complete home rule. The first is by seizing direct control of the local union and dismissing its elected officers forcibly. This has occurred twice in Hollywood. All locals of the IA in 1935-36. Local 37 in 1939. There is, however, a more insidious and remote means of seizing control of a local union's affairs which has been and is being exercised by IA representatives. This is accomplished, in collusion with the employer, by sabotage and obstructionist tactics calculated to bring the local union to its knees before the official family of the International.'

Business representatives of most of the studio locals admit that the general membership is demanding that they get some action. Several said the situation was 'getting hot' and that most anything could happen unless some real move is made to negotiate their demands.

Gwen Wakeling Returns To 20th in June

Gwen Wakeling will return to the 20th-Fox lot as head designer early in June, taking the place occupied by Travis Banton. Banton is pulling out chiefly because of salary differences. Miss Wakeling formerly was with 20th-Fox, working there under Royer before Banton took over a little more than a year ago.

'Maisie' Jitterbugs

Metro used 150 jitterbug dancers yesterday for opening scenes of 'Ringside Maisie', which started with Edwin L. Marin directing.

Film Previews

Million Dollar Baby

★ Continued from page 3 ★

duction guidance under Executive Producer Hal B. Wallis is showmanly in every aspect. The original story by Leonard Spigelgass gives the script a sound basis. Charles Rosher's camera is intelligently used. The music is excellent and every technical function reflects sound craftsmanship.

Naval Academy

● Continued from page 3 ●

and it is in this department that the production lags most prominently. The supporting cast is uniformly okay with Pierre Watkin and Warren Ashe adeptly handling their assignments respectively as Captain and Lieutenant at the academy.

Chick Freedman Buys Interest in Two Local Houses

Chick Freedman, from Omaha, Neb., has bought out Jack Johnston's interest in the Normandie and Barbara theatres, and will become associated with M. C. Sinift, who formerly was Johnston's partner. The deal was negotiated by Attorney Ezra Edward Stern.

Johnston, formerly operating in Kansas, will temporarily remain here to assist Freedman, with future plans undetermined at this time.

Fairbanks Memorial Dedication Sunday

All friends and associates of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr. yesterday were invited by Mrs. Sylvia Fairbanks to attend dedication rites at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Hollywood cemetery of the Douglas Fairbanks Memorial. Charlie Chaplin will deliver the eulogy and the Rev. Neal Dodd will conduct the service at the ceremony.

Darmour, Jack Holt Serial Readied

Larry Darmour has set 'Holt of the Secret Service' as the title for the serial he will produce for Columbia's 1941-42 program with Jack Holt starred. Chapter-play is slated to get underway in August.

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(Universal)

'Radio Revels of 1942'
Dir.: Harold Young
Asst.: Vernon Keays

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Collarites Return To Work at Col. Recording Corp.

Clerical employes returned to work yesterday at the Columbia Recording Corp. The move was engineered by the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union when it was learned the White Collarites were being denied unemployment insurance and that they were not eligible for strike benefits since they are not affiliated with the union.

When the union called a strike for higher wages April 11, the clerical workers cooperated by refusing to cross the picket line. They have been out since that time, although the company had issued a call for them to return to their jobs.

Union tops stated that unemployment insurance checks were written for the workers, but were not issued after company officials had protested jobs were available for them. Union tops said they appreciated the cooperation of the Collarites, and immediately suggested they return to work, so the company would be placed in the position of having to put them on salary or else approve payment to them of unemployment insurance. The union said they would be asked to remain out again if it was disclosed they were being used to clear orders or to route records into the western region.

In the meantime, negotiations between the company and its striking employes were continuing. The United negotiating committee headed by Robert Kennedy met yesterday with company representatives and it was understood another session will be held today. Some concessions on minimum wages have been made by the company, leading to the belief that the two groups may get together soon. The company has indicated it favors granting wages to individuals rather than a blanket increase.

Fay McKenzie Arrives Today on MG Deal

Fay McKenzie, from the cast of 'Meet the People', arrives today from New York to talk deal at Metro for her appearance in studio's filmization of the stage musical.

Modernize 'Soldier'

Metro's 'Chocolate Soldier' will be presented in modern dress. Setting of the Oscar Straus operetta is in the Vienna of 1908, but Victor Saville, who is producing, yesterday decided on the modernizing touch.

Obituary

RICHARD PHILLIPS

Richard Phillips, who claimed to be 115 years of age and the oldest actor in the world, died in Los Angeles May 4. Phillips was born in Cardiff, Wales. His death was disclosed yesterday by Public Administrator Ben Brown as the body lay in the county morgue while a search went on to find relatives who might make funeral arrangements.

J. V. SMITH

John Vincent Smith, 56, drama editor of the New York Journal-American, died suddenly in New York yesterday.

Metro Plans 25% of Shorts With Latin-Amer. Background

Metro is working out plans to make 25% of its short subjects with Latin American backgrounds. Studio tops have agreed, generally, that South American shorts will hold plenty of commercial possibilities if they are properly developed. What countries to concentrate on in these films and just what units to send are parts of the whole problem not yet settled. In those pictures dealing with South American countries, it is understood, there will be radical departures from the usual travelogue films.

At the same time, James A. FitzPatrick, working under the Metro shorts department, will go to Mexico within the next six weeks and make four of his travel pix in Technicolor.

SUE Session Sunday For Nominations

Members of Studio Utilities Employes Local 724 meet at 10 a.m. Sunday (25) to nominate candidates for officers and delegates to the District Council and to the international convention in St. Louis in September. A date for the election will be set at this meeting. The Constitution provides the election must be held within 15 days after the nominations. The executive board met last night to arrange the agenda for Sunday's meeting.

Deed Hart's Theatre To Legion Friday

The American, new 400-seat theatre built by William S. Hart in Newhall, will be officially deeded to the American Legion Post No. 507 tomorrow night when the house opens. Harold Hall has leased the American from the Legion and will operate.

Twitchell Busted

Archie Twitchell, actor, has filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in the U. S. District court, listing liabilities of $2,025.17 and assets of $50.

St. Joseph's 'Paris'

Dave Hempstead, producing 'Joan of Paris' at RKO, has brought Ellis St. Joseph, playwright, from New York to write the script.

a.m. Dailies

Atwill Before Jury—
Lionel Atwill, film actor, appeared before the grand jury yesterday for questioning about parties involving Doris Tresper, alleged to have been a guest at two receptions in Atwill's home. Atwill was in the grand jury room for more than an hour.

Scribe Siesta

No film writers will be on duty in the studios Saturday (24). Both the major and independent studios ordered a holiday for scriveners, so they could attend the National Conference of writers at the University of California at Los Angeles. The meeting sponsored by the Authors League of America opens Friday, but a full-day session is scheduled Saturday.

WB Scribe List

Warners is currently working 51 writers on 33 stories. Twenty-three of the scribes hold term contracts while the balance are on a week-to-week basis. Eight new writers were added to the staff during the past two weeks.

REP LINES UP FOUR PIX FOR MARY LEE

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

'The Singing Hill' and Republic is now mulling whether a substitute will be set for the remaining two Autrys on this year's schedule.

Lineup of films for Miss Lee include 'Oh, Susanna', 'Sierra Sue', 'Pride of the Circus' and 'Peck's Bad Girl'. Republic, which took over a portion of Miss Lee's contract from Ted Weems after orchestra leader had given her a chance singing with his band, has been using 14-year-old actress in various assignments during the past year as part of her film training.

de Havilland's 'Heaven'

Olivia de Havilland will play the femme lead opposite Fredric March in 'One Foot in Heaven' at Warners. Hobart Bosworth has a supporting part and picture is due to start during the summer.

Freedley in Capital On New Army Camp Shows

New York, May 21. — Vinton Freedley, who took over the chairmanship last week of the entertainment division of the Citizens Committee for the Army and Navy, was in Washington, D. C., yesterday, attempting to set machinery in motion that will make at least a couple of units touring Army camps by June 1 possible. Producer hopes to have the War Department reverse its ruling against sending out 'medicine shows' to work from the backs of trucks.

Freedley said he thought truck units would be the only logical way to start things in a hurry. Troops will all be out on field maneuvers by the end of June, and the initial program will only last four weeks. Trucks will be abandoned in the fall in favor of larger shows in camp theatres and field houses, which are expected to be completed by that time. Permanent housing for flesh shows is not completed in many camps at present.

Freedley, in line with a recent proposal made by Billy Rose, wants to have several units consisting of name performers and some entertaining fill-ins. He would like to send them on circuits of as many camps as the individuals' time would permit.

Title Changes

Walt Disney's 'Dumbo' now titled 'Dumbo of the Circus'.

Metro's 'Bargain Basement' to 'The Big Store'.

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WILL P. TAYLOR, Managing Director

②

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

OW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 57 43 ay, May 23, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

IA FIGHT GOES BEFORE NLRB

SCRIBES WIN BATTLE ON PREVIEWS

At a Brown Derby love feast yesterday, paid for by the Hollywood correspondents, Y. Frank Freeman and the Studio Publicity Directors Committee agreed that all pictures will be previewed here prior to being screened elsewhere. It also was stated that where physical problems do not prevent, the writers will be given two weeks clearance on previews.

After a two and a half hour ses-

★ Continued on page 9 ★

RKO Seeks Geo. Raft For 'Mayor' Flick

RKO is negotiating with George Raft to do the outside picture under his Warners contract on the Gower street lot. RKO wants Raft to star in 'Mayor of Forty-Fourth Street', an original story by Robert Andrews.

Retie Maria Montez

Seven weeks ahead of time Universal yesterday took up an option on Maria Montez's contract. Latin actress has just finished in 'Moonlight In Hawaii' and will be starred, for her next role, in a picture with a South Sea Island background.

BOOKING AGENTS BILL DROPPED

Sacramento, May 22.—Assemblyman Ernest Voight, of Los Angeles, announced today he had abandoned efforts to enact Assembly Bill No. 229 to regulate booking agents. Al-

■ Continued on page 6 ■

PREVIEWED

BILLY THE KID
(MG)

ADVENTURE IN WASHINGTON
(Col)

REVIEWED

THIEVES FALL OUT
(WB)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

INDISPENSABLE

Hollywood Citizen-News printed the following editorial:

WILLIE BIOFF, film labor leader, told the Federal Court that he fills a crucial role in a vital defense industry. Thereby he won a delay of his trial on charges of evading payment of $85,000 in income taxes.

No criticism can be levied against the Court for accepting the plea, for the Court must be guided by what comes before it and apparently there was nothing before the Court to indicate the ridiculousness of Bioff's contention.

The motion picture industry is making a few war films. A strike might delay them. As a leader of the unionists Bioff

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

CANTOR RETIED FOR AIR PROGRAM

Eddie Cantor yesterday was given a contract renewal for the 1941-42 radio season by Bristol & Myers (Sal Hepatica-Ipana). His 'Time To Smile' program retains the present Wednesday night time on NBC. Current semester is closed out with the June 25 broadcast, the comedian returning in the fall after taking the customary summer layoff.

Lamour to Honolulu

Dorothy Lamour, who arrived yesterday from New York to complete her role in 'Aloma of the South Seas' at Paramount, leaves Thursday aboard the Lurline for Honolulu for a month's vacation. Actress has scheduled the long rest because of doing five pictures in a row, and went into Cedars of Lebanon last night for a checkup before reporting at the studio.

AFL TOPS MEET TONIGHT ON DISNEY

With the National Labor Relations Board having officially washed up the unfair labor practice complaint against Walt Disney Productions, American Federation of Labor tops meet tonight to plan the next move in their drive to force recognition of the Screen Cartoonists Guild as collective bargaining representative for the Disney workers. Several leaders are reported to favor an immediate strike vote, charging Disney executives are stalling.

Walt Disney, however, stated yesterday that he was ready to recognize any organization designated by his employes. The Disney statement in part follows:

'My position is that the field is

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

CBS ISSUES ANALYSIS OF FCC ORDER EFFECTS

Predicting that the rulings recently promulgated by Federal Communications Commission for the regulation of broadcasting 'will lead to a state of chaos so confusing that the only alternative will be for the government to take over radio', Columbia Broadcasting System yesterday issued an analysis of possible effects, the first reaction to the monopoly report by a major member of the industry.

Among the evils to beset the industry should the regulations become operative are declared by CBS to be the creation of big station monopolies at the expense of small station

◆ Continued on page 7 ◆

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	286
Major studio calls	243
FK Studio Service	52
Tinsman Casting Agency	7
Total	588

LOCAL 727 DEMANDS ACTION

The fight launched by studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes to force the Producers to act on their demands is being taken to the National Labor Relations Board today, and it was stated that action also may be filed in the U. S. District court. IATSE Local 727 last night drafted a complaint to be filed today charging the major film companies with refusing to

♥ Continued on page 9 ♥

Matty Fox Out May 30 For U's H.O. Huddle

Matty Fox starts his annual summer pilgrimage to the New York office of Universal Friday (30). He will remain there until September. Nate Blumberg, Universal prexy, arrives here from the east June 10. He will remain at the studio until Fox returns to the Coast.

Col, Ann Miller Deal

Columbia has closed a two-picture a year deal with Ann Miller, and her first assignment will be 'Synthetic Lady', to be produced by Irving Starr. Miss Miller played one of the leads in 'Time Out For Rhythm' at Columbia.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Opening Bid**
Certie
Get Good
2d RACE—**Tory Tom**
Taj
Igorete
3d RACE—**Anahuac**
Tonas
Praetorian
4th RACE—**SUNTED**
Madie Greenock
Mulligatawney
5th RACE—**Torch Marcher**
Day Dawn
Ancestral
6th RACE—**Chaldon Heath**
With Us
Present Arms
7th RACE—**Specify**
Woof Woof
Get Off
8th RACE—**Triplane**
African Queen
Forsooth

CHANCE BET—**Son of War** (7)
Selections consensus, page 5.

For Doc Baker's Saturday Inglewood picks phone Daily Variety office, HO-1141.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Frank White, CBS treasurer, here on a swing of the net's properties.

Patti McCarty back yesterday from the Tulip Festival in Holland, Mich.

Paula and Dorothy Stone are playing in 'The Gay Divorcee' in Boston.

Carey Wilson planes to New York Monday for two weeks vacation and look at plays for Metro.

Harry Nace, operator of the Publix-Nace theatres in Arizona, arrived from Phoenix last night.

Bruce D. Shedd, associate in the Sue Carol agency, has reported for his year's training in the army.

Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens have started rehearsals on dance numbers for Metro's 'The Chocolate Soldier'.

Eddie Woehler has been set as assistant director and Arthur Rose as unit manager on Metro's Greta Garbo starrer.

John Joseph Leaves today for New York to spend two weeks there in conferences with Universal home office executives.

Rosalie Stewart leaves for New York next month on a four-week vation and plans spending majority of her time at Saratoga.

Milton Berle's song, 'Boogie Woogie Rookie', written in collaboration with Bert Pellish, has been sold to 'Jump For Joy', all-Negro revue soon to open downtown.

Victor McLaglen will be guest fireman on the Pennsy's Broadway Limited when he goes to Philadelphia from New York on personals. From there he goes to Atlantic City and Washington.

Bill Blowitz and Irving Parker will handle the national tour of the Messerschmidt plane under the auspices of Bundles For Britain. Pair have been given indefinite leave of absence from Warners to make the tour, and John Peere Miles will assume Blowitz's head planting duties during latter's absence.

Dicker is on by Julian Johnson, 20th-Fox story editor, which may result in Satevepost publishing an elaborated version of Joseph Schrank's original screen story, 'Lazy Galahad', as a serial. If negotiations go through this will be the first time a 20th-Fox screenplay will have been sold to a mag, although the vice versa is a commonplace. Nunnally Johnson will write the screenplay for 'Galahad'.

Benny the Gouge sez—The aroma at Hollywood and Vine is still the same, whether the hosses are at Inglewood, Santa Anita or Churchill Downs. It's all gas.

Hollywood Inside

MOTION picture production in Los Angeles County totaled $183,768,701 for the year 1939, or 87% of the United States total of $215,664,701 spent for all film production during the year. Figures, released by the Chamber of Commerce from a report received from the Federal business census, show that $95,320,051 of the LA County total was spent within the city of Los Angeles while the remaining $91,448,650 was expended outside the city limits. Nearest approach to the 1939 figure was the $171,943,349 spent for production during 1937. Payrolls during 1939 totaled $130,960,561, or slightly less than 1937's $132,914,402. Personnel also reached an all-time high, with 30,250, as compared to 28,179 for 1937. San Francisco spent only $80,270 during 1939, the only other film expenditures in the State.

☆ ☆ ☆

SEVERAL well-paid foreign stars are the targets for much adverse comment after the recent visit here of naval officials from various Latin American countries. Visitors were hosted at a lavish banquet, which a number of top femme stars, hailing mostly from the countries of Continental Europe, refused to attend. Industry leaders had hoped for their participation. One star said she couldn't make the patriotic gesture because she had a date with her boy friend that she simply couldn't break. One said she had to go to a war relief committee meeting. Another, who comes from below the border, likewise thought up an excuse. Beside the fact that the dinner had great political importance the foreign actresses have all been (up to now) quite popular in Latin America.

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MAYBE it was a hot day or maybe the press agent was just too over-burdened by the fact that he had to turn out a certain amount of copy. Anyway, his mates in the major flackery where he works yesterday gave him wide clearance for turning in a prize piece of publicity on a picture with a naval background. Story dealt with a battleship constructed on the lot. He wrote that the studio, in a panting pursuit after authenticity, had dispatched a crew to the harbor to bring back several gallons of 'authentic bilge water' to place awash in the man o' war's scuppers, etc.

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COLUMBIA was blamed in some quarters for causing government officials to toss rocks at the picture industry by producing 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington', an expose of corrupt politics. All the bitterness Washington senators may have felt over 'Mr. Smith' ought to fade when they see 'Adventure in Washington', which tells the story of Senate page boys and shows the officials as honest, kindly men. Lewis R. Foster, who wrote the original story for 'Mr. Smith', collaborated on the screenplay of the latest film with Arthur Caesar.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES is on a B schedule for advertising from the Warners theatres locally while the other dailies are drawing more favored treatment. Slap on the wrist is being administered by the theatre management over a difference of opinion on the handling of house publicity. Understood that theatre executives protested to Times top executives and were told that the advertising departments and editorial departments of the newspaper were run separately.

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THE 20th-Fox film exchange received a letter this week from a resident of Chester, Cal., stating that the townsfolk are ardent movie fans, eager to patronize a theatre, and suggesting that a house be built there especially in view of the fact a big lumber company is about to headquarter in the vicinity. The Fox staff got busy querying population statisticians. Answer: Chester, Cal. has a population of 25.

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NEW production executives at 20th-Fox, who will be too busy to attend the annual sales convention in Chicago at the end of June, will be introduced to the assembly by means of a newsreel being made by the trailer department. Darryl Zanuck will do the introducing, and the producers, Mark Hellinger, William LeBaron, Ernst Lubitsch and others, will tell their plans from the trailer for 1941-42.

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TRACING progress of U. S. defense program, Metro shorts department starts production next week of a special two-reeler depicting what is actually being done, what is planned and what the public thinks should be done. Edwin L. Cahn will direct. He leaves for Washington tomorrow to confer with William S. Knudsen, and will be at capital two weeks.

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BECAUSE Warners wrote the role of Rudolf Hess for Frank Wilcox into 'Underground' there has been a sizeable increase in bookings on the picture. Timely Hess sequences focus attention on the internal troubles in Germany. As a result of the increased interest in the film a second printing order has gone to New York for 125 additional prints.

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BIZARRE is the name for some of the boys at San Quentin these days, wearing rings, belt buckles, watch chains and other jewelry, which, according to the Warden, are going to be eased out. Hollywood blvd. and Broadway are all right in their proper sphere, but the Warden says 'When such things are carried to extremes, it is time to call a halt.'

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DUPLICATE of the lost reel of background material shot for 20th-Fox in Wales for 'How Green Was My Valley', has been received in New York and will be transported here by plane. It is 8,000 feet lensed under direction of Carol Reed. Original reel is presumed to have been lost in naval warfare out of England.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

While shrapnel, shot and shell
around him sped,
On yonder cliff the handsome
hero stood,
And as he was about to leap, he
said:
'Who won the seventh race at
Inglewood?'

★ ★ ★

With 51 writers on the job and Hollywood Park in full stride, the Warners are really in production these days.

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Not only the film house operators but the cats are complaining in Hollywood. Eddie Sutherland moves into Warners and his first job is 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough.'

Big idea in Hollywood today is to put on a South American musical that will click equally in Buenos Aires and Omaha. Shakespeare had a soft job.

The old guy who asks you for a dime at Vine and Sunset, is probably the only actor in Hollywood who hasn't been tested for 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.'

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Back in the days when your correspondent was writing tidings of baseball, there was always a time in the wintry days when stories were doled out, one by one. Joe Hamburger signed a contract, which made a yarn for next morning, although you knew there were 24 more signed contracts in Charlie Stoneham's strongbox, each awaiting its publicity, particularly on a Monday morning when tidings are scarce. It is that way with 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Cecil B. DeMille would have made a remarkable baseball magnate.

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Peter O'Crotty, the adventurous news correspondent, has ceased his adventuring for at least two weeks, and is doing television scripts flat on his back with the mumps. Newspaper guys not only meet interesting people but grow younger year by year.

Milton Berle's name for Hollywood is Broomtown, where you can get the world's quickest brush-off.

'Knight of Malta' is the new name for 'The Maltese Falcon', on account of the public might get the idea that it was a cat with wings.

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Harry Norwood is known as the Monitor because he is always pestering the Merry Macs with a lot of business ideas. Well, it wasn't so bad in 1862.

From the east, to hand the public all about the California Relays, is a lad with a perfect name for a radio announcer. Frank Bull.

Paramount changed the title to 'Bahama Passage' for fear the public might be in a quandary about the pronunciation of 'Dildo Cay', variously known as 'Cay' and 'Key.' So the picture is being filmed on Salt

Continued on page 9

Film Previews and Review

Billy the Kid

(*Melodrama*)

Metro release of an Irving Asher production. Stars Robert Taylor. Features Brian Donlevy, Ian Hunter, Mary Howard, Gene Lockhart and Lon Chaney, Jr. Balance of cast: Henry O'Neill, Guinn Williams, Cy Kendall, Ted Adams, Frank Conlan, Frank Puglia, Mitchell Lewis, Dick Curtis, Grant Withers, Joe Yule, Earl Gunn, Eddie Dunn, Carl Pitti, Kermit Maynard, Ethel Griffies, Chill Wills, Olive Blakeney. Directed by David Miller. Screenplay, Gene Fowler. Story by Howard Emmett Rogers and Bradbury Foote. Suggested by Walter Noble Burns' book, 'The Saga of Billy the Kid'. Photographed in Technicolor by Leonard Smith and William V. Skall. Color director, Natalie Kalmus. Songs by Ormond B. Ruthven and Albert Mannheimer. Music score, David Snell. Special effects, Warren Newcombe. Film editor, Robert J. Kern. Previewed May 22. Running time: 94 mins.

The first requisite in making a satisfactory screening of the saga of Billy the Kid for the more critical customers, meaning the large male audience generally familiar with the deeds of that arch-desperado, is to have the title-role player hard enough. Tough and deadly he must be in his thinking and his performance on the Southwest frontier where at the age of 21 this William Bonney had killed some 18 men in individual encounter.

This requirement Robert Taylor fulfills remarkably well. He has the look and the manner, the alternate hot resentments and the icy shooting calm, of the outlaw he represents. Some of Taylor's fans may have thought him too handsome for the assignment; lacking the rugged vigor for the harsh business around which the drama wheels. These are due for a surprise. Taylor is equal to every demand, credible in every situation, and plays the role as one of his finest, perhaps his best enactment.

In the complementary part, the Pat Garret character in the life story of the Kid, but on the screen not so named, is Brian Donlevy, strong and persuasive in a memorable performance. The relationship of these two one-time friends of young manhood, the outlaw and the deputy marshal, forms the bulk of the solid and exciting story contrived from the book by the late Walter Noble Burns.

In approving the screenplay by Gene Fowler from the story by Howard Emmett Rogers and Bradbury Foote, the producer, Irving Asher and Metro executives were careful not to repeat mistakes in the first film about Billy the Kid, made years ago. The present narrative doesn't seek to whitewash the outlaw. That would be to violate the whole burden of the tale, which is the tragic aspect of a young outlaw's defiance of all restraints and the inevitable retribution. But Fowler and Rogers and Foote got into their incident and attitude and gun-blasting encounter a legitimate motivation, within the clearly defined and consistent character of the Kid.

As David Miller directs it—and this is his first feature effort—the narrative carries the note of doom from the very first, when William Bonney, alias the Kid, is a mercenary gunman for one of the lawless tycoons of the New Mexican frontier, and puts a deadly passion behind his shifting loyalties. The

● Continued on page 8 ●

Adventure In Washington

(*Drama*)

Columbia production and release. Stars Herbert Marshall and Virginia Bruce. Features Gene Reynolds. Balance of cast: Samuel S. Hinds, Ralph Morgan, Vaughan Glaser, Charles Smith, Dickie Jones, Pierre Watkin, J. M. Kerrigan, Tommy Bond, Billy Dawson, Charles Lind, Mary Currier. Director, Alfred E. Green. Producer, Charles R. Rogers. Screenplay, Lewis R. Foster, Arthur Caesar. Story, Jeanne Spencer, Albert Benham. Photography, Henry Sharp, Allen G. Siegler. Film editor, James Sweeney. Special effects, Donald Starling. Art director, Lionel Banks. Music, W. Franke Harling. Previewed at Alexander theatre, Glendale, May 22. Running time: 84 mins.

Columbia's 'Adventure in Washington', although it is without a pulsing, passionate love interest, ought to fetch the customers handsomely up to the box-office window, for it is a warmly-human, gentle, tolerant and stirring picture of the dramatic lives led by page boys in the United States Senate. It is distinguished by good production, an excellent story and the splendid performance of young Gene Reynolds.

In it there is the heartbreak of a boy who battles against his environment to make good, only to find himself faced with black despair and disgrace. Columbia mined the rich vein of the national capital for heavy grosses on 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington' and on this film, which shows the kindly, humane qualities of those who make the country's laws, it stands a good chance of taking ore from the same pocket.

Story deals with young Reynolds, born on the wrong side of the tracks, who is brought to Washington by Herbert Marshall, his senator, as a page bay. He is a tough kid, ready to fight anybody who crosses him, unwilling, at first, to take the discipline forced upon the boys who run errands in the Senate. Marshall, feuding with Virginia Bruce, a femme radio commentator, has his hands full until the girl comes to his rescue and straightens the boy out. When the boy is wrongly accused by another senator of eavesdropping and is fired by Marshall, he discloses the contents of a naval appropriations bill to a crooked business man in an attempt to take hot-headed revenge against those who let him down. Then he lams, returning to save Marshall from impeachment by confessing that he is to blame. Page boys try him for his conduct and decide that he has earned the right to remain among them.

Reynolds has the largest amount of footage and does a standout job. Marshall is in top form in a sympathetic role. Miss Bruce, charming, easy to look at and a smooth actress, also turns in a fine piece of work. Charles Smith, Dickie Jones, Tommy Bond, Billy Dawson and Charles Lind, as page boys, are genuine American kids. Good support was furnished by Samuel S. Hinds, Ralph Morgan, Vaughan Glaser, Pierre Watkin, J. M. Kerrigan and Mary Currier.

Charles R. Rogers, in his second Columbia production, appears determined to maintain a high standard. Alfred E. Green's direction is practically flawless. Every technical aide is well chosen and each one in the crew contributes his best to the picture.

Thieves Fall Out

(*Comedy Drama*)

Warners production and release. Cast: Eddie Albert, Joan Leslie, Alan Hale, Jane Darwell, William T. Orr, John Litel, Anthony Quinn, Edward Brophy, Minna Gombell, Vaughan Glaser, Nana Bryant, Edward Gargan, Hobart Cavanaugh, Frank Faylen, William Davidson, Etta McDaniel, Tom Kennedy. Directed by Ray Enright. Based on the play by Irving Gaumont and Jack Sobel. Screenplay by Charles Grayson and Ben Markson. Associate producer, Edmund Grainger. Film editor, Clarence Kolster. Dialog director, Gene Lewis. Photography, Sid Hickox. Reviewed at Warners Hollywood, May 22. Running time: 70 mins.

This Gaumont-Sobel play shapes up as a pleasant diversion for the family trade. Back of the drab, nondescript title which has little bearing on the story, is an amusing little programmer that easily holds its own as supporting fare. It's the type of product which makes duals easier to take and in many cases will probably inspire more favorable audience response than more pretentious B product.

Based on the most elementary of dramatic situations, the young people in love whose respective parents object to the marriage, the yarn unfolds smoothly under Director Ray Enright's guidance and winds up as one of those comedy cops and robbers operas which are currently in vogue.

Jane Darwell, as the sharp-tongued, spirited grandma with a strong yen for radio gangster serials who seeks to dramatize real life, is the motivating spirit, and delivers a corking performance. The production is generally well cast, with Eddie Albert, Joan Leslie, Alan Hale, Anthony Quinn and Edward Brophy among the most notable. Miss Leslie, as the femme lead, photographs attractively and impresses strongly.

While the comedy sequences never touch top rating, the dialog is sprightly and interest is maintained with a minimum of dull spots. Story revolves about the Eddie Albert-Joan Leslie romance, with Eddie working for his father at a low salary and unable to wed until he can provide a home for his intended. Grandma Darwell urges Eddie on to sell his inheritance, which comes due only after his mother dies, and establish a business of his own. Racketeer Collins (Anthony Quinn) muscles in on the money-lending scheme, takes over rights to inheritance, and Eddie's mother is threatened with extinction. Jane Darwell then intervenes and proves to be so tough to handle that the mobsters finally plead with her to go home like a good girl and leave them in peace. Edward Brophy and Edward Gargan, as the dim-witted detectives who promise faithfully to clamp down on the racketeer as soon as Eddie's mother is rubbed out, figure prominently for laughs in floundering attempts to untangle the family mix-up.

Reissue G-B 'Army'

'You're In the Army Now', Gaumont-British production released three years ago, has been dusted off for distribution through 20th-Fox exchanges. The timeliness of the story and title at this time are considerations given for the revival of the 1938 comedy.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

LEW POLLACK is known around the Hollywood Derby as the double threat slugger. . . George Thomas, Sr. goes to Berkeley today to see his son Frank graduate from the University of California. This is the fifth Thomas son to graduate from the college but the first time he has been able to attend the events. . . . Option of Al Barr and his orchestra has been picked up for four more weeks at Slapsy Maxie's. . . . Otto Kruger has been given one of the top roles in Gregory Ratoff's production at Columbia, 'Tonight Belongs to Us.' He reports in first of next week. Kruger is up for two stage plays and three pictures, but will probably give up idea of going east for summer stock. He also is wanted for the father role in radio show, 'The Aldrich Family.' . . . Christopher Morley's two books, 'Parnassus On Wheels' and 'Haunted Book Shop', not generally associated with the author of 'Kitty Foyle' in Hollywood, are getting screen treatment by Frank Doherty in a coast range mountain hideout.

Jerry Breitigam, Jr. has this week's lead article in the Satevepost, 'Salesman No. 1', under the writing name Gerald Breckenridge. Young Breitigam, whose father is in the publicity department at RKO, for three months produced the radio show, 'Authors' Workshop', on which publishers and editors discussed trade matters.

EDWIN KNOPF, Metro producer who will make 'The Vanishing Virginian', today Super Chiefs to Richmond, Va., to consult with the author of the novel, Rebecca Williams, on dramatic adaptation. . . . Jewel McGowan and Dean Collins, international jitterbug champs, and Patty Lacey and Roy Hirsch, American Legion champs, will appear in dance sequences with Ann Sothern in 'Ringside Maisie.' Edwin L. Marin directs. . . . Edgar Selwyn is trying to get Margot Grahame for the feminine lead in the legit play, 'We Fought at Argues', which producer will put on for Metro this fall in Boston and New York. Miss Grahame, married to a Canadian business man and living in Montreal, has been out of pictures for the past two years. She is reading the play. . . . Metro is using two tons of special props brought from the Florida brush country near Ocala to use in connection with interiors on 'The Yearling' to be filmed at studio. . . . Cole Porter is hibernating for a spell with his piano at the Waldorf in NY. . . . Melvina Pumphrey pegged by Glamour mag for member of their 'Glamour Board' in Hollywood.

LOUIS B. MAYER returns today from New York by American Airlines, following physical checkup at Johns Hopkins and conferences with Loew's executives on Metro production program for the summer. Howard Strickling, who accompanied Mayer on trip, returns with him.

Ransom Sherman Heads Show for 'Fibber' Summer Replacement

Ransom Sherman, Chicago radio comic, has been picked by Needham, Louis & Brorby agency to head the summer replacement for 'Fibber McGee and Molly'. Program, to originate in the Windy City, will have a variety formula. Sherman has been appearing on 'Club Matinee' and other Chicago shows.

Cecil Underwood, producer of 'Fibber', will forego his sabbatical to handle the show. Likely that Billy Mills, music conductor, and Harlow Wilcox, announcer, will move over to the summer show, which tees up July 1.

Borrah Minevitch Tops New Carroll Show

Borrah Minevitch and his harmonica rascals will head the new Earl Carroll nitery revue opening June 4. Current extravaganza closes (31), with the theatre-cafe going dark for three nights. Holdovers for Carroll's fourth revue at the Sunset boul site are Buster Shaver and his midgets, Olive and George, and the Six Debonnairs. Among the new talent will be 'Think-a-Drink' Hoffman, with negotiations pending for the acrobatic team of Willie, West and McGinty.

John B. Browne Joins Advertising Agency

John Barton Browne, who recently wound up 20 years at the Ambassador hotel as advertising and business promotion manager, has joined the advertising firm of Bowman, Deute & Cummings to head a division specializing in cooperative promotion. He will have as associates Ed Northridge, T. V. Allen, John B. Moore, J. Y. LeVeque and R. L. Harrell.

Vallee Program Stays on Coast for Summer

Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airshow remains in Hollywood through the summer, with a possible brief switch east if Columbia goes through with its plan to preview Vallee's current picture somewhere in Maine. Earlier intention was to pass most of the summer airing from New York. Guest appearance of Lionel Barrymore has been moved up to June 5.

Story Buys

'The Hands On the Clock Stand Still', western detective story by Geoffrey Homans (Dan Mainwaring) has been purchased by the Pine-Thomas production unit for Paramount release.

Metro has bought 'Comin' At You', original by Borden Chase dealing with a champ riveter in an eastern shipyard. Ann Sothern will have the femme star spot. J. Walter Ruben produces.

INDISPENSABLE

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

could prevent a strike. All that is logical thus far. **THE LOGIC FLIES OUT THE WINDOW WHEN IT IS ASSUMED THAT BIOFF IS THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD PREVENT A STRIKE.**

Bioff recently spent six months in jail on an old sentence upon conviction on a charge that he enslaved a woman and took her earnings as a prostitute. **DURING THE TIME HE WAS IN JAIL THE MOTION PICTURE BUSINESS CONTINUED TO PRODUCE MOTION PICTURES.**

☆ ☆ ★

THERE is every reason to believe that national defense is not dependent upon the activities of men who can stoop to obtaining a livelihood from enslavement of a woman and taking the receipts from the sales of that woman's body in prostitution. If national defense is based on these standards, can we say that Hitler is anything to be feared?

There is every reason to believe that the splendid men and women engaged in the motion picture business are not dependent upon the leadership of such a character.

If a jury should find that Willie Bioff is guilty of having defrauded the government out of a large sum of money by failing to report a large part of his income, he may go to jail for 10 years. **IF WILLIE BIOFF SHOULD GO TO JAIL FOR 10 YEARS MUST WE BELIEVE THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY WOULD BE CLOSED WHILE AWAITING THE RELEASE OF THE MAN WHO TELLS THE COURT THAT THE MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY CAN OPERATE ONLY IN THE EVENT IT HAS HIS ASSISTANCE?**

☆ ☆ ☆

THE charges on which Bioff faces the Court include one to the effect that he received $100,000 from Joe Schenck while he was negotiating for the workers with the motion picture industry represented by Schenck. Schenck says that the money was merely a loan and was paid back. Bioff claims the same thing. The government charges that it was not paid back but was in fact income.

No conclusions of guilt may be drawn at this time, but if it should be found that the money was income, is there any other conclusion possible than that it was a bribe to the labor leader?

And if the jury should find that the loan or payment of the money amounted to a bribe, then what effect would that have upon the contentions made to the Federal Court that Bioff is an essential leader of the workers in the film industry?

In from the East

Eddie Bracken
Walter Wade
Stan Laurel (SF)
Oliver Hardy (SF)
Dorothy Lamour
Milton Feld
F. T. Murray
J. J. Jordan
Louis B. Mayer (AA)
Howard Strickling (AA)
William Rodgers (SF)
Lynn Farnol
William Schneider

Johnson Airer Renewed

Erskine Johnson's Hollywood chatter broadcast has been renewed for another 13 weeks by 42 Oil Shampoo. New pact carries pay increase.

Heading East

Cecil Kellaway
Bill Watters
Edwin Knopf (SF)
Carey Wilson (UA)
Wolfe Kaufman
John Joseph
Hal B. Wallis (SF)
Haskell Masters (TWA)
Carl Schroeder (TWA)
Meredith Willson (TWA)

Lombard, Hope Teamed For 'Smith' Luxer

Carole Lombard and Bob Hope will be teamed in radio adaptation of 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith' on the Lux hour June 9. J. Walter Thompson agency also set Mickey Rooney in the guest spot on Chase & Sanborn June 8 and Carmen Miranda the following week.

Warners, MG Pulled Off of List In AAA Case

With the consent of all parties concerned, the names of two major film companies, Warners and Metro, were removed from the list of defendants yesterday in the first arbitration case under the consent decree in the Los Angeles district to come before the American Arbitration Association. The case involving O. W. Lewis, operator of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, and the other film company and chain operating defendants, was then adjourned until Monday by Herbert Cameron, State Railroad Commission attorney, who is sitting as arbitrator.

The names of Warners and Metro-Goldwyn were withdrawn from the complaint on technical grounds, concurred in by Rufus Bailey, attorney for Lewis, because these corporations are acknowledged to be exclusively producers and not distributors of films.

Prior to the adjournment yesterday it was also agreed that arbitrator Cameron should inspect the areas involved in the complaint and visit all the theatres in the territory. This inspection will likely take place tomorrow, with Lewis and representatives of the defendants accompanying Cameron.

The hearing is scheduled to continue from Monday (26) for a day or two and then adjourn until June 3 when the defense will submit its case. It appears likely, however, that the hearing will not be completed within the time now scheduled.

Among those present at the AAA offices yesterday were John Bertero, attorney, representing Fox - West Coast, Arthur Freston, for Warner Bros., and Herb Silberberg, for Metro-Goldwyn and 20th Century-Fox.

Van Gluck, Eisinger Plan Depositions

New York, May 22.—Stephen Van Gluck and Joseph Eisinger, authors, notified United States District court today that they will take depositions of J. Robert Rubin, William Fadiman, Kenneth MacKenna, Metro's eastern and western story heads; Julie Herne, head of the play department; Harry Rapf and Tim Whelan, on May 29, before trial of their suits against Loew's. Plaintiffs are seeking an injunction and an accounting of profits on 'Murder Man', claiming the film plagiarized their play, 'The Last Edition.'

Walter Wade Arrives For Lum, Abner Bow

Walter Wade, agency head, gets in today from the east for the launching Monday of the Lum and Abner program for Alka Seltzer. Quarter hour scripter airs four nights a week over NBC coast red network and one station in Oregon. Local release is on KFI at 7:15 p.m.

Grace Hayes Lodge
ANNOUNCES ITS
SIDEWALK CAFE
OPEN DAILY FROM 4 TO 9
11345 VENTURA BLVD. SU. 2-2635

FOR BRITISH WAR RELIEF
LAST PERFORMANCE
GENE LOCKHART'S
REVUE
It's Delightful
(Every critic)
BEVERLY HILLS HAWTHORNE THEATRE
624 No. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills
Sunday Nights at 8:40 • Tickets 2.00-1.50-1.00 (Tax Free) • Reservations HO-5111

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	Bob Hebert	Paul Lowry	Bernard	Martha	Jim Mitchell
1—Certie	1—Certie	1—Certie	1—Certie	1—Opening Bid	1—Certie
Opening Bid	Opening Bid	Opening Bid	Opening Bid	Sunny Jack	Opening Bid
Liberty Lad	Sunny Jack	Liberty Lad	Henry G'nock	Certie	Henry G'nock
2—Sq. Diamond	2—Flying Back	2—Blon Gla	2—Sq. Diamond	2—Sq. Diamond	2—Sq. Diamond
Taj	Sq. Diamond	Taj	Blon Gla	Tory Tom	Taj
Blon Gla	Blon Gla	Igorette	Taj	Blon Gla	Ships Bells
3—Praetorian	3—Anahuac	3—Praetorian	3—Praetorian	3—Linum	3—Peter Tokalon
Peter Tokalon	Sextus	Anahuac	Anahuac	Praetorian	Praetorian
Anahuac	Praetorian	Peter Tokalon	Sextus	Peter Tokalon	Sextus
4—Mulligatawney	4—Mulligatawney	4—Mulligatawney	4—Mulligatawney	4—Madie G'nock	4—Mulligatawney
Sunted	Praiseworthy	Sunted	Madie G'nock	Mulligatawney	Madie G'nock
Ticky Otis	Sunted	Madie G'nock	Cassonair	Sunted	Sunted
5—Valdina Minx	5—Cargador	5—Torch M'cher	5—Torch M'cher	5—Day Dawn	5—Valdina Minx
Day Dawn	Day Dawn	Vandina Minx	Patan	Cargador	Day Dawn
Big Ed	Scotch High	Scotch High	Day Dawn	Torch M'cher	Patan
6—Chaldon Heath	6—Chaldon Heath	6—Paper Boy	6—Chaldon Heath	6—Chaldon Heath	6—Present Arms
Carressante	Creakle	Chaldon Heath	Paper Boy	Gallant One	Chaldon Heath
Paper Boy	Red Flannels	Gallant One	Caressante	Creakle	Paper Boy
7—Woof Woof	7—Woof Woof	7—Hysterical	7—Woof Woof	7—Pictor	7—Big Ben
Big Ben	Specify	Big Ben	No Compet'n	Woof Woof	Woof Woof
Get Off	Big Ben	Woof Woof	Hysterical	Specify	No Compet'n
8—Pageboy	8—Teddy Kerry	8—Pageboy	8—Teddy Kerry	8—Albert Jay	8—Pageboy
Gold Teddy	Triplane	Triplane	Triplane	Pageboy	Gold Teddy
Best Beau	Perfect Rhyme	Gold Teddy	Count D'Or	Forsooth	Count O'Or

Planted

Columbia

James Flavin, Harry Tenbrook, Duke York, Arthur Laidlaw, Lyle Latell, Bub Geary, 'Texas'.

Warners

Jane Randolph, 'Navy Blues'.
Jack Mower, 'Dive Bomber'.

Farnol, Schneider In On 'Foxes' Campaign

Lynn Farnol, New York publicity representative for the two pictures Samuel Goldwyn will release through RKO, and William Schneider of Donahue & Coe, advertising agency, arrived here yesterday to confer with the producer and William Hebert on the campaign for 'The Little Foxes', first of the pair. Farnol will be here until Sunday or Monday with possibility that Goldwyn may leave with him for New York Monday.

Prumbs Here July 7

Lucille Prumbs, New York playwright, arrives here July 7 to start a one-picture writing deal at Paramount. Contract carries option for continuation of her services.

Brown's Chore

George Carleton Brown has been assigned to write treatment on 'White House Correspondent' for Associate Producer Leonard Fields at Republic.

Spot Louise Currie

Louise Currie has been signed at Columbia for 'Tillie the Toiler' on deal agented by Sue Carol.

Dorothy Lewis, Rep Contract In Superior Court

The contract drawn up April 14 between Republic Pictures and Dorothy Lewis was submitted to the Superior court for approval May 21, in compliance with the California state law governing minors in films. Miss Lewis is 20 years of age.

Terms of the contract stipulate that Miss Lewis is to receive $500 weekly to act as 'Dorothy' in 'Ice Capades of 1941', with a guarantee of five weeks work. Republic has the right to pick up an option on the performer's services within 60 days after the completion of photography under the free lance contract. Miss Lewis has reserved the right to make personal ice skating appearances on her own account.

Ice star is to receive $1,000 weekly if Republic exercises its option for one year beginning on the date of the original agreement. Further renewals would gradually boost Miss Lewis' salary to $2,200 for the sixth year.

Jean Parker Reading Script for Legiter

Jean Parker, currently in the picture, 'Flying Blind', goes to Santa Barbara when the film is finished to read the script for her legit debut in 'Unopened Pages', a play by Freeland Havenhurst, to be produced at the Lobell theatre by Cecil Mayberry. Producer hopes to take the piece to New York after a tryout on the Coast.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 3; Portland, 7.
Sacramento, 11; Los Angeles, 7.
Seattle, 5; Oakland, 3.
San Francisco, 9; San Diego, 8.

Third Tim Holter Goes Before RKO Lenses

Third of the Tim Holt westerns for RKO's 1941-42 program, untitled, starts shooting today under the direction of David Howard. Holt just completed 'Outlaw Trail' at the studio Tuesday. In the new cast are Jane Clayton as the femme lead, Lasses White, Ray Whitley, Fern Emmett, LeRoy Mason, Harry Harvey, Lane Chandler and Bud Geary. Norton S. Parker scripted from Tom Gibson's original.

'Angel' Rolls Monday

Universal launches production on 'Almost an Angel' Monday with Deanna Durbin, Charles Laughton and Robert Cummings in the leads under the direction of Henry Koster. Going the same day will be 'Mob Town', with Ford Beebe directing and Ken Goldsmith producing, and 'Raiders of the Desert', next Richard Arlen-Andy Devine melodrama which Ben Pivar is producing.

'Andrew' Goes June 30

'The Remarkable Andrew', with Brian Donlevy and William Holden in the top roles, will hit cameras at Paramount as originally scheduled, June 30. Dalton Trumbo's treatment on his own novel about the influence of Andrew Jackson upon a young modern American avoids the controversial angles of the book, and he has been given okay to complete the script.

Talk on Pictures

Mrs. Alice Field of the Hays office, and Ryllis Hemington, Fox West Coast publicity, will attend the state convention of the American Association of University Women at Del Monte on Saturday (31) to deliver talks on 'Motion Pictures In the World Today'.

Norton Joins 'Nurse'

Jack Norton reports at 20th-Fox today to play his drunk characterization in 'Private Nurse'. Beyer-MacArthur agented.

LIGHT OPERA FESTIVAL PHILHARMONIC AUDITORIUM

GALA OPENING MONDAY NIGHT

FRANCIA WHITE
(Appearing by special permission of her Radio Sponsors, The Bell Telephone System)
. . . in . . .
"NAUGHTY MARIETTA"
with
WILBUR EVANS
WARREN HULL
MADY CORRELL
FRANK YACONELLI
VERA MARSHE
HARRY HOLMAN
BILLY GRIFFITH
and
STERLING HOLLOWAY

ONE WEEK ONLY
6 nights
2 mats.

Stage Direction
ZEKE COLVAN

Musical Direction
ARTHUR KAY

SEATS at BOX OFFICE MI. 8401 and ALL MUTUAL AGENCIES !

DON COSTELLO
as
"Carl Izzard"
in
"Sleepers West"

"Don Costello swell . . . WATCH THIS COSTELLO GUY!"
Wolfe Kaufman in Modern Screen

"A standout is Don Costello as the hard practical sleuth."
Daily Variety

"Especially good is Don Costello playing a hard-boiled detective."
Jimmy Starr in Herald-Express

"DON Costello a standout as the gunman sent to prevent the girl's testifying."
Hollywood Reporter

DON COSTELLO
as
"Redge"
in
"Ride on Vaquero"

Management
FRED J. LEONARD AGENCY

AFL TOPS MEET TONIGHT ON DISNEY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

clear for my employes to do as they please—I won't permit any of my representatives to take a hand in their organization efforts. They are free to join any organization, and we will bargain collectively with the union or organization so chosen.'

SCG leaders said this announcement was contrary to the action of John Gray, Disney flack, who on the same sheet with the Disney announcement, stated that the American Society of Screen Cartoonists claims to represent a majority of the Disney employes and was preparing to demand recognition. He added the Society would have an important statement today. They said this indicated that a Disney official was speaking for both the company and the Society at the same time. The Society was organized by officers of the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, which was scuttled after the SCG complained that it was a company union.

The consent decree handed the NLRB yesterday provided, among other things, that the Disney company cease and desist from:

'Discouraging membership in the Screen Cartoonists Local 852, AFL, or any other labor organization of its employes or in any manner discriminating in regard to their hire and tenure of employment or any term or condition of employment because of their membership or assistance in behalf of any labor organization.'

Although the company was absolved of any past charge of interference or domination of a labor organization, it will be required to post notices in the plant of the consent decree, and directing that it disestablish any relations with the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, etc.

It also was reported today that an effort would be made to arrange a consent election of employes to designate a bargaining agent. It is doubtful, however, whether the Guild would agree, since it now claims to represent an overwhelming majority of the workers.

Gale Storm Assigned To PRC 'Daughters'

Gale Storm has been loaned by RKO for femme spot opposite Roger Pryor in 'Gambling Daughters', T. H. Richmond production for Producers Releasing Corp., which starts today at Talisman studio. Max Nosseck directs. Richmond has also signed Robert Baldwin to play opposite Cecilia Parker as fourth of the cast toppers in the feature.

Rubin, Chanslor Set

Stanley Rubin and Roy Chanslor have been assigned to do the screenplay on 'Frisco Kate', which Marshall Grant will produce at Universal. Writers just completed 'Bombay Clipper' for Grant.

Johnson Chored

Nunnally Johnson has completed scripting Steven Wendt's novel, 'The Night the World Shook', at 20th-Fox, and goes next on screenplay of 'Chicago', from the Maureen Watkins legiter.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'You'll Never Get Rich'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	Sidney Lanfield	May 20
'King of Dodge City'	Columbia	Leon Barsha	Lambert Hillyer	May 20
Untitled 'Tarzan'	Metro	B. P. Fineman	Richard Thorpe	May 19
'Bahama Passage'	Paramount	Edward H. Griffith	Edward H. Griffith	May 19
'Sheik of Buffalo Butte'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Howard Bretherton	May 21
'Gambling Daughters'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	T. H. Richmond	Max Nosseck	May 23
'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost'	RKO	Cliff Reid	Leslie Goodwins	May 22
Tim Holt No. 3	RKO	Bert Gilroy	David Howard	May 23
'Gangs of Sonora'	Republic	Lou Gray	Jack English	May 19
'Under Fiesta Stars'	Republic	Harry Grey	William Morgan	May 23
'San Antonio Rose'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Charles Lamont	May 20
'The Smiling Ghost'	Warners	Edmund Grainger	Lew Seiler	May 20

8 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'City Limits'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	May 31
'Billy the Kid' Western	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sam Newfield	May 28
'Unexpected Uncle'	RKO	Erich Pommer	Tay Garnett	May 27
'21 Men and a Girl'	20th-Fox	Harry Joe Brown	Ray McCarey	May 26
'Remember the Day'	20th-Fox	William Perlberg	Unassigned	May 26
'Almost an Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 26
'Mob Town'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	Ford Beebe	May 26
'Raiders of the Desert'	Universal	Ben Pivar	Unassigned	May 26

21 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Fugitive Valley'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	June 2
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	June 3
'Phantom Ranger'	Monogram	Robert Tangey	Unassigned	June 5
'Arizona Bound'	Monogram	Scott Dunlap	Unassigned	June 8
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 15
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	June 3
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Unassigned	June 9
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	William Pine and William Thomas	Frank McDonald	June 16
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Unassigned	Preparing
'Ice-Capades of 1941'	Republic	Robert North	Unassigned	June 2
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	June 2
'We Go Fast'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	William McGann	June 2
'Lone Star Ranger'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	June 2
'Men at Large'	20th-Fox	Ralph Dietrich	Unassigned	June 9
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 1
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 20
'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'	Warners	William Jacobs	Eddie Sutherland	June 2
'All Through the Night'	Warners	Jerry Wald	Vincent Sherman	June 9

a.m. Dailies

Testify Over 'Zanzibar'—
Maurice Tombragel and Maurice Wright testified yesterday before Superior Judge Goodwin J. Knight that they did not lift Norman Rose's 'The Strange Story of the Versailles Treaty's Lost Skull' in writing the script for the Universal picture, 'Zanzibar'. Rose is asking $75,000 for asserted plagiarism of his radio skit.

Frances Stutz Leaps to Death—
Frances Stutz, 27, a Ziegfeld showgirl during the late '20's, died early today in New York from injuries received when she jumped from the fifth floor of her penthouse home, where she lived with her husband, John M. Huppman.

Kelly-Brooks to Wed—
Jeanne Kelly, Universal film player, and Richard Brooks, radio writer, applied for a marriage permit yesterday. The wedding is scheduled for June 1.

Nazarro's 'Susie'

Cliff Nazarro's next (his second) role without double talk will be in 'Miss Susie Slagle's' at RKO.

BOOKING AGENTS BILL DROPPED

■ Continued from page 1 ■

though the bill had been given no hearing by the Labor and Capital Committee to which it was referred last January, Voight said he was certain it would be defeated. Assemblyman Maloney's bill No. 234 to eliminate duplicate license fees for agents with more than one office has already passed the Assembly and now awaits the next legislative step.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing seven pounds, two ounces, to Mrs. Stuart Palmer at the Mercy hospital, San Diego, Wednesday. Baby has been named Penelope. Father is working at La Jolla on 'Lone Wolf Double Cross' for Columbia.

SON, weighing six pounds, to Mrs. Ruby Rosenberg, wife of the RKO assistant director, at Cedars of Lebanon Wednesday. Baby has been named Paul Murray.

BIG STEEPLECHASE HANDICAP
Sunday at CALIENTE
ACE JUMPERS IN 2½-MILE
JOLLY ROGER STAKES
• 16 THRILLING HAZARDS •
12 RACES • 5 FEATURES • FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Edward Arnold Named Chairman of MPI Charities Group

Edward Arnold has been elected chairman of the Permanent Charities Committee of the Motion Picture Industry, succeeding Samuel Goldwyn who resigned after serving during the past year. The committee also appointed an executive committee with full power to act on behalf of the talent guilds in all charitable activities of the industry.

Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild, is chairman of the executive committee. Other members are King Vidor, of the Screen Directors Guild; Ralph Block, of the Screen Writers Guild; Bert Allenberg, of the Artists Managers Guild, and Samuel Goldwyn, of the Producers.

The new committee immediately voted to support the United China Relief in its campaign to raise funds for stricken China. David O. Selznick was appointed to head a committee to direct the China Relief drive.

Universal Holds Third Regional Sesh Here

Third and last of Universal's regional meetings will be held here today and tomorrow at the Ambassador hotel. Out from New York to attend are F. T. Murray, branch operations manager, and J. J. Jordan, contract playdate manager. Among the exchange men are Thomas McMahon, Denver; Charles McBride, San Francisco; Nicholas Lamantia, New Orleans; E. H. Smith, Salt Lake City; H. F. Anderson, Portland; A. M. Kallen, Seattle, and Edward Cooke and Harold Whitman, Los Angeles.

AFRA ELECTS DELEGATES TO DETROIT CONVENTION

The Los Angeles Chapter of the American Federation of Radio Artists has elected 46 delegates and 46 alternates to the national AFRA convention in Detroit Aug. 14-17. The local also has nominated nine candidates to fill three vacancies on the national board, and has elected a committee of nine to nominate candidates for local officers.

The nominating committee, of which Knox Manning is chairman, is composed of Ed Max, Norman Field, Walter White, Jr., Robert Bruce, Grace Leonard, Stanley Farrar, Elizabeth Wilbur and Ted Bliss.

Nominees for the three vacancies on the national board are Edward Arnold, Georgia Fifield, Hal Berger, Knox Manning, Norman Field, Ken Carpenter, Fred Shields, Ed Max and Earle Ross.

The 46 delegates to the national convention are Hal Berger, Theodore Bliss, True Boardman, William Brandt, Hugh Brundage, Ken Carpenter, William Days, Jr., Rosemary De Camp, James Doyle, Wilson Edwards, Georgia Fifield, Norman Field, Frank Graham, Gale Gordon, John Hiestand, Joe Kearns, Paul Yeast, John Kennedy, Lucile La Pointe.

Bob LeMond, Elliott Lewis, Fred Mackaye, Knox Manning, Lou Marcelle, Myra Marsh, Pat McGeehan, Lou Merrill, Ted Meyers, Jane Morgan, Ann Morrison, Frank Nelson, Norman Nesbitt, Frank Pittman, Michael Raffetto, Mel Ruik, Helen Sawyer, Ynez Seabury, Fred Shields, Anne Stone, Hal Styles, Lurene Tuttle, Maurie Webster, Elizabeth Wilbur, J. Donald Wilson, William Wright and Jack Joller.

Alternates to the national parley are Eddie Albright, Ben Alexander, Herb Allen, Edward Arnold, Cliff Arquette, Warren Ashe, Georgia Backus, J. Richard Bailey, Art Baker, Arthur Q. Bryan, Raymond (Buddy) Clark, Dresser Dahlstead, Nigel De Brulier, James Eagles, James Eakins, Stanley Farrar, Verna Felton, Kathleen Fitz, Austin Grout, Jean Hersholt, Henry Iblings, Byron Kane, Berry Kroeger, Harry Lang, Mary Lansing, Nancy Leach, Grace Lenard, Jack Lescoulie, Ed Ludes, Charlie Lung, Wally Maher, Jack Mather, Edwin Max, Mercedes McCambridge, Howard McNear, Thurl Ravenscroft, Earle Ross, Dick Ryan, Dorothy Scott, Rolfe Sedan, Jack Slattery, Eric Snowdon, Louise Squire, Harry Stanton, Lee Sweetland and Tudor Williams.

Wm. Rodgers Due In Monday for Metro Product Looksee

William Rodgers, Metro's general sales manager, is due here Monday to look over and appraise product which company expects to have ready for its first block of fives to meet consent decree this fall. He will be here two weeks.

Howard Dietz, advertising and exploitation chief, is expected out from New York week from tomorrow on his seasonal trip. Company is tentatively planning its national sales convention for June or early July in Hollywood.

KMTR Contract

The Los Angeles Local of the American Federation of Radio Artists announced yesterday that it had signed a contract with KMTR covering staff announcers and the local and sustaining codes. The agreement will result in substantial wage increases for all employes covered by the pact.

CBS ISSUES ANALYSIS OF FCC ORDER EFFECTS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

enterprise; formation of fly-by-night organizations which will merely serve as brokers and having no relationship with stations or the public; destroy the present orderly system of broadcasting.

Isolating the various clauses of the monopoly report, CBS points out that:

'Third of the new regulations leaves the whole network business open to being shuffled and scrambled every year because the commission says it will not license a station that agrees to affiliate itself with a network for more than one year.

'Fourth would deprive a station of its license if it gives a network any call on its time. This is the arrangement commonly known in the industry as 'option time', which is the only method under which network broadcasting is practicable.

'Fifth regulation, denying a license to any station that failed to reserve in its contract with the network the right to reject a program, serves no purpose other than to create a false public impression that the networks force upon their affiliated stations programs which fall below the station's own standards.

'Sixth regulation is a plain attempt to subordinate the public interest for the sake of discriminating against a network. By licensing and relicensing network-owned stations through the years, commission has affirmed that they are operating in the public interest.

'Rule No. 7, which would make it impossible for one organization to own two networks, is not discussed, but the commission's authority to adopt this regulation is questioned.

'Rule No. 8 proposes to meddle with advertising rates, a threat as dangerous to the individual stations as to the networks. Private contractual arrangements designed to prevent unfair competition are not necessarily undesirable.'

Analysis concludes with the challenge, 'We welcome a congressional investigation into broadcasting at any time, but we oppose the arbitrary and unauthorized seizure of dictatorial powers over free American radio by the commission. Radio in America is dominated only by the listening public—and nobody else.'

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC — PIPES AND CIGARS — TOBACCOS — COMPLETE SMOKERS' SUPPLIES — SPIRITS AND LIQUEURS

LYMAN'S PIPE BOWL

6738 Hollywood Blvd. HO. 0653

FOURTH SUMMER SEASON

RACES

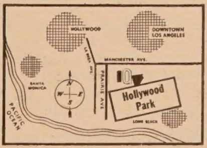
MAY 23 to JULY 26

Opening Day TODAY

PREMIERE HANDICAP

$10,000. ADDED

FIRST POST 2 PM



Admission Prices

General Admission $1.10 tax paid

Clubhouse . . . . . . $2.20 tax paid

Season Boxes (6 seats to box) Grandstand or Clubhouse $233.64 tax paid

Season Ticket for boxholder, Grandstand, per person $25.85

Clubhouse, per person $55.00 tax paid

FOR RESERVATIONS PHONE ORegon 8-1181

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Inglewood

'Variety' Title Gets Protection From Illinois Court

Chicago, May 22.—A consent decree holding that VARIETY is the legal owner of the trademark VARIETY has been entered in the U. S. District court for the Northern District of Illinois. The decree provides that a monthly publication heretofore calling itself 'Radio Varieties' will cease and desist from the use of that title as an infringement upon the interests and fame of VARIETY, which has been accepted as the official publication of the show world since 1905.

VARIETY was represented by the Chicago law firm of Sonnenschein, Berkson, Lautmann, Levenson & Morse, acting on behalf of O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery, New York attorneys for VARIETY.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

From the findings of fact made by the court, pursuant to consent of the parties, the court states its conclusions of law as follows:

1. The plaintiff is the lawful owner and user of the trademark VARIETY, originally registered by Sime Silverman on Jan. 18, 1910, and renewed by Sime Silverman for the use and benefit of the plaintiff on Jan. 14, 1930, to remain in force for an additional period of 20 years from Jan. 18, 1930.

2. The plaintiff is entitled to the exclusive use of the trademark and tradename VARIETY in the issuance of trade newspapers and other publications devoted to the activities of the theatre, radio, screen, bands and orchestras.

3. The plaintiff is also entitled to the exclusive use of the name VARIETY in connection with the granting of awards to radio stations, programs or performers for outstanding performance.

4. The defendants are not entitled to use the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' as part of the name of a monthly magazine or other periodical or publication devoted to radio activities, radio programs and radio performers nor in the granting of awards to radio stations, programs or performers for outstanding merit. Such use of the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' by the defendants, because of visual and oral likeness to plaintiff's tradename, necessarily tends to create confusion and to diminish the value of plaintiff's trademark and tradename.

5. The plaintiff is entitled to an injunction perpetually restraining the defendants from using the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' as part of any monthly magazine or other publication devoted to the subject of radio activities, radio programs and radio performers; also to an injunction perpetually restraining the defendants from using the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' in connection with the granting of awards to radio stations, programs and performers for outstanding merit.

Carolina Pines
YOUSAH!
Delicious, delectable Fried Chicken, Ham, Prime Ribs, Steaks, Chops, etc. Served in the gracious atmosphere of the Old South.
7315 Melrose Ave.
WY. 9122

Film Preview

● Continued from page 3 ●

career of the antagonists, played on by circumstance, separates them until they are on opposite prongs of law and lawlessness, and the marshal kills his boyhood pall to keep his legal oath. But there is humor and playfulness, a nice thread of romance and much beguiling human sidelight, alongside the grim melodrama to give the picture rich entertainment.

Miller's initial full-fledged directing job is an exceptionally fine piece of craftsmanship in the swift story-telling pace he maintains, in keeping the ring of the characters true, in holding the mood of the tale sound and consistent and giving it powerful tragic passion.

Besides Taylor and Donlevy there are half a dozen strongly etched characters. Ian Hunter turns in a splendid role as the English cattle rancher whose influence on the Kid, when the outlaw joins his crew, for an interval promises to bring out a new and disciplined side of his nature, only to have it veer back into deadlier channels still when the rancher is killed by Billy's former partisans.

Mary Howard plays the decorous sweetheart and bride of Donlevy, who also had captured the secret love of the Kid. The young actress, once in the Ziegfeld Follies, has both skill and an uncommon attractiveness which have been displayed to advantage and which indicate screen importance to come.

Gene Lockhart with his customary ability creates an interesting character for the beef-dealing merchant who controls a gang of frontier thugs to carry on his thieving business. Lon Chaney, Jr. is well cast as one of his henchmen. Henry O'Neill stands out as a courageous editor. Guinn Williams is a blacksmith. Frank Puglia makes his role count as the guitar troubador who rides with the Kid. Cy Kendall, Grant Withers, Eddie Dunn, Ethel Griffies, Chill Wills, Olive Blakeney are others who are marked amongst the generally excellent support.

The picture has driving action, mounting excitement and always something more and deeper than mere riding and gunning and exciting chase. In the main the known pattern of the Kid's life, and the relationship of the main characters in the life drama, are adhered to.

The picture is uncommonly beautiful, even in the general high level of Technicolor merit, in its brilliant and artistic use of the magnificent New Mexico and Arizona backgrounds, especially the scenes in Monument Valley, a desert wilderness of weird butte and organ cactus. This landscape, and its selected use by the eloquent cameras of Leonard Smith and William V. Skall, in itself helps create much of the tragic atmosphere of outlawry in which the action is steeped. Warren Newcombe contributes special effects. The music score by David Snell also fits admirably into the sombre mood as the Kid races to the end of his tether.

Men are bound to like the picture, to patronize it heavily, and women will probably like it also, for it has much more of all 'round dramatic appeal than the pattern which the title might suggest. Strong cast, headed by the Taylor and Donlevy names, will help greatly.

Ralph Dietrich Plans 'Crazy' for 20th

Ralph Dietrich will make from his own story a production for 20th-Fox about the forest patrol, to be called 'Plane Crazy'. It will follow 'Man At Large' on the Dietrich schedule. Associate producer wants same leads he had for 'Cowboy and the Blonde', Mary Beth Hughes and George Montgomery', for 'Crazy'. Dietrich returned to studio yesterday after three days out to have minor operation performed on a toe at Good Samaritan.

Ware, Tunberg Doing 'Progress' at 20th

20th-Fox has shifted Darrell Ware and Karl Tunberg to the script of 'Miss Pilgrim's Progress', William LeBaron production, following their completion of the screen play on 'Week-End in Havana.' Latter picture will be put into work by LeBaron on June 16 as his first at the studio. Walter Lang will direct.

Craig for 'Obliging'

James Craig gets one of the starring roles in 'Obliging Young Lady' with Joan Carroll at RKO. Miss Carroll arrives June 5 from New York and picture goes the middle of the month. Craig starts his chore after finishing in 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', which resumes shooting June 2 for a week or 10 days.

Coin in Pockets

Columbia used a total of 441 bit, atmosphere players and dancers yesterday in seven pictures. 'Texas' used 155 character players; 'You'll Never Get Rich' called 92 dancers; 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town' used 84. 'Tillie the Toiler', 42; 'Girls From Panama', 22; 'King of Dodge City', 27, and 'Mystery Ship', 19.

Henry King Spots Three Embryos in 'R.A.F.'

Taking them out of 20th-Fox's dramatic school, Director Henry King has spotted Barbara Lynn, Roseanne Murray and Lillian Porter in roles for 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' along with Betty Grable and Tyrone Power. King believes stock company players should be given every possible opportunity to show their wares, once they have acquired the fundamentals.

'Charlie' Washes Up

Added scenes for Universal's next Abbott and Costello picture, 'Oh, Charlie', will be finished today under the direction of Arthur Lubin. Extra footage includes Ted Lewis and his troupe, Mischa Auer and the Andrews Sisters.

Bondeson at Geary For Run of 'Kane' Opening May 27

San Francisco, May 22.—Emil O. Bondeson will be house manager of the Geary theatre here during the run of 'Citizen Kane', which opens (27). Orson Welles and Dorothy Comingore will be on hand for the opening. Hal Neides, who has been handling the run of Walt Disney's 'Fantasia', closing Sunday (25), bows out.

Ray Bolger will do a personal at the San Francisco opening of 'Sunny', Herbert Wilcox production for RKO, at the Golden Gate theatre Wednesday (28). San Francisco is having three special openings next week, leading off with 'Citizen Kane', then 'Sunny' and on Thursday (29) the premiere of Universal's 'Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell in the Navy' at the Orpheum.

Final Fox Theatres Report Okehed

New York, May 22.—Final report of Trustees Milton Weisman, Kenneth Steinreich and Leopold Porrino in the Fox Theatres liquidation was approved by Supreme Court Justice Benvenga today. Report revealed that the estate had a net profit of $10,645 in 1940 and expects a profit of $10,000 in 1941. Trustees and the attorneys received allowances of $11,003 from the court. Assets are now $168,278, out of an estate valued at $35,000,000 a decade ago. Creditors will receive a dividend of one-half of one per cent.

Lawrence Casting

Bill Lawrence, producer of the Bob Hope Pepsodent show, will start casting tomorrow for the scripter doing summer duty beginning June 24. Jerry Schwartz of KNX writing staff has been given 13-week leave to whip up the material. Lawrence continues as producer of the summer sub.

Pair for Simon

S. Sylvan Simon has been given director assignment on two pictures for Metro, 'Eight Girls In a Boat', which is to be produced by Edgar Selwyn, and 'Keeping Married', a Sam Marx production.

Dawn Glints 'Lady'

Isabel Dawn has started a polish job on 'Lady For a Night' at Republic. Story formerly wore the handle of 'Memphis Belle'.

Peters Bros. Set

The Peters Brothers will go into guests spots on the 'What's On Your Mind' air program Monday night.

★ NOW! ★
William Myrna
POWELL ★ LOY
in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's
"LOVE CRAZY"
with
GAIL PATRICK · JACK CARSON
Florence BATES
Sidney BLACKMER
The NEW Romance of Celluloid... "YOU CAN'T FOOL A CAMERA"
plus "SLEEPERS WEST"
LLOYD NOLAN · LYNN BARI
WORLD FAMOUS Graumans CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE

2,000 Delegates Expected To Attend Confab of Writers

The first National Conference of writers, sponsored by the Authors League of America in collaboration with the Screen Writers Guild, opens tonight at the University of California at Los Angeles. More than 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the two-day conclave.

With the economic and creative problems of the writer keynoting the talks tonight and throughout the day tomorrow, speakers will include Ralph Freud, Sheridan Gibney, president of the SWG; Marc Connelly, Mary C. McCall, Jr., Preston Sturges, Georgia Backus, S. N. Behrman, James Hilton, Paul Franklin, Ralph Block, Hector Chevigny, Dwight Taylor, Sidney Buchman, R. C. Sheriff, John Howard Lawson, Tess Slesinger, Nunnally Johnson, True Boardman, Arthur Kober and Brainerd Duffield.

During the session there will be unrehearsed round table debates, also questions from the floor. Delegates and guests will attend a luncheon in Kerckhoff Hall at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow. Friday evening and Saturday morning sessions will be held in Royce Hall, with the Saturday afternoon session scheduled for UCLA Education building. The summary and concluding remarks, closing the Conference, will be made by Sheridan Gibney.

A national radio broadcast featuring an open forum on what writers can do to help American freedom has been arranged for 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sunday over KNX. The names of additional persons who will participate have been announced as Marc Connelly, Garson Kanin, Sheridan Gibney, Mary C. McCall, Jr., True Boardman, Oboler and Sidney Buchanan.

Autry, Burnette Record Tunes for 'Fiesta'

Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette start recording songs for 'Under Fiesta Stars' at Republic today, with Raoul Kraushaar handling. Tunes are 'There's a Home In Wyoming', 'Sing Me a Song of the Saddle', 'Heebie-Jeebie Blues', 'Casey Jones', 'Happy Cowboy and 'Sign Up For Happy Days'.

'Parson' Shoved Ahead

Paramount will release the Harry Sherman production, 'Parson of Panamint', two months earlier than originally scheduled. Advanced because Paramount executives feel picture is Sherman's best to date, film will be released on June 27, Sherman's seventh anniversary as Paramount producer.

Saltern Assigned

Irene Saltern has been signed to do costumes for Hal Roach's streamlined features, starting immediately on those for 'Niagara Falls.' Fred Guiol, who directs the second Roach picture, 'Tanks a Million', checked onto the Culver City lot yesterday for early conferences with writers.

Alberni for 'Rose'

Luis Alberni was set at Universal yesterday for feature spot in 'San Antonio Rose.'

IATSE FIGHT GOING BEFORE LABOR BOARD

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

bargain, and asking that the NLRB designate the union as collective bargaining representative for all studio laborers and utility workers.

Zeal Fairbanks, business representative of Local 727, stated the Producers have been discriminating against the union and refuse to bargain with it collectively, although it has a closed shop agreement with all of the major companies. He said signed pledges will be filed with the NLRB to show that a majority of the men employed in the studios have indicated their desire to be represented by Local 727 and have designated it as their collective bargaining representative. He said Local 727 was willing to consent to an election or a cross-check of its membership's rolls for the purpose of establishing that it represents a majority of the men employed in the industry.

The discrimination charge against the Producers is said to be based on their recent action in refusing to employ Local 727 men carrying work permits. It is understood that one of the reasons for the move is to forestall any action by the International to jerk the local's autonomy, or for Prexy George E. Browne or other International officials to make a trade at the American Federation of Labor Executive Council meeting in Washington that would give jurisdiction to Studio Utility Employes Local 724, another AFofL studio union which claims authority over the workers.

The jurisdictional tiff between Local 727 and 724 has existed since the United Studio Technicians Guild fight when the SUE voted with the Browne group to help defeat the USTG. Local 727 was formed when Browne and Willie Bioff scuttled Technicians Local 37, and both were given more or less recognition by the NLRB after its election, although Local 727 was handed a contract by the Producers.

Today's move is seen as a test case to put the International on record and see if it intends to back up its locals in the film industry. Several other crafts that have been clamoring for action on their proposed contract revisions are said to be readying move designed to force action and to block any attempt by the International to grab control or to set a deal with the Producers that is not satisfactory to the men themselves.

Donlevy Up for NY Play in Fall

Deal is brewing for Brian Donlevy to go to Broadway for 12 weeks this fall in 'Lambs Will Gamble', show Ralph Murphy wrote with Lou Lipton. Original farce comedy idea was supplied by Buster Keaton. Negotiations are on to have B. G. DeSylva underwrite play in New York. If deal goes through Donlevy will leave here after he does 'The Remarkable Andrew' at Paramount.

Col Lifts Options

Columbia yesterday lifted options on Stanley Brown and Lloyd Bridges, actors, and on Bill Castle and Ted Thomas, dialog directors.

Delmas Treats 'Gobs'

Herbert Delmas is writing treatment for 'Gobs in Blue', an Albert J. Cohen production at Republic.

Spot Sara Berner

Sara Berner draws a comedy spot in RKO's 'Look Who's Talking.'

Retakes

☘ Continued from page 2 ☘

Cay, variously known as 'Cay' and 'Key.'

★ ★ ★

Hollywood is a canine heaven. Thousands of little squirts gambol on the lawns with utter abandon while thousands of actors are in the doghouse.

★ ★ ★

There once was a glamorous dear
Who glammed in a glamourous sphere,
But she learned how to act,
For an actual fact,
And it ruined her picture career.

Martha Raye Wedding Skeded For Tomorrow

It will be a hurried wedding for Martha Raye, comedienne of the stage and screen, for her third visit to the altar when she becomes the bride of Neal Lang, Florida hotel man. Miss Raye, in revealing her plans yesterday, indicated that the ceremony will necessarily have to take place with almost time-clock precision. Her wedding party will board a Western Air Express plane at 7:15 tomorrow night, which means Miss Raye will have to leave a set at Warners, greasepaint and all. The couple will go to Las Vegas, obtain a marriage license around 9:30 p.m., and drive about 10 miles to the El Rancho Vegas, smart resort, for the ceremony.

Greenblatt in Today On PRC Output

Arthur Greenblatt, general sales manager for Producers Releasing Corp., arrives from New York today for conferences with George R. Batcheller, feature production supervisor, and Sigmund Neufeld, in charge of PRC's western unit, on 1941-42 product. Greenblatt is making a tour of the company's 30 exchanges and will also huddle with Louis Rutstein, Los Angeles franchise holder, while here.

'Cassidy' Additions

Nina Gilbert and William Nestell are the latest additions to Harry Sherman's 'Hopalong Cassidy' company. Actress goes into 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte' and Nestell into 'Secret of the Wastelands.'

Carey Joins 'Nurse'

Leonard Carey draws a feature role in 'Private Nurse' at 20th-Fox.

Correspondents Win Battle with Prods. Over Previews

★ Continued from page 1 ★

sion, attended by all of the publicity directors except Howard Strickling, who was in New York, the following announcement was made:

'At a meeting held today, attended by Y. Frank Freeman, president of the Producers Association, the Publicity Directors Committee and the correspondents group, it was agreed by the publicists to furnish all their member studios and the correspondents with a declaration of policy, embracing:

'1. The piling up of previews on the same day is to be avoided.

'2. Pictures are to be previewed in Hollywood always prior to showing elsewhere.

'3. A minimum of two weeks clearance shall be given between preview and initial showing, except in cases where physical problems confronting a specific picture forbid such leeway.

'It was further agreed that when necessary the two weeks clearance policy will take precedence over the practice of showing only one picture per day.'

The writers had originally asked for four weeks clearance. The Producer representatives, in arguing against the two weeks clearance, pointed out that they would have to double up on previews in some instances. They said they would try to observe the two weeks clearance, but the writers insisted that wasn't good enough. Then it was finally agreed to okay the two weeks clearance even if previews had to be doubled up or even tripled on the same day.

Writers attending the parley included Louella Parsons, Hedda Hopper, Harold Heffernan, Harrison Carroll, Sidney Skolsky, Richard Pollard, Virginia Wright, Wolfe Kaufman, Edwin Schallert, Fred Othman. It was generally agreed, however, that the feature of the meeting was the fact that the writers reversed the usual procedure when dining with the flacks by grabbing the ticket.

Gateson, Morin Set For Chicago Play

Marjorie Gateson has been signed as the femme top and Albert Morin as a featured player in 'Listen to Daddy', a three-act stage comedy by Joseph Carole, to be produced by Mollie Steinberg in Chicago next month.

Goodwin in Capital

Elma Goodwin, president and business representative of the American Federation of Office Employes, is in Washington to appear before the American Federation of Labor Executive Council to protest action of the Teamsters union in claiming jurisdiction over certain white collarites. She planed east Tuesday.

Robt. Young Leaves NY

New York, May 22. — Robert Young and his wife have left for the Coast after a week in New York. Walter Pidgeon is here after the Variety Clubs convention in Atlantic City awaiting his next screen assignment.

TROUBADOR . . . 1941 MODEL

IT takes more courage to be a writer today than ever before. There are more problems connected with living in these times. There are more rapidly changing conditions in the mediums for which the writer works.

But in spite of everything, golden dreams are still being dreamed by him . . . and out of them will come great stories for a world that has never needed them more.

—H. N. SWANSON, Inc.

EXTRA EXTRA EXTRA

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Reading

Vol. 31 No. 58 Hollywood, California, Friday, May 23, 1941 5 Cents

Browne, Bioff Indicted By U.S. For Extortion, Conspiracy

New York, May 23.—United States federal grand jury of the southern district of New York reported at noon today to Judge Murray Hulbert that it had found indictments on two counts, charging (1) extortion and (2) conspiracy against George Browne, president of International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, and Willie Bioff, Coast labor leader. Judge Hulbert immediately issued bench warrants for arrest of Browne in Chicago and Bioff in Los Angeles. Copies of the indictment are being sent to federal district attorneys of both cities.

Conspiracy and extortion cases were presented to the grand jury by Matthias Correa, acting U. S. district attorney in New York, and his two assistants, Edward J. Ennis and Boris Kostelanetz.

Indictments charge Browne and Bioff conspired to extort the sum of $550,000 over a period of years from 20th-Fox, Loew's Inc., Warners and Paramount. Within the past two days industry executives who appeared before the grand jury and had waived immunity include Nicholas Schenck, president of Loew's; Louis B. Mayer, vice prez in charge of production at Metro; Sidney R. Kent, president of 20th-Fox; Abe Warner, v.p. in charge of distribution for Warners; Pat Casey, labor relations rep for the picture industry, and Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures. Also giving stataements to the district attorney but who has not yet testified before the grand jury is Darryl Zanuck, head of producion at 20th-Fox.

Indictments charge these extortions were exacted over a period of years since 1935 under alleged threats by Browne and Bioff to call a strike against the picture industry, which would call out its 35,000 employes, at least 10,000 of whom are employed as motion picture projectionists in theatres all over the country. First instance is said to have followed strikes called in St. Louis and Chicago in December, 1935.

Present investigation culminatina in the indictments is the direct aftermath of the recent convictions in New York of Joseph M. Schenck and Joseph Moskowitz for income tax evasion. Postponement of the trial of Bioff in California on in-

● Continued on page 3 ●

F. B. I. HUNTS BIOFF

Department of Justice agents were reported today to have been searching for Willie Bioff since Tuesday. He was said to be at his Canoga Park ranch in San Fernando valley, but nobody could be found who had seen him since his recent appearance in U. S. District court here when his trial was postponed until the September term of court.

Matty Fox Out May 30 For U's H.O. Huddle

Matty Fox starts his annual summer pilgrimage to the New York office of Universal Friday (30). He will remain there until September. Nate Blumberg, Universal prexy, arrives here from the east June 10. He will remain at the studio until Fox returns to the Coast.

Peters Bros. Set

The Peters Brothers will go into guests spots on the 'What's On Your Mind' air program Monday night.

RKO Seeks Geo. Raft For 'Mayor' Flick

RKO is negotiating with George Raft to do the outside picture under his Warners contract on the Gower street lot. RKO wants Raft to star in 'Mayor of Forty-Fourth Street', an original story by Robert Andrews.

Dawn Glints 'Lady'

Isabel Dawn has started a polish job on 'Lady For a Night' at Republic. Story formerly wore the handle of 'Memphis Belle'.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Opening Bid**
Certie
Get Good
2d RACE—**Tory Tom**
Taj
Igorete
3d RACE—**Anahuac**
Tonas
Praetorian
4th RACE—**SUNTED**
Madie Greenock
Mulligatawney
5th RACE—**Torch Marcher**
Day Dawn
Ancestral
6th RACE—**Chaldon Heath**
With Us
Present Arms
7th RACE—**Specify**
Woof Woof
Get Off
8th RACE—**Triplane**
African Queen
Forsooth

CHANCE BET—**Son of War (7)**
Selections consensus, page 5.

For Doc Baker's Saturday Inglewood picks phone Daily Variety office, HO-1141.

IA FIGHT BEFORE NLRB

The fight launched by studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes to force the Producers to act on their demands is being taken to the National Labor Relations Board today, and it was stated that action also may be filed in the U. S. District court. IATSE Local 727 last night drafted a complaint to be filed today charging the major film companies with refusing to

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Frank White, CBS treasurer, here on a swing of the net's properties.

Patti McCarty back yesterday from the Tulip Festival in Holland, Mich.

Paula and Dorothy Stone are playing in 'The Gay Divorcee' in Boston.

Carey Wilson planes to New York Monday for two weeks vacation and look at plays for Metro.

Harry Nace, operator of the Publix-Nace theatres in Arizona, arrived from Phoenix last night.

Bruce D. Shedd, associate in the Sue Carol agency, has reported for his year's training in the armv.

Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens have started rehearsals on dance numbers for Metro's 'The Chocolate Soldier'.

Eddie Woehler has been set as assistant director and Arthur Rose as unit manager on Metro's Greta Garbo starrer.

John Joseph Leaves today for New York to spend two weeks there in conferences with Universal home office executives.

Rosalie Stewart leaves for New York next month on a four-week vation and plans spending majority of her time at Saratoga.

Milton Berle's song, 'Boogie Woogie Rookie', written in collaboration with Bert Pellish, has been sold to 'Jump For Joy', all-Negro revue soon to open downtown.

Victor McLaglen will be guest fireman on the Pennsy's Broadway Limited when he goes to Philadelphia from New York on personals. From there he goes to Atlantic City and Washington.

Bill Blowitz and Irving Parker will handle the national tour of the Messerschmidt plane under the auspices of Bundles For Britain. Pair have been given indefinite leave of absence from Warners to make the tour, and John Peere Miles will assume Blowitz's head planting duties during latter's absence.

Dicker is on by Julian Johnson, 20th-Fox story editor, which may result in Satevepost publishing an elaborated version of Joseph Schrank's original screen story, 'Lazy Galahad', as a serial. If negotiations go through this will be the first time a 20th-Fox screenplay will have been sold to a mag, although the vice versa is a commonplace. Nunnally Johnson will write the screenplay for 'Galahad'.

Benny the Gouge sez—The aroma at Hollywood and Vine is still the same, whether the hosses are at Inglewood, Santa Anita or Churchill Downs. It's all gas.

Hollywood Inside

MOTION picture production in Los Angeles County totaled $183,768,701 for the year 1939, or 87% of the United States total of $215,664,701 spent for all film production during the year. Figures, released by the Chamber of Commerce from a report received from the Federal business census, show that $95,320,051 of the LA County total was spent within the city of Los Angeles while the remaining $91,448,650 was expended outside the city limits. Nearest approach to the 1939 figure was the $171,943,349 spent for production during 1937. Payrolls during 1939 totaled $130,960,561, or slightly less than 1937's $132,914,402. Personnel also reached an all-time high, with 30,250, as compared to 28,179 for 1937. San Francisco spent only $80,270 during 1939, the only other film expenditures in the State.

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SEVERAL well-paid foreign stars are the targets for much adverse comment after the recent visit here of naval officials from various Latin American countries. Visitors were hosted at a lavish banquet, which a number of top femme stars, hailing mostly from the countries of Continental Europe, refused to attend. Industry leaders had hoped for their participation. One star said she couldn't make the patriotic gesture because she had a date with her boy friend that she simply couldn't break. One said she had to go to a war relief committee meeting. Another, who comes from below the border, likewise thought up an excuse. Beside the fact that the dinner had great political importance the foreign actresses have all been (up to now) quite popular in Latin America.

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MAYBE it was a hot day or maybe the press agent was just too over-burdened by the fact that he had to turn out a certain amount of copy. Anyway, his mates in the major flackery where he works yesterday gave him wide clearance for turning in a prize piece of publicity on a picture with a naval background. Story dealt with a battleship constructed on the lot. He wrote that the studio, in a panting pursuit after authenticity, had dispatched a crew to the harbor to bring back several gallons of 'authentic bilge water' to place awash in the man o' war's scuppers, etc.

☆ ☆ ☆

COLUMBIA was blamed in some quarters for causing government officials to toss rocks at the picture industry by producing 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington', an expose of corrupt politics. All the bitterness Washington senators may have felt over 'Mr. Smith' ought to fade when they see 'Adventure in Washington', which tells the story of Senate page boys and shows the officials as honest, kindly men. Lewis R. Foster, who wrote the original story for 'Mr. Smith', collaborated on the screenplay of the latest film with Arthur Caesar.

☆ ☆ ☆

LOS ANGELES TIMES is on a B schedule for advertising from the Warners theatres locally while the other dailies are drawing more favored treatment. Slap on the wrist is being administered by the theatre management over a difference of opinion on the handling of house publicity. Understood that theatre executives protested to Times top executives and were told that the advertising departments and editorial departments of the newspaper were run separately.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE 20th-Fox film exchange received a letter this week from a resident of Chester, Cal., stating that the townsfolk are ardent movie fans, eager to patronize a theatre, and suggesting that a house be built there especially in view of the fact a big lumber company is about to headquarter in the vicinity. The Fox staff got busy querying population statisticians. Answer: Chester, Cal. has a population of 25.

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NEW production executives at 20th-Fox, who will be too busy to attend the annual sales convention in Chicago at the end of June, will be introduced to the assembly by means of a newsreel being made by the trailer department. Darryl Zanuck will do the introducing, and the producers, Mark Hellinger, William LeBaron, Ernst Lubitsch and others, will tell their plans from the trailer for 1941-42.

☆ ☆ ☆

TRACING progress of U. S. defense program, Metro shorts department starts production next week of a special two-reeler depicting what is actually being done, what is planned and what the public thinks should be done. Edwin L. Cahn will direct. He leaves for Washington tomorrow to confer with William S. Knudsen, and will be at capital two weeks.

☆ ☆ ☆

BECAUSE Warners wrote the role of Rudolf Hess for Frank Wilcox into 'Underground' there has been a sizeable increase in bookings on the picture. Timely Hess sequences focus attention on the internal troubles in Germany. As a result of the increased interest in the film a second printing order has gone to New York for 125 additional prints.

☆ ☆ ☆

BIZARRE is the name for some of the boys at San Quentin these days, wearing rings, belt buckles, watch chains and other jewelry, which, according to the Warden, are going to be eased out. Hollywood blvd. and Broadway are all right in their proper sphere, but the Warden says 'When such things are carried to extremes, it is time to call a halt.'

☆ ☆ ☆

DUPLICATE of the lost reel of background material shot for 20th-Fox in Wales for 'How Green Was My Valley', has been received in New York and will be transported here by plane. It is 8,000 feet lensed under direction of Carol Reed. Original reel is presumed to have been lost in naval warfare out of England.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

While shrapnel, shot and shell
around him sped,
On yonder cliff the handsome
hero stood,
And as he was about to leap, he
said:
'Who won the seventh race at
Inglewood?'

★ ★ ★

With 51 writers on the job and Hollywood Park in full stride, the Warners are really in production these days.

★ ★ ★

Not only the film house operators but the cats are complaining in Hollywood. Eddie Sutherland moves into Warners and his first job is 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough.'

Big idea in Hollywood today is to put on a South American musical that will click equally in Buenos Aires and Omaha. Shakespeare had a soft job.

The old guy who asks you for a dime at Vine and Sunset, is probably the only actor in Hollywood who hasn't been tested for 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.'

★ ★ ★

Back in the days when your correspondent was writing tidings of baseball, there was always a time in the wintry days when stories were doled out, one by one. Joe Hamburger signed a contract, which made a yarn for next morning, although you knew there were 24 more signed contracts in Charlie Stoneham's strongbox, each awaiting its publicity, particularly on a Monday morning when tidings are scarce. It is that way with 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Cecil B. DeMille would have made a remarkable baseball magnate.

★ ★ ★

Peter O'Crotty, the adventurous news correspondent, has ceased his adventuring for at least two weeks, and is doing television scripts flat on his back with the mumps. Newspaper guys not only meet interesting people but grow younger year by year.

Milton Berle's name for Hollywood is Broomtown, where you can get the world's quickest brush-off.

'Knight of Malta' is the new name for 'The Maltese Falcon', on account of the public might get the idea that it was a cat with wings.

★ ★ ★

Harry Norwood is known as the Monitor because he is always pestering the Merry Macs with a lot of business ideas. Well, it wasn't so bad in 1862.

From the east, to hand the public all about the California Relays, is a lad with a perfect name for a radio announcer. Frank Bull.

Paramount changed the title to 'Bahama Passage' for fear the public might be in a quandary about the pronunciation of 'Dildo Cay', variously known as 'Cay' and 'Key.' So the picture is being filmed on Salt

Continued on page 4

BROWNE AND BIOFF INDICTED

● Continued from page 1 ●

come tax charges is directly attributable to the investigation started here last week. Schenck and Moskowitz are out on bail in California pending hearing of their appeal before U. S. circuit court in New York in October or November.

The indictment charged that the extortion and conspiracy by Browne and Bioff started in December 1935, shortly after the IATSE called a strike of theatre projectionists in the Balaban & Katz house in Chicago and St. Louis. The walkout was ordered at the start of the evening shows when thousands were buying tickets. It was called off after one hour.

Pat Casey, producer, labor contact, is reported to have told the Grand Jury that he had no knowledge of the transactions between film executives and Browne and Bioff. The company executives who were called, however, are said to have talked freely, going into all details of the demands for money.

Subpoenas have been issued for Leo Spitz and Sol Rosenblatt, members of the law firm of Rosenblatt and Jaffe—which represent the IATSE.

SMITH CALLS IA MEET HERE TODAY

A meeting of all business representatives of studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees was called by Harold V. Smith for 3 P. M. today. Smith chairman of the IA business representatives committee and head of the Soundmen, said the meeting was called so representatives could discuss means of protecting the interests of the locals in their membership.

Because, if the indictment of George E. Browne and Willie Bioff on extortion and conspiracy charges in New York today, it is probable that the locals will insist on handling their own negotiations. The men have charged for some time that they were sold out when Bioff negotiated a 10% wage tile for them that resulted in many of them being laid off. At that time it was agreed to ignore the demand for improved conditions which the workers have been clamoring for.

Van Gluck, Eisinger Plan Depositions

New York, May 22.—Stephen Van Gluck and Joseph Eisinger, authors, notified United States District court today that they will take depositions of J. Robert Rubin, William Fadiman, Kenneth MacKenna, Metro's eastern and western story heads; Julie Herne, head of the play department; Harry Rapf and Tim Whelan, on May 29, before trial of their suits against Loew's. Plaintiffs are seeking an injunction and an accounting of profits on 'Murder Man', claiming the film plagiarized their play, 'The Last Edition.'

Vallee Program Stays on Coast for Summer

Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airshow remains in Hollywood through the summer, with a possible brief switch east if Columbia goes through with its plan to preview Vallee's current picture somewhere in Maine. Earlier intention was to pass most of the summer airing from New York. Guest appearance of Lionel Barrymore has been moved up to June 5.

Robt. Young Leaves NY

New York, May 22. — Robert Young and his wife have left for the Coast after a week in New York. Walter Pidgeon is here after the Variety Clubs convention in Atlantic City awaiting his next screen assignment.

CBS ISSUES ANALYSIS OF FCC ORDER EFFECTS

Predicting that the rulings recently promulgated by Federal Communications Commission for the regulation of broadcasting 'will lead to a state of chaos so confusing that the only alternative will be for the government to take over radio', Columbia Broadcasting System yesterday issued an analysis of possible effects, the first reaction to the monopoly report by a major member of the industry.

Among the evils to beset the industry should the regulations become enterprise; formation of fly-by-night organizations which will merely serve as brokers and having no relationship with stations or the public; destroy the present orderly system of broadcasting.

Isolating the various clauses of the monopoly report, CBS points out that:

'Third of the new regulations leaves the whole network business open to being shuffled and scrambled every year because the commission says it will not license a station that agrees to affiliate itself with a network for more than one year.

'Fourth would deprive a station of its license if it gives a network any call on its time. This is the arrangement commonly known in the industry as 'option time', which is the only method under which network broadcasting is practicable.

'Fifth regulation, denying a license to any station that failed to reserve in its contract with the network the right to reject a program, serves no purpose other than to create a false public impression that the networks force upon their affiliated stations programs which fall below the station's own standards.

'Sixth regulation is a plain attempt to subordinate the public interest for the sake of discriminating against a network. By licensing and relicensing network-owned stations through the years, commission has affirmed that they are operating in the public interest.

'Rule No. 7, which would make it impossible for one organization to own two networks, is not discussed, but the commission's authority to adopt this regulation is questioned.

'Rule No. 8 proposes to meddle with advertising rates, a threat as dangerous to the individual stations as to the networks. Private contractual arrangements designed to prevent unfair competition are not necessarily undesirable.'

Analysis concludes with the challenge, 'We welcome a congressional investigation into broadcasting at any time, but we oppose the arbitrary and unauthorized seizure of dictatorial powers over free American radio by the commission. Radio in America is dominated only by the listening public—and nobody else.'

In from the East

Eddie Bracken
Walter Wade
Stan Laurel (SF)
Oliver Hardy (SF)
Dorothy Lamour
Milton Feld
F. T. Murray
J. J. Jordan
Louis B. Mayer (AA)
Howard Strickling (AA)
William Rodgers (SF)
Lynn Farnol
William Schneider

Pair for Simon

S. Sylvan Simon has been given director assignment on two pictures for Metro, 'Eight Girls In a Boat', which is to be produced by Edgar Selwyn, and 'Keeping Married', a Sam Marx production.

Heading East

Cecil Kellaway
Bill Watters
Edwin Knopf (SF)
Carey Wilson (UA)
Wolfe Kaufman
John Joseph
Hal B. Wallis (SF)
Haskell Masters (TWA)
Carl Schroeder (TWA)
Meredith Willson (TWA)

Walter Wade Arrives For Lum, Abner Bow

Walter Wade, agency head, gets in today from the east for the launching Monday of the Lum and Abner program for Alka Seltzer. Quarter hour scripter airs four nights a week over NBC coast red network and one station in Oregon. Local release is on KFI at 7:15 p.m.

HALL WAITING FOR WARRANT

William Hall, assistant U. S. Attorney in charge of the Willie Bioff income tax case, said no move to pick up Bioff on the conspiracy and exotrtion charge will be made until the bench warrant is received here from New York. He stated that he could not believe Willie would fight removal from the coast. He added that he could not say at this time what effect the N. Y. indictments would have on the disposal of the income tax evasion case pending against Bioff in the U. S. District court here.

Borrah Minevitch Tops New Carroll Show

Borrah Minevitch and his harmonica rascals will head the new Earl Carroll nitery revue opening June 4. Current extravaganza closes (31), with the theatre-cafe going dark for three nights. Holdovers for Carroll's fourth revue at the Sunset boul site are Buster Shaver and his midgets, Olive and George, and the Six Debonnairs. Among the new talent will be 'Think-a-Drink' Hoffman, with negotiations pending for the acrobatic team of Willie, West and McGinty.

John B. Browne Joins Advertising Agency

John Barton Browne, who recently wound up 20 years at the Ambassador hotel as advertising and business promotion manager, has joined the advertising firm of Bowman,. Deute & Cummings to head a division specializing in cooperative promotion. He will have as associates Ed Northridge, T. V. Allen, John B. Moore, J. Y. LeVeque and R. L. Harrell.

Goodwin in Capital

Elma Goodwin, president and business representative of the American Federation of Office Employes, is in Washington to appear before the American Federation of Labor Executive Council to protest action of the Teamsters union in claiming jurisdiction over certain white collarites. She planed east Tuesday.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	286
Major studio calls	243
FK Studio Service	52
Tinsman Casting Agency	7
Total	588

2,000 Delegates Expected To Attend Confab of Writers

The first National Conference of writers, sponsored by the Authors League of America in collaboration with the Screen Writers Guild, opens tonight at the University of California at Los Angeles. More than 2,000 delegates are expected to attend the two-day conclave.

With the economic and creative problems of the writer keynoting the talks tonight and throughout the day tomorrow, speakers will include Ralph Freud, Sheridan Gibney, president of the SWG; Marc Connelly, Mary C. McCall, Jr., Preston Sturges, Georgia Backus, S. N. Behrman, James Hilton, Paul Franklin, Ralph Block, Hector Chevigny, Dwight Taylor, Sidney Buchman, R. C. Sheriff, John Howard Lawson, Tess Slesinger, Nunnally Johnson, True Boardman, Arthur Kober and Brainerd Duffield.

During the session there will be unrehearsed round table debates, also questions from the floor. Delegates and guests will attend a luncheon in Kerckhoff Hall at 12:30 p.m. tomorrow. Friday evening and Saturday morning sessions will be held in Royce Hall, with the Saturday afternoon session scheduled for UCLA Education building. The summary and concluding remarks, closing the Conference, will be made by Sheridan Gibney.

A national radio broadcast featuring an open forum on what writers can do to help American freedom has been arranged for 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Sunday over KNX. The names of additional persons who will participate have been announced as Marc Connelly, Garson Kanin, Sheridan Gibney, Mary C. McCall, Jr., True Boardman, Oboler and Sidney Buchanan.

IATSE FIGHT GOING BEFORE LABOR BOARD

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

bargain, and asking that the NLRB designate the union as collective bargaining representative for all studio laborers and utility workers.

Zeal Fairbanks, business representative of Local 727, stated the Producers have been discriminating against the union and refuse to bargain with it collectively, although it has a closed shop agreement with all of the major companies. He said signed pledges will be filed with the NLRB to show that a majority of the men employed in the studios have indicated their desire to be represented by Local 727 and have designated it as their collective bargaining representative. He said Local 727 was willing to consent to an election or a cross-check of its membership's rolls for the purpose of establishing that it represents a majority of the men employed in the industry.

The discrimination charge against the Producers is said to be based on their recent action in refusing to employ Local 727 men carrying work permits. It is understood that one of the reasons for the move is to forestall any action by the International to jerk the local's autonomy, or for Prexy George E. Browne or other International officials to make a trade at the American Federation of Labor Executive Council meeting in Washington that would give jurisdiction to Studio Utility Employes Local 724, another AFofL studio union which claims authority over the workers.

The jurisdictional tiff between Local 727 and 724 has existed since the United Studio Technicians Guild fight when the SUE voted with the Browne group to help defeat the USTG. Local 727 was formed when Browne and Willie Bioff scuttled Technicians Local 37, and both were given more or less recognition by the NLRB after its election, although Local 727 was handed a contract by the Producers.

Today's move is seen as a test case to put the International on record and see if it intends to back up its locals in the film industry. Several other crafts that have been clamoring for action on their proposed contract revisions are said to be readying move designed to force action and to block any attempt by the International to grab control or to set a deal with the Producers that is not satisfactory to the men themselves.

Autry, Burnette Record Tunes for 'Fiesta'

Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette start recording songs for 'Under Fiesta Stars' at Republic today, with Raoul Kraushaar handling. Tunes are 'There's a Home In Wyoming', 'Sing Me a Song of the Saddle', 'Heebie-Jeebie Blues', 'Casey Jones', 'Happy Cowboy and 'Sign Up For Happy Days'.

'Parson' Shoved Ahead

Paramount will release the Harry Sherman production, 'Parson of Panamint', two months earlier than originally scheduled. Advanced because Paramount executives feel picture is Sherman's best to date, film will be released on June 27, Sherman's seventh anniversary as Paramount producer.

Saltern Assigned

Irene Saltern has been signed to do costumes for Hal Roach's streamlined features, starting immediately on those for 'Niagara Falls.' Fred Guiol, who directs the second Roach picture, 'Tanks a Million', checked onto the Culver City lot yesterday for early conferences with writers.

Alberni for 'Rose'

Luis Alberni was set at Universal yesterday for feature spot in 'San Antonio Rose.'

Donlevy Up for NY Play in Fall

Deal is brewing for Brian Donlevy to go to Broadway for 12 weeks this fall in 'Lambs Will Gamble', show Ralph Murphy wrote with Lou Lipton. Original farce comedy idea was supplied by Buster Keaton. Negotiations are on to have B. G. DeSylva underwrite play in New York. If deal goes through Donlevy will leave here after he does 'The Remarkable Andrew' at Paramount.

Col Lifts Options

Columbia yesterday lifted options on Stanley Brown and Lloyd Bridges, actors, and on Bill Castle and Ted Thomas, dialog directors.

Delmas Treats 'Gobs'

Herbert Delmas is writing treatment for 'Gobs in Blue', an Albert J. Cohen production at Republic.

Spot Sara Berner

Sara Berner draws a comedy spot in RKO's 'Look Who's Talking.'

Retakes

Continued from page 2

Cay, variously known as 'Cay' and 'Key.'

* * *

Hollywood is a canine heaven. Thousands of little squirts gambol on the lawns with utter abandon while thousands of actors are in the doghouse.

* * *

There once was a glamorous dear
Who glammed in a glamourous sphere,
But she learned how to act,
For an actual fact,
And it ruined her picture career.

Martha Raye Wedding Skeded For Tomorrow

It will be a hurried wedding for Martha Raye, comedienne of the stage and screen, for her third visit to the altar when she becomes the bride of Neal Lang, Florida hotel man. Miss Raye, in revealing her plans yesterday, indicated that the ceremony will necessarily have to take place with almost time-clock precision. Her wedding party will board a Western Air Express plane at 7:15 tomorrow night, which means Miss Raye will have to leave a set at Warners, greasepaint and all. The couple will go to Las Vegas, obtain a marriage license around 9:30 p.m., and drive about 10 miles to the El Rancho Vegas, smart resort, for the ceremony.

Greenblatt in Today On PRC Output

Arthur Greenblatt, general sales manager for Producers Releasing Corp., arrives from New York today for conferences with George R. Batcheller, feature production supervisor, and Sigmund Neufeld, in charge of PRC's western unit, on 1941-42 product. Greenblatt is making a tour of the company's 30 exchanges and will also huddle with Louis Rutstein, Los Angeles franchise holder, while here.

'Cassidy' Additions

Nina Gilbert and William Nestell are the latest additions to Harry Sherman's 'Hopalong Cassidy' company. Actress goes into 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte' and Nestell into 'Secret of the Wastelands.'

Carey Joins 'Nurse'

Leonard Carey draws a feature role in 'Private Nurse' at 20th-Fox.

'Variety' Title Gets Protection From Illinois Court

Chicago, May 22.—A consent decree holding that VARIETY is the legal owner of the trademark VARIETY has been entered in the U. S. District court for the Northern District of Illinois. The decree provides that a monthly publication heretofore calling itself 'Radio Varieties' will cease and desist from the use of that title as an infringement upon the interests and fame of VARIETY, which has been accepted as the official publication of the show world since 1905.

VARIETY was represented by the Chicago law firm of Sonnenschein, Berkson, Lautmann, Levenson & Morse, acting on behalf of O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery, New York attorneys for VARIETY.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

From the findings of fact made by the court, pursuant to consent of the parties, the court states its conclusions of law as follows:

1. The plaintiff is the lawful owner and user of the trademark VARIETY, originally registered by Sime Silverman on Jan. 18, 1910, and renewed by Sime Silverman for the use and benefit of the plaintiff on Jan. 14, 1930, to remain in force for an additional period of 20 years from Jan. 18, 1930.

2. The plaintiff is entitled to the exclusive use of the trademark and tradename VARIETY in the issuance of trade newspapers and other publications devoted to the activities of the theatre, radio, screen, bands and orchestras.

3. The plaintiff is also entitled to the exclusive use of the name VARIETY in connection with the granting of awards to radio stations, programs or performers for outstanding performance.

4. The defendants are not entitled to use the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' as part of the name of a monthly magazine or other periodical or publication devoted to radio activities, radio programs and radio performers nor in the granting of awards to radio stations, programs or performers for outstanding merit. Such use of the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' by the defendants, because of visual and oral likeness to plaintiff's tradename, necessarily tends to create confusion and to diminish the value of plaintiff's trademark and tradename.

5. The plaintiff is entitled to an injunction perpetually restraining the defendants from using the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' as part of any monthly magazine or other publication devoted to the subject of radio activities, radio programs and radio performers; also to an injunction perpetually restraining the defendants from using the name VARIETY or 'Varieties' in connection with the granting of awards to radio stations, programs and performers for outstanding merit.

Lawrence Casting

Bill Lawrence, producer of the Bob Hope Pepsodent show, will start casting tomorrow for the scripter doing summer duty beginning June 24. Jerry Schwartz of KNX writing staff has been given 13-week leave to whip up the material. Lawrence continues as producer of the summer sub.

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Office

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 31 No. 59 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, May 26, 1941 5 Cents

L. A. JURY PROBES IA OFFICERS

PAR READY FOR CONSENT DECREE

Paramount will sell its first pictures under the consent decree in two blocks of five each and, according to production pace now underway, will have an additional four ready for exhibitor screening on Aug. 1. Advance work on 1941-42 product has put the company in the position of having a large number of pictures ready to meet decree selling problems, and to announce the blocks of

★ Continued on page 6 ★

Par Gets McCrea

Paramount has obtained the services of Joel McCrea for one more picture after he finishes his current role in 'Sullivan's Travels'.

Polito Lenses 'Boots'

Sol Polito will handle the camera on Warners 'They Died With Their Boots On'.

Strike at Disney Awaits Word On Guild Report

A strike at Walt Disney Studio is scheduled to be authorized by the Screen Cartoonists Guild tonight if the company has not agreed to recognize the Guild by that time. A date for the walkout will be set at a special membership meeting of the SCG in the Blossom Room at the Roosevelt Hotel. Plans for the strike motion were set yesterday at a meeting of Guild officials with Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Pictures Painters Local 644, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

The following wire was sent to

● Continued on page 4 ●

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	197
Major Studio Calls	337
FK Studio Service	62
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	602

FADIN' TIME FOR WILLIE

HOLLYWOOD has needless grief piled upon it now and then. Other day announcement came out that George E. Browne, prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes and Motion Picture Operators had appointed Willie Bioff, convicted panderer, as his personal liaison officer for the IATSE to see that labor troubles did not arise or halt the making of Army and Navy training films.

* * * *

HOLLYWOOD did not like the announcement. Neither did the IATSE boys employed in the studios. They believed that with Bioff facing trial on income tax evasion, as well as his former messing up of things here, he should know enough to leave film labor matters alone.

Then Friday Bioff and Browne were indicted in New York

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

FILM CONCERNS WATCH TAXES

New York, May 25.—Tax attorneys for major motion picture companies have held huddles at the Hays office regarding Canada's new 20% tax on admissions to see if either this or the provincial tax on admissions might be successfully

■ Continued on page 6 ■

D. O. Selznick Has Three Ready For UA Flicks

David O. Selznick has three stories ready for early production for United Artists. He has decided definitely that 'Jane Eyre' will not be the first to go, but has not indicated in what order the other two will face the cameras.

Benchley For 'Rich'

Robert Benchley will have one of the top spots in Columbia filmusical, 'You'll Never Get Rich', now in work. Also added to cast is Cliff Nazarro.

TEAMSTERS PICKET B'DWAY HOUSES

New York, May 25.—Members of the Theatrical Teamsters Union began picketing all major Broadway vaudefilm and presentation houses this morning in a dispute between the Teamsters and New York Local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians. It is likely that legit musicals using Local 802 men also will be picketed.

The Teamsters seek to put men

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Carley Harriman Set As Arnold Topper

Carley Harriman, of the Harriman banking family, has been named production manager of Arnold Productions, Inc., the Arnold Pressburger unit which is at Hal Roach studio to make product for United Artists release. First of the Pressburger films is 'Shanghai Gesture.'

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, May 25.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Intermezzo	Schubert
Things I Love	Campbell
My Sister and I	BMI
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
Maria Elena	Southern
Amapola	Marks
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Dolores	Paramount
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Hut Sut Song	Schumann

U. S. INDICTS BROWNE, BIOFF

The Los Angeles County Grand Jury, it was disclosed last night, has joined the U. S. Government's investigation of activities of national officers of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, which has already resulted in the indictment of George E. Browne and Willie Bioff on charges of extorting $550,000 from four major film com-

♠ Continued on page 8 ♠

Tallichet's 'Angel'

Margaret Tallichet will have one of the top roles with Deanna Durbin in Universal's 'Almost An Angel'. Charles Coleman and Richard Carle also set for featured parts.

Wallis Trains East

Hal B. Wallis trained east yesterday for three weeks gander at plays and vacation in New York.

John Reinhardt Deal

John Reinhardt is set on two-year director contract with Baires Films of Buenos Aires, starting with 'Surprise Hour'. Starring is Rosita, wife of Mel Shauer who set the deal.

COL. R'CDG WORKERS OFF STRIKE TODAY

Striking employes of Columbia Recording Corp will return to their jobs today. The seven-week old walkout was officially ended Friday, when members of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union voted unanimously to accept a contract calling for a minimum wage scale of 65 cents per hour. Pay tilts

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

PREVIEWED

MEN OF THE TIMBERLAND
(U)

CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT
(Par)

REVIEWED

ACROSS THE SIERRAS
(Col)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Joan Leslie made honorary officer of Army Air Corps.

Bill Waters to New York for two weeks on a scouting tour.

Tommy Cook guests on Hedda Hopper's broadcast today.

Gabrielle Scognamillo unit art director on Metro's 'Young America.'

Marjorie Woodworth comes in today from Boston and Atlantic City.

Tom Lewis, Loretta Young's husband, planed in from New York.

Eric Stacy unit manager on Warners 'They Died With Their Boots On.'

Stella Roach today joins Paramount story department under John Hanagan.

Howard Jackson has turned in music score on Warners 'Bad Men of Missouri.'

Homer McCoy, of Hal Roach writery, has sold story to Collier's 'The Real Thing.'

Mrs. Bernie Kamins, wife of Paramount flack, trains out for Boston vacation today.

Marx Brothers washed up final scene for their 'The Big Store' at Metro Saturday.

Commander Seth Warner, U.S.N., rejoins Warners 'Dive Bomber' as technical director.

Rehearsals on dramatic scenes for Metro's 'The Chocolate Soldier' start today, Roy Del Ruth directing.

Ned Seabrook has joined Hal Roach scrivening staff, working on the Streamliner, 'Tanks a Million.'

Elmer Decker to Ft. Knox as assistant director to Breezy Eason on Warners 'The Tanks Are Coming.'

Harry Vicinus stopped off at Warners on way to New York to take over United Press South American desk.

Joe Valentine, having finished lensing Universal's 'Oh, Charlie', leaves today for two weeks siesta in Hawaii.

Rae Best, concert pianist, will be heard tomorrow night in the last of three recitals at the Assistance League Playhouse.

Columbia's 'Ladies In Retirement' company unveiled yard-wide birthday cake for Director Charles Vidor's script clerk, Illona Fas (24).

Priscilla Lane and Jeffrey Lynn will be guest stars on 'Hollywood Premiere' radio show over CBS (30), based on Warners picture of same title.

Benny the Gouge sez — It all evens up. Jack Benny and Bill Powell wear skirts on the screen and the gals wear pants on Vine street.

Hollywood Inside

LOUELLA PARSONS who always reaches for scoops about people in Hollywood who might have a little jam or so, missed her imagination and had the city department of the Los Angeles Examiner in a dither until its reporters found out it was just a dream. And the dream was somewhat of a disappointment to Lolly who wanted to pin one on a newspaper man whom she is not overly fond of.

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RKO is looking for story suitable to star or co-star Ray Bolger, to fit the title 'Look Out Below'. Story would feature his dancing. Role in 'Sunny' is held by studio to have boosted his stock considerably.

☆ ☆ ☆

CHARLES P. SKOURAS, after looking at Warners 'Sergeant York,' wants to put picture into Carthay Circle for Fox-West Coast. One of the biggest exploitation campaigns of the season will be put behind the picture which lines up with national defense activities.

☆ ☆ ☆

RECENT popularity of the song 'Intermezzo' from David O. Selznick's picture of same title made in 1939, is responsible for number of re-bookings of the film around the country. 'Intermezzo' has been up among the leaders in radio, discs and sheets during past three months.

☆ ☆ ☆

GLORIA SWANSON will make no further picture commitments until she returns from New York, where she is going early in June to attend annual board meeting and election of officers for the company, Multiprises, Inc., of which she is president. She finishes Wednesday in RKO's 'Father Takes a Wife', and trains from here June 3.

☆ ☆ ☆

FORMAT of 'Nobody's Children' air show, originating locally over KHJ, has been changed, with the appearance yesterday of Allan Jones and Irene Hervey. Airer formerly used guest stars only for talks, but henceforth visiting names will take part in the round table discussions which deal with the specific case dramatized on each program.

☆ ☆ ☆

REPORT is current that Major Woody S. Van Dyke, who is currently on leave of absence from the United States Marine Corps base at San Diego, may have it extended indefinitely, or unless war is declared, may return to Metro as one of its ace directors. Van Dyke was in town but did not report at the studio on Saturday, but is expected there today.

☆ ☆ ☆

GEORGE AND SPYROS SKOURAS are anxiously awaiting some word of their nephew, Thanos Skouras, unheard-from since the Germans moved into Athens, where he is a film distributor. Last report received from the Skourases was from Athens, but before the Nazis took over. Thanos Skouras distributed many American films in Greece under concession rights and, because of his many visits to America, is widely known in film trade circles. His last trip to the U. S. was to study American distribution and exhibition methods.

☆ ☆ ☆

ITEM in the motion picture column of James T. Hamada on the Nippu Jiji, of Honolulu, illustrates the Oriental mind in regard to news. Hamada, writing about Paramount's 'You're the One,' said: 'Bonnie Baker is a baby-voiced wahine who reminds you of Gracie Allen, the only major difference being that she isn't nuts. She's publicized as a famous radio artist but isn't famous enough to be recognized by our INS (International News Service) mat service, for we have neither mat nor photo of her. That's why Albert Dekker illustrates this column.'

☆ ☆ ☆

MOTION PICTURE plans of Tom Harmon, grid prodigy of Michigan, have been knocked into a cocked hat by the draft. Harmon was to have reported to Hollywood, under personal contract with Bing Crosby, immediately after completing his college course in June. He has a draft listing of 1-B, the deferment given all college students. The Michigan football star figured he could start his film career before his turn came along to train for the army. Now, according to word from Detroit, Harmon will go into the army immediately after getting his sheepskin, and film plans are indefinitely postponed. Understood Harmon had been guaranteed something like $25,000 per year by Crosby for work in films and radio, with a spot on Crosby's Kraft Show.

'Gabriel' Pushed Ahead On Republic Sked

'Gabriel Toots His Horn' (formerly 'Back Door to Happiness') has been moved up as next in line for Leonard Fields' production at Republic. Previously a second 'Mr. District Attorney' was to have been next on Fields list, but now will follow to allow more time to develop. Initial 'District Attorney' is declared one of Republic's top recent grossers.

Its Now 'Vikings'

The Falcon series at RKO will hereafter be known as the 'Vikings', and the first will have the title, 'Meet the Viking'. Irving Reis, director, turned it in Friday, one day ahead of schedule.

Fritz Lang Directing 20th's 'Confirm'

Fritz Lang gets the director assignment on 'Confirm or Deny', the Samuel Fuller-Henry Wales original which Darryl F. Zanuck will personally produce as a special for 20th-Fox. Company paid $20,000 for the tale which deals with coverage by American correspondents during the Battle of Britain. Jo Swerling has completed script polish. Lang has just completed 'Man Hunt'.

O'Brien's 'Maisie'

Virginia O'Brien set for featured role in Metro's 'Ringside Maisie'. She will chant 'Boogie Woogie Maisie'. Also set for picture is Maxie Rosenbloom.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There must have been a lot of true and honest pioneers,
Good men who braved the western plains in spite of doubts and fears.
Fine citizens who tilled the soil and walked in virtue's ways
And built a noble empire in the rugged early days.
They sleep, forgotten and alone, in some sequestered scene
While outlaws strut as heroes on the motion picture screen.

★ ★ ★

Baddies, like Jesse James, or Billy the Kid, or Belle Starr, led dramatic lives, which explains their popularity as screen fare. Goodies, as a rule, are about as exciting as spinach.

★ ★ ★

Still, there are signs of reform in the studios. After those 'Devil' pictures, we are about to be edified by 'Almost An Angel' and 'One Foot In Heaven.'

Hardest working actor in Hollywood is Johnny Weissmuller, who has to climb a tree every other year.

Two studios are talking about filming the careers of Jimmy Walker and Fiorello La Guardia, which would make a perfect double bill. Or wouldn't it?

★ ★ ★

'Comin' At You' is a tale of the shipyards, not of knuckle game, as you might have suspected.

★ ★ ★

One of these days 'Boogie Woogie Rookie' will go into a musical clinch with 'Boogie Woogie Maisie'. Jitterboy meets jittergirl.

★ ★ ★

It is good to see William Farnum back on the screen, even in a character part. It must be a strange feeling for an actor to play a support role in one of his old starrers.

★ ★ ★

The land is full of milk and honey
As thriving commerce flows.
The citizens are spending money,
But not on picture shows.

★ ★ ★

'Chocolate Soldier' is being filmed in 1941 clothes, but is said to retain the old flavor in spite of its new wrapper.

★ ★ ★

Casting suggestion for 'Four Jacks and a Queen'. Jack Benny, Jack Barrymore, Jack Oakie and Jack Payne.

★ ★ ★

If 'Charley's Aunt' clicks in a big way it will probably be followed by 'Charley's Uncle'.

Artistic contrast in 'Sun Valley Serenade'. Sonja Henie, a blonde, skates on brunette ice.

'Memphis Belle' became 'Lady for the Night', on account of the original title sounded too much like a Mississippi River boat.

★ ★ ★

A drama, playing on the stage, enticed a picture guy,
And so he up and bought the play, although the price was high.
And presently it found itself on yonder movie lot,
And there the busy scripters changed the title and the plot.

Film Previews and Review

Caught In the Draft

(*Comedy*)

Paramount production. Stars Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour. Features, Lynne Overman, Eddie Bracken, Clarence Kolb, Paul Hurst. Supporting Cast: Ferike Boros, Phyllis Ruth, Irving Bacon, Arthur Loft, Edgar Dearing. Director, David Butler. Producer, B. G. De Sylva. Original story and screenplay, Harry Tugend. Additional dialogue, Wilkie C. Mahoney. Photography, Karl Struss. Musical score, Victor Young. Song, Louis Alter, Frank Loesser. Art direction, Hans Dreier, Haldane Douglas. Film editor, Irene Morra. Costumes, Edith Head. Sound, Gene Merritt, Walter Oberst. Previewed May 23, Alexandria theatre, Glendale. Running time: 82 mins.

Paramount's 'Caught in the Draft' is 82 minutes of enormous belly laughter, flippancy and fol-de-rol; 82 minutes of clever and brilliant writing; 82 minutes of admirable film construction, of Bob Hope at his drolly amiable best. Moreover, it is the answer to exhibitors' prayers and ought to smash house records.

In this comedy of draftees, rookies, army routine, parachute leaps, tanks, bombers and the paraphernalia of war, Paramount has achieved a singular thing. There is no hint of propaganda in the story. There is no flag-waving. There is no genuflecting either to the demands of those who want to go all out for England or to those who insist upon America's isolation. Paramount has made a picture with what is, essentially, a war background, but for the first time since the great European conflict began, a film that is filled only with laughter.

If 'Caught in the Draft' isn't funny, then all the critics who will say it is, stretched end to end, would cover considerable acreage. If there are critics queer enough to say their risibilities remain unmoved, then they ought to be laid end to end in a most convenient cemetery. For they will be dead, mere zombies with typewriters, resurrected by some cosmic, jesting ruse to plague living mortals who have the gift of laughter.

Hope plays the role of a picture star forced into enlisting in the Army in order to win the love of Dorothy Lamour, the Colonel's daughter. His agent, Lynne Overman, and his chauffeur, Eddie Bracken, decide to stick with him as volunteers rather than face survival in Hollywood. Hope, whose nerves are shattered by the sound of gunfire, tries every possible trick to keep out of the Army before Miss Lamour's scorn drives him to the recruiting office. Even then, in one of the most hilarious scenes in the picture, he thinks his agent has substituted a bit player for the recruiting sergeant, only to be horrified when his spurious gallantry leads him to the camp commanded by Miss Lamour's father, Clarence Kolb.

Once there he is the dumbest of

Continued on page 5

Men of the Timberland

(*Melodrama*)

Universal production. Stars Richard Arlen and Andy Devine. Cast: Linda Hayes, Francis McDonald, Willard Robertson, Paul E. Burns, Gaylord Pendleton, Hardie Albright, Roy Harris, John Ellis, Jack Rice. Directed by John Rawlins. Associate producer, Ben Pivar. Original story, Paul Jarrico. Screen play, Maurice Tombragel and Griffin Jay. Photography, John W. Boyle. Art director, Jack Otterson. Film editor, Milton Carruth. Music director, H. J. Salter. Previewed May 23. Running time: 61 mins.

Packed with action, using wilderness background picturesquely and telling its narrative of a timberland fight for natural wealth entertainingly, this Arlen-Devine entry will more than please the steady customers of these features and be satisfactory in its classification anywhere.

Roles give Richard Arlen and Andy Devine ample opportunity to score with complementary characterizations. Arlen is a head man in the U. S. Forest Rangers service. Devine is a tough bull-of-the-woods for the lumber operations which Willard Robertson expects to use for his advantage at any cost. Francis McDonald, in a breed role, is Robertson's killer, using the knife-throw. Linda Hayes, owner of part of the timberlands involved, is persuaded to sign away rights into a partnership and thus shares responsibility with the crook. Paul E. Burns is the comic sidekick of Devine. Gaylord Pendleton is a ranger, on the job with Arlen. All these turn in capable performances.

Two rangers and Devine's pal are killed by Robertson's henchman before the showdown comes, with Arlen persuading Devine in nick of time to let law take its course when latter is about to kill the knife-wielder in fierce battle. Plot action and antagonistic reaction between Arlen and Miss Hayes are deftly interwoven with interesting pictorial activities of timber falling and logging. There are several terrific physical brawls. One of the rangers is killed under a rolling log, set off by McDonald.

John Rawlins salts down a thoroughly competent job of direction, done with color and spirit and easy handling of the cast for solid performances. Melodrama and pictorial considerations both are well taken care of.

Ben Pivar's production supervision is ably evidenced in all the entertainment elements packed into script and carried out by all departments. Paul Jarrico provided a good story foundation, and Maurice Tombragel and Griffin Jay amplified very well in the screen play. John W. Boyle's camera caught the action and explored the landscape splendidly.

Cleary, Albright Set

Lockwood Albright and Jimmy Cleary have been appointed studio checkers for the Screen Actors Guild.

Across the Sierras

(*Western*)

Columbia production and release. Stars Bill Elliott. Features Richard Fiske, Luana Walters. Supporting players: Dub Taylor, Dick Curtis, LeRoy Mason, Ruth Robinson, John Dilson, Milt Kibbee, Ralph Peters. Directed by D. Ross Lederman. Screenplay, Paul Franklin. Photography, George Meehan. Film editor, James Sweeney. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, May 23. Running time: 58 mins.

Bill Elliott almost hangs up his guns for good in this interlude of his career as Will Bill Hickok. He meets a girl from back east, Luana Walters, who doesn't approve of shooting regardless of the provocation. Wedding bells tinkle faintly for a while but Wild Bill discovers that shooting evildoers is like second nature to him and he gives up the girl to continue as the crusading frontiersman protecting the weak and helpless from the lawless gangs that ravage the cow country. That lapse, when it appears as if Bill is to be lost forever to western fans as a two-fisted fighting man, is the point at which this yarn varies most from previous Elliott yarns.

'Across the Sierras' is amply stocked with enough riding and shooting sequences to satisfy most followers of sagebrush mellers. Elliott turns in a good performance as the man who has put aside the sheriff's badge so that he can fight outlaws in their own fashion. Dick Curtis, as the menace whose nerves finally crack while waiting for the fateful moment to shoot it out with Wild Bill, handles his assignment convincingly. Luana Walters rates a nod on appearance, making the most of the conventional western heroine role in which she is cast, while Dub Taylor adequately fills the niche as light comedy relief and Wild Bill's partner.

Coast League Baseball Results

Sunday Double-Headers

Sacramento, 12-4; Los Angeles, 6-3.

Hollywood, 8-5; Portland, 7-7.

Oakland, 3-3; Seattle, 0-12.

San Diego, 2-8; San Francisco, 3-4.

Saturday Scores

Los Angeles, 7; Sacramento, 3.

Portland, 4; Hollywood, 1.

San Diego, 8; San Francisco, 6.

Oakland, 3; Seattle 2.

Friday Games

Sacramento, 7; Los Angeles, 3.

Hollywood, 8; Portland, 3.

San Diego, 1; San Francisco, 0; (11 innings).

Oakland, 6; Seattle, 4.

Gab

By ALTA DURANT

HOLLYWOOD PARK opening Friday amazed the crowd who belong to the Turf Club. There was plenty of seating room this year, more tables, etc., and everything was streamlined. Fashion editors pouted a bit because they claimed there was dearth of top women around in startling and style setting raiment. . . . Still from standpoint of Friday being opening and lots of industry gals doing their stipend drawing chores elsewhere, it was real important name crowd on hand both from industry and local social circles. . . . Virtually every industry leader was on hand including Eddie Mannix who arrived just in time for the seventh handicap race. . . . Pic mob sort of shied away from Hysterical and leaned more toward Specify than other entries outside of Woof Woof, with result that many of the so-called smart film bankrolls took a shellacking. . . . Saturday turnout was big, plenty new femme raiments and Turf club backed to the back walls. New table system this year clearing through Henry De Sota, is good idea, as the confusion that has been manifest in past seasons did not pop up on two opening days. . . . Strangers have brought chicken dinner and other evidences of approval and concern to Collin Blair, young actor who is encamped across street from Paramount studio gate with determination to crash into a role in C. B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Long Island lad says he expected people to regard him as a screwball, but finds response quite the opposite.

Hollwood Stars have offered Keith Richards, Paramount contract player and multiple letter man from University of Pittsburgh, a pitching contract.

STARS of yesterday and today will pay tribute to Harry Carey's 25 years of uninterrupted work in films on Saturday, June 14, at the actor's Saugus ranch. Featuring the day's ceremonies will be the preview of Paramount's 'The Shepherd of the Hills,' in which Carey plays the title role. Carey's first picture, for the National Film Distributing Company at Staten Island, was 'Bill Sharkey's Last Game,' made in 1908. D. W. Griffith brought him here first in 1910 for 'The Sheriff's Baby.' Sharing the anniversary celebration will be his wife, Olive (formerly his leading lady), his son, Steven, and daughter, Ellen. . . . Score of outside cameramen for papes and mags will be angling on the Ann Sheridan hula dance scenes today on Warners 'Navy Blues.' Seymour Felix is directing the number, and Sol Polito is lensing the dance.

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Columbia Schedules Increase of Shorts For New Season

Columbia has set its short subjects program for 1941-42 at a total of 104 one-reelers, 30 two-reelers and an additional six 'International Forums', an increase of 10 over the past season's output. Greater diversity of subjects is the policy, together with a general increase in production allowance.

Four serials will comprise the company's new season's quota. First will be 'Holt of the Secret Service', starring Jack Holt, to be followed by 'Captain Midnight', 'Pirate Gold' and 'Perils of the Royal Mounted'.

The two-reelers, in which the increase of 10 occurs, will come out in four groups: Eight Three Stooges comedies; 18 All-Star Comedies featuring Buster Keaton, Andy Clyde, Elsie Ames, El Brendel, Henry Youngman, Al Shean, and including several musicals; four Glove Slingers, and the six International Forums, a series added during the past six months.

The 11 one-reels include 16 Color Rhapsodies in Technicolor, eight Columbia Fantasies; eight Columbia Fables; 12 Columbia Panoramics; six This Changing World; 12 World of Sports; eight Cinescopes; 10 Screen Snapshots; eight Columbia Tours; six Quiz Reels, and 10 Community Sings.

David A. Lipton to Wed Sylvia Schlang (28)

New York, May 25.—David A. Lipton, publicity and advertising head of Columbia and formerly assistant to John Joseph at Universal's Coast offices, is to be married Wednesday (28) to Sylvia Schlang in a quiet ceremony here. The bride-to-be is a non-pro, secretary to Manhattan City Councilman Lester Baum.

Another Goldstone

Jules Goldstone is another lawyer who wants to forget Blackstone. Now he is associated in the agency business with his brother Nat. Latter also has two other brothers in the office.

Stowell At Victor's

Bobby Stowell's Raquetters are at Victor's in Beverly now having finished their chore at Palm Springs.

a.m. Dailies

Conselman East for Marriage—
Dierdre Conselman, daughter of the late William Conselman, left for Chicago Saturday accompanied by her mother, and Barbara East. She will become the bride of Donald Budge there today.

Raye-Lang Married—
Martha Raye and Neal Lang, hotel man, were married at the El Rancho Vegas, outside of Las Vegas, Saturday night. It was the third marriage for the film comedienne.

Griffith-Block Wed—
Geraldine Griffith, grandniece of David W. Griffith, and Clarence L. Block, photographer, were married Saturday in Yuma, Ariz.

Gilda's Shimmy Busted—
Gilda Gray, dancer, has filed bankruptcy petition in New York, listing liabilities of $27,304.37.

FADIN' TIME FOR WILLIE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

on extortion and conspiracy counts by a United States Court Grand Jury. That indictment was no blot on the IATSE itself or its membership. It was just a method of Government control to halt racketeering in show biz. The indictments were returned by the Grand Jury following the testimony of film company heads to the effect they had paid certain sums of money, around $550,000, to these two individuals, and not to the IATSE, whom the latter were representing.

* * * *

OF COURSE, neither of the two men have been brought to trial. It will be some time before they are. No endeavor is being made to prejudice their innocence or guilt. That's up to a Judge and Jury.

But in the meantime, Willie Bioff, who always has a happy faculty of embarrassing organizations and people, should have sense of decency not to try to embarrass the United States Government, its people and the IATSE by trying to function as labor liaison for the making of Government training films.

* * * *

WILLIE for once should fade out of the picture, before means are taken to force him out. The Army and Navy Department want no truck with him, neither do the thousands of IATSE members in Hollywood and around the country. Boys in the locals take the position they have been sold out for the last time, and are planning to handle their own negotiations in the future.

* * * *

SO, THEREFORE, a word to the wise is sufficient, and we hope that Willie is sufficiently wise to quit and utilize his time to the purpose of preparing his defense for the two trials he will have to stand in the near future. Self preservation is the first law of nature, so Willie ought to look out for himself by preparing his defense, and not worry about any labor troubles accruing during the making of defense pictures.

A. U.

Heading East

Leo Morrison (TWA)
John Alden (TWA)
Donald Fried (TWA)
M. Searles (TWA)
Alfred Hitchcock (TWA)
Joseph Stauffer (TWA)
Elaine Ryan (TWA)
Jimmy Walker (SF)
J. Robert Bren
Gladys Atwater
Cecil Kellaway
Lewis Milestone
David Hempstead
Eddie Albert (AA)
Hal Rosson (AA)
David Strumps (AA)
Charles Butterworth (AA)
Bill Blowitz (TWA)
Irving Parker (TWA)
Eldred M. Cocking.

Zorina's Quickie

Vera Zorina planed in yesterday from New York for a quick Technicolor test at Paramount for 'Louisiana Purchase'. Dancer airs back to New York at six p.m. today after a 25-hour stay in town.

In from the East

Marjoria Woodworth (UP)
May Robson (UP)
Lady Mendl
Eddie Bracken
Paul Eheler
Vera Zorina (TWA)

Comedies Likely Subs For Parsons', 'Town'

New York, May 25.—Lever Bros. has received recommendation from its agencies on the replacement of 'Big Town' and Louella Parsons and is expected to decide both within the next week. It is probable that each spot will get a comedy mystery with 'The Amazing Mr. Smith' becoming the summer pinchhitter for Rinso and 'Mr. and Mrs. North' assuming the Lifebuoy niche.

Kohler Distribs 'Glory'

William C. Kohler, Royal Film Exchange, will act as Southern California distributor for 'Marching With Old Glory', an American Red Cross subject which is distributed to theatres gratis. Lowell Thomas is commentator on this short.

MAJOR BOWES' 964th

New York, May 25.—Major Edward Bowes made his final Capitol Family radio show broadcast today, the 964th since the program started. His resignation as managing director of the Capitol theatre becomes effective June 1 after being director of the house since it was built in 1919. His strenuous work on radio network shows is blamed for the resignation.

Larger 20th-Fox Writer Quarters Prepared

To accommodate overflow of writers in the 20th-Fox Westwood studio quarters, company is moving its Western avenue scriveners building to the larger plant where 57 scripters currently are at work.

Lately number of writers have had to work at home instead of at studio because of lack of quarters, while others have doubled up in cramped offices to make additional room for producers and executives. Transfer of building was started over weekend.

Strike at Disney Awaits Word On Guild Report

● Continued from page 1 ●

Walt Disney over the weekend by William Littlejohn, Guild prexy:

'At a meeting Friday night of Disney employes the union committee was instructed unanimously to meet with you personally on Monday, May 26, for the purpose of obtaining recognition of the union as collective bargaining representative for your employes and of discussing grievances, the union committee to report your answer to a special membership meeting called for Monday night. Failure to grant meeting will result in recommendation that union take action to protect the interests of members.'

A motion to take an immediate strike vote was made Friday night at a meeting of the Guild, but officials finally got through a compromise to give the company until tonight to act. Labor tops said the workers felt that Disney had broken faith with them in organization of the American Society of Screen Cartoonists by officers of the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, which was scuttled following complaints to the National Labor Relations Board that it was a company union.

The negotiating committee representing the Disney unit of the Guild is composed of Ken Peterson, Phylis Lambertson, Bill Hertz and Art Babbitt, chairman. Herbert Sorrell, George E. Bodle, and Aubrey Blair, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, will sit in on the parley if Disney agrees to meet with the union.

The Disney unit of the Guild meets at 6:30 p.m. today, and if a strike vote is taken it will then be carried to the full Guild meeting for approval. The Screen Gems and Schlesinger units also are meeting prior to the general membership gathering to talk contracts. It was reported that Harry Sadicoff, Schlesinger attorney, was trying to hedge on certain contract terms that had previously been agreed upon.

The Guild said that the offer of Disney to agree to a consent election of employes to designate a collective bargaining representative would be rejected. They stated the SCG had previously offered to accept a cross check of its membership with the Disney payroll, but that and other concessions were rejected. They said the members feel the company is stalling and that no further concessions will be made.

'Fantasia' Credited With Huge Success At Frisco Geary

San Francisco, May 25.—Grossing an estimated $11,000 on its final week of eight days, Walt Disney's 'Fantasia' enjoyed the distinction of bowing out of the Geary while still doing capacity business. Previous week got $13,000. Efforts of Hal Neides to get an extension failed, 'Citizen Kane' going in Tuesday (27).

With more than 140,000 paid adult admissions, Frisco run of 'Fantasia' is credited with being among the most successful in the country.

Preview

Continued from page 3

dumb rookies and practically makes the guard house his headquarters. He does sentry duty, drives a tank, almost makes a parachute jump and peels tons of potatoes. Overman and Bracken are with him all the way, helping him by their gaucheries to become highly unpopular with Kolb. In a final scene filled with just the right mixture of melodramatic excitement and farce Hope and his two pals save the day, are made corporals, and Bob wins Dorothy.

If Hope isn't the ranking comedian in films he will be after this picture is released. He plays the rookies with superb artistry, getting his laughs by gestures and gags, but getting them big. Miss Lamour is undraped (in a bathing suit) for only one brief scene, but she doesn't lose one ounce of appeal in the 22 costumes Edith Head has designed for her. Overman and Bracken were never more absurdly slaphappy. Kolb gives the Colonel's role a touch of pomposity that is amusing but does not poke fun at the Army. Paul Hurst is excellent as the tough sergeant. Ferike Boros, Phyllis Ruth, Irving Bacon, Arthur Loft and Edgar Dearing all prove most fortunate choices for supporting roles.

In handling the production end on 'Caught in the Draft' Buddy De Sylva, new Paramount production head, has given himself a touch mark to shoot at from now on. If he can repeat with anything like the showmanship he gets into this picture, he will be without a peer. Certainly the standard is a high one, indicative of the new setup at Paramount.

David Butler's direction is smart, smooth, perfectly paced. He realizes every potentiality in the story and brings out the best in every member of the cast. He keeps a sharp eye to authentic comic values, a sense of the fundamentals of certain phases of human nature. Harry Tugend's screenplay is a sound and estimable piece of workmanship, adroitly conceived and well written. The dialog, by Wilkie C. Mahoney, is brilliant. It is written with style, with a consistently polished manner, with a feeling for word and phrase. Karl Struss, at the cameras, adds to the production with splendid photography. Victor Young's musical score is lively, colorful and gay.

When the audience (which didn't know what was coming) read the title frame and saw the name of Bob Hope flash onto the screen, the Alexandria's great chandelier shook with shrieks of applause, a demonstrative tribute that was repeated at the end.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

With data on music performances on the three NBC and CBS outlets in New York still unavailable, the following compilation of network plugs for the past week is confined to WOR, New York, key for Mutual which broadcasts both Ascap and BMI tunes. Broadcast Music, Inc. announced Friday (23) it would, beginning with this week, furnish its own service, giving total plugs on the three NBC and CBS stations in New York. Plug summary on WOR is based on data provided by Accurate Reporting Service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry.

Title	Publisher	Total
Dolores	Paramount	12
I Understand	Feist	9
Look At Me Now	Embassy	9
Intermezzo	Schubert	8
Amapola	Marks	6
Aurora	Robbins	6
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	6
Begin Beguine	Harms	6
These Things You Left Me	Regent	6
My Sister and I	BMI	5
Last Time I Saw Paris	Chappell	5
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro-Bernstein	5
Things I Love	Campbell	5
You Stepped Out of a Dream	Feist	5
Don't Cry, Cherie	Brown-Henderson	4

WARNERS EXPECTS RECORD EMPLOYMENT PEAK SHORTLY

Going into June with a setup of 11 new pictures to be started during next three weeks, Warners anticipates record-breaking payroll and employment peak during the summer months. Employment is figured to reach 6,000 persons during hot-weather period, and heavy budget has been allotted for purchase of lumber and other building material.

New films going into work are 11, making total of 15 which will be before cameras during June. They are 'They Died With Their Boots On', 'Background to Danger', 'One Foot in Heaven', 'Hot Nocturne', 'All Through the Night', 'Kings Row', 'Knight of Malta', 'Rhapsody in Blue', 'Shadows On Their Wings', 'Yankee Doodle Dandy', 'The Gay Sisters'.

Advance summer schedule includes the Technicolor filmusical, 'Carnival in Rio', 'The Constant Nymph', 'Captain Horatio Hornblower', 'Man From the F.B.I.' and 'The Man They Couldn't Kill'.

Short subjects, to total 84 one and two-reelers, will top all previous annual schedules for the 1941-42 season.

Cocking To Washington On Biz Checkup

Eldred M. Cocking, survey analyst for the Wage-Hour Division, trains out today for Washington for a consultation with Department officials on the situation in the motion picture and other national industries. While Cocking said he had no advance knowledge on the purpose of the consultation, it is believed that a decision on disputed classifications of film workers will be handed down shortly after the Washington conference. The decisions are reported to have been originally delayed by requests for continuances made by Joseph A. Padway, attorney for the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Frisco Chatter

'Ice Follies' kicks off third season at the Winterland Wednesday (28).

Joe Arnone, NBC engineer from New York, victim of a car thief. Vehicle found day after, wrecked in a ditch.

Exalted Ruler George Devine, Jr. hosts Frisco press and radio men Tuesday (27) at Elks Club annual Press-Radio dinner in appreciation of favors during the year.

Henry Duffy due back Wednesday after quick New York shopping trip for his Alcazar, currently playing Billie Burke in 'Vinegar Tree', which got $7,100 in its first week.

Paul Rossini, magician, Cynda Glen, Winter Sisters, Helene Hughes Dancers and Bob Saunders ork comprise the new bill debutting at the Bal Tabarin Tuesday (27), replacing Sophie Tucker who closed Sunday.

20th Spends $10,000 Extra on Sets For 'Valley' Pic

20th-Fox is spending an additional $10,000 on bridge and road repairs on the set of 'How Green Was My Valley' at Brent's Crags where buildings and other props have cost $110,000. Permanent sets in the Malibu mountains suffered no damage during the spring rains, but road approaches and bridges were washed out.

Picture is set to start June 9 under direction of John Ford, with Darryl Zanuck personally producing.

COL. R'CDG WORKERS OFF STRIKE TODAY

Continued from page 1

for the various classifications will range from two to 15 cents per hour.

The agreement calls for a five-day, 40-hour week. The workers will receive time and half after eight hours, pay for six holidays, one week vacation, double time after Saturday noon, and triple pay for holidays. They also will be allowed five days injury pay, which is the waiting time for workmen's compensation.

The principle of plant-wide seniority is retained, although a compromise calls for modification with reference to certain skilled employes. The new deal provides that either party can call for arbitration of grievances, with a decision guaranteed in nine days. A notice of 48 hours also is required before dismissal of a worker.

The negotiations for the union were handled by William B. Elconin, international representative of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and a plant committee composed of Robert Kennedy, Mat Vidaver, Robert Green, William Pope, Ray Willeford. Attorney Homer I. Mitchell and General Manager Pat Crowley represented the company.

U Signs Merry Macs

Universal has signed The Merry Macs to seven-year contract for two pictures annually. First assignment under new deal will be either in 'Hellzapoppin'' or 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'.

Par Reties Dreier

Paramount has given Hans Dreier, head of the art department, a new contract. Dreier has been with the studio 15 years.

THOUSANDS WATCH EASTERN BLACKOUT

Newark, N. J., May 25.—Thousands poured into Newark by auto and bus from as far away as Massachusetts before midnight to witness the first experimental blackout of a large eastern metropolitan industrial area. All lights were doused at 12:15 a.m. for 15 minutes. The crowd was in a New Year's eve mood, filling the sidewalks and streets. The great hush that took place when the mazdas faded was quickly replaced by much kidding and finally sighs of relief when the lights went on again.

Time was too late to affect the theatres seriously, managers said nothing was perceptibly good or bad at the box office. Several downtown houses moved up shows to have patrons on the street before the blackout, one advertising 'come to the show before the blackout, be in time to see it'. Bars got some added trade from the mob, but nothing much. Some were closed for 15 minutes, while others tried out blackout paper on the windows and kept on going, although there was too much interest on the street scene to hold many drinkers inside.

Judge Rulings In Shaw Magazine Yarn Case

Superior Court Judge Emmet H. Wilson, in the libel action brought by former Mayor Frank L. Shaw against McFadden Publications, Inc., last week ruled that Liberty Magazine is not a newspaper, that a feature story writer for the magazine is not a newspaper reporter, and that Dwight F. McKinney, one of the reputed authors of 'The Lid Off Los Angeles' which ran in Liberty, was therefore obliged to answer certain questions.

Kinney had claimed the protection of subdivision 6 of section 1881 of the Code of Civil Procedure which was added in 1935 and which provides that a 'publisher, editor, reporter, or other person connected with or employed upon a newspaper cannot be adjudged in contempt of a court, the legislature, or any administrative body, for refusing to disclose the source of any information procured for publication and published in a newspaper.'

Judge Wilson's opinion said that the validity of this provision was not questioned by counsel for Shaw but that the 'privilege of the witness to disclose the source of his information depends on whether "Liberty" is a newspaper.'

FILM CONCERNS WATCH TAXES

■ Continued from page 1 ■

contested in the Canadian courts. Besides the new 20% admission tax, there is also a provincial tax on admissions varying as to the scale in all excepting the Saskatchewan and Ontario provinces. Understood that any action will be based on the theory that this is duplicate taxation, hence one would have to be eliminated.

The Hays office is also understood to be lining up a campaign to represent the industry in hearings on the United States new income surtax, and excess profits taxation so that the companies not having a heavy capitalization would not be unfairly taxed under the new scale.

Mohme Sees Zanuck

Gus Mohme, 20th-Fox director of distribution for Mexico, planed in Friday to report to Darryl Zanuck on conditions in that territory and to look at the new product, including 'Blood and Sand'.

Keyes In New Job

Evelyn Keyes has finished in Columbia's 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town', and has been re-assigned to 'Ladies In Retirement'.

Brown Leaves Rep

George Carleton Brown has completed treatment on 'White House Correspondent' at Republic and has checked off the lot.

Story Buys

Paramount has purchased 'Torpedo Boat', story of the Navy's mosquito fleet, by Aaron Gottlieb. Story will be produced by Bill Pine and Bill Thomas, with Richard Arlen in the top role. Frances Gifford has been cast opposite Arlen.

CAMP ORD 'WIZARD' SLATED FOR H'D BOWL

First Army show to pitch here will be Camp Ord's 'Wizard of Ord', slated for two performances in Hollywood Bowl June 7-8. Cast will be made up of 300 picked men in the camp at Monterey. First major all-soldier musical show since the last war, piece will have a cast of a dozen principals, vocal chorus of 60 and orchestra of 30.

'Wizard' gave its first performance in Frisco's Memorial Opera House May 10. Lieut. Carl Arnold, former music teacher here, wrote the book, composed several of the musical numbers and handled the production with the aid of Private Colin McDonald, songwriter.

Proceeds of the two shows here will go to Fort Ord enlisted men's morale and recreational fund and to buy instruments for the 250-piece drum and bugle corps.

Butterworth's Strawhat

Charles Butterworth planed for New York yesterday and will open in summer stock at the theatre in Buck's County, Penn., June 6 with 'George Washington Slept Here' for one week. Play then moves to Dennis, Mass.

Bergen-ese

Edgar Bergen planes to Evanston on June 13 to receive an honorary master of arts degree from Northwestern University the next day. Bergen attended Northwestern but didn't graduate. In order to make the trip, he will get three days leave of absence from RKO's 'Look Who's Talking'.

'Pins' Holdover

'New Pins and Needles' is being held over at the Biltmore theatre for another week. Musical revue will now close (31) and then head east for summer presentation.

Leo Morrison Breezes

Leo Morrison Stratolined to New York Saturday night on three weeks biz trip.

PARAMOUNT READY FOR CONSENT SALES

★ Continued from page 1 ★

five for the first portion of its new season features. Decree permits marketing of films in blocks of from one to five.

Of the 10 features that will be ready to screen for exhibitors shortly after July 1, five are in the big-budget class with producer-director and player names that studio figures will give its new season the proper sendoff. The other five, according to the company, while less costly, will stack up for entertainment and name value to give a well-rounded program for exhibitor purchase. Eight have been completed and the two others are almost ready for the cutting rooms.

Just how the first two groups of five will be split up is awaiting the arrival of Neil F. Agnew, vice president in charge of sales, from New York the end of this week. Robert M. Gillham, eastern director of advertising and publicity, will accompany Agnew west to huddle with George Brown, Coast advertising and publicity head, on exploitation plans. It is likely that Stanton Griffis, chairman of the Paramount executive committee, and John Balaban will also come here for the product confabs.

Among the five top features to be among the first two blocks are 'Hold Back the Dawn', with Charles Boyer, Olivia de Havilland and Paulette Goddard, directed by Mitchell Leisen and produced by Arthur Hornblow, Jr.; 'Skylark', with Claudette Colbert, Ray Milland and Brian Aherne, on which Mark Sandrich produced and directed; 'New York Town', starring Fred MacMurray and Mary Martin with Charles Vidor directing; 'Great Man's Lady' with Barbara Stanwyck, Joel McCrea and Brian Donlevy, a William A. Wellman production; and 'Nothing But the Truth', Bob Hope-Paulette Goddard starrer which Elliott Nugent is directing and Arthur Hornblow, Jr. producing. 'Truth' is now on its last lap of production and will be ready around July 1.

The other five ready are 'World Premiere', with John Barrymore, Frances Farmer and Ricardo Cortez, which Ted Tetzlaff directed; 'Buy Me That Town', with Lloyd Nolan, Constance Moore and Albert Dekker, which Eugene Forde directed; 'Henry Aldrich for President', directed by Hugh Bennett and featuring Jimmy Lydon, Charlie Smith, Mary Anderson and June Preisser; 'Among the Living', still in work with Albert Dekker, Harry Carey, Susan Hayward and Frences Farmer in the cast and Stuart Heisler directing; and 'Night of January 16', with a cast headed by Ellen Drew, Robert Preston and Nils Asther under the direction of William Clemens.

Studio now has 'Birth of the Blues', with Bing Crosby, Mary Martin, Brian Donlevy and Carolyn Lee in work under the direction of Victor Schertzinger as another of the top pictures which will be ready by Aug. 1. 'Bahama Passage', 'Sullivan's Travels' and 'Glamour Boy' are the others which company hopes will launch its new season selling.

Tom Tyler Assigned To Top in PRC's Pic, 'Frontier Marshal'

Tom Tyler has been signed by Producers Releasing Corporation to star in the 'Frontier Marshal' series of westerns on the 1941-42 program. Also set by O. Henry Briggs, president of the company, is Lee Powell for the co-star spot. A leading comic is being sought for the series.

With title roler found for 'Marshal', Buster Crabbe set for the 'Billy the Kid' series, and George Houston engaged for the 'Lone Rider' repeater, the PRC program of westerns is ready to roll. All will be made under supervision of Sigmund Neufeld.

TEAMSTERS PICKET B'DWAY HOUSES

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

to work moving the musicians instruments in and out of the theatres, even if the men drive up to work in private cars. They also want to drive light trucks used for transportation of the instruments. The theatres are not involved in the action, being innocent sufferers in a dispute between two unions.

When first broached two weeks ago the Teamsters ideas were viewed as having no merit by James C. Petrillo, prexy of the AFofM, and he has, along with Local 802, continued that attitude. Local 802 members have been informed to disregard the picket lines.

The teamsters asked for the support of the American Guild of Variety Artists, but were turned down on the theory that the dispute is between two unions for jurisdiction. If allowed, the Teamsters demand would considerably increase the expenses of traveling bands.

Helm Nominated

L. C. Helm, business representative of Studio Utility Employes Local 724, yesterday was nominated for re-election by unanimous vote of the membership. H. C. Rohrbach also was nominated for re-election as secretary.

Ill in Pix

PRODUCER ERICH POMMER is expected to be able to resume work at RKO, after weeks of illness and recuperation, next Monday, June 2. 'Unexpected Uncle', which he will make, is slated to start on that date. He has been preparing on story at home, working with Tay Garnett, who will direct.

JULIEN DUVIVIER is nursing a broken wrist. Injury came to the director when he slipped and fell Thursday while working on a snow scene for Alexander Korda's 'Illusions'. He was off work only long enough to have the arm set and placed in splints.

BILTMORE TU. 7131 HELD OVER BY POPULAR DEMAND! Seats Now
THIS WEEK ONLY —FINAL PERFORMANCE SATURDAY EVENING MAY 31
Broadway's MUSICAL hit!
New PINS and NEEDLES
COMPLETELY NEW SHOW!
ORIG. N. Y. CAST BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!
MOVIE PRICES
WED. AND SAT. MAT. 35¢ 50¢ 75¢
MON. TO THU. EVE. 50¢ 75¢ $1.00
FRI. AND SAT. EVE 50¢ $1.00 $1.50
PLUS TAX

Edw. Lambert Assumes Charge of 20th Wardrobe Dept.

Under reorganization of the wardrobe department at 20th-Fox, Edward P. Lambert, recently at head of men's wardrobe, assumes charge of entire department.

Gwen Wakeling goes in as head designer, replacing Travis Banton, resigned.

Lambert was vice president of Western Costuming prior to coming to 20th-Fox.

Obituary

WILSON COLLISON

Wilson Collison, 47, playwright and scenarist, died Sunday of a heart attack at his home, 1352 Braeridge Drive, Beverly Hills. He had been in ill health for the past six weeks. According to his wishes there will be no funeral services and burial arrangements are being made at the Wilshire Funeral Home in Santa Monica, probably a private cremation.

Collison, born in Gloucester, Ohio, on Nov. 5, 1893, was only nine years of age when his first story was published by a newspaper and he become known in 1919 when his play, 'Up in Mabel's Room,' written in collaboration with Otto Harbach while working for $18 a week in a Columbus drugstore, became a Broadway success. In 1915 Collison wrote 'Kitty Comes Home.' He collaborated with Avery Hopwood on 'The Girl in the Limousine' in 1919 and again in 1921 on 'Gertie's Garter'. In 1920 Collison wrote and produced 'The Girl With the Carmine Lips' and again in 1922 produced his 'Sweet Petunia'. His widow, Anzonette Lloyd Collison, was starred in both shows. Other solo play credits, in addition to numerous novels, were 'Every Little Thing', (1920); 'A Bachelor's Night', (1921); 'Desert Sands' (1922); 'The Sheik's Love' (1923); 'The Vagabond' (1923); 'Red Dust' (1927) and 'Hard-Boiled Angel' (1933).

For the past 13 years Collison had made his home in Hollywood and was credited with authoring more than 50 screen plays, many of which were serial stories, including the 'Maisie' features at Metro. He last did 'Maisie in the Gold Rush' at that studio. Other film credits include 'Red Dust' in 1932 at Metro; 'Three Wise Girls', Columbia; 'The Crusader', Majestic; 'Red Haired Alibi', Tower; 'Smart Girl', Paramount; 'Woman Wanted', Metro; and 'There's Always a Woman' and 'There's That Woman Again' at Columbia.

In addition to his widow he is survived by a brother, William G. Collison.

OTIS GARRETT

Funeral services for Otis Garrett, 36, director, will be held at 1 p.m. tomorrow in the Little Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn. Garrett, who had been recuperating from a stomach operation performed last March, died Saturday afternoon at the Doctors and Surgeons hospital, Glendale.

Garrett was a film editor and writer before becoming a director at Universal. In 1935 he collaborated on the screen play of 'Age of Indiscretion' and 'O'Shaughnessey's Boy' at Metro. In 1938 he directed 'The Lady in the Morgue', 'Danger On the Air', 'The Last Express' at Universal and the next year did 'Exile Express' for Grand National, and 'Witness Vanishes' at Universal. The operation performed in March took him off the director assignment on 'World Premiere' at Paramount and he was awaiting a return to health before receiving a new picture at that studio.

He is survived by his mother and three daughters, the eldest, Patricia, born during his first marriage to Mrs. Elizabeth Garrett, and Antoinette and Judith, born during his second marriage to Earlene Heath. He was divorced twice.

JAMES A. MANOS

James A. (Jimmy) Manos, 47, maitre d'hotel for 18 years at the Ambassador Hotel's Cocoanut Grove, died at Cedars of Lebanon Saturday following an illness lasting since September. Masonic funeral services will be arranged this week after the arrival of his two brothers, Pierre and William Demetrin Manos, from Chicago. Manos served during the first World War with the AEF in France and was a Shriner and Scottish Rite Mason.

Before going with the Ambassador he was with the Bristol, downtown, and prior to that with Tait's in San Francisco. He was married twice, his first wife being Mrs. Mildred Manos, whom he married in 1929 and his second, Mrs. Edna Manos, whom he married in 1935.

CLIFFORD F. EVANS

Clifford F. Evans, 41, co-owner with Howard Christie of the Phonofilm Co., manufacturers of coin-operated motion picture projectors, died Saturday of injuries received in a freight elevator at the Christie hotel in Hollywood.

POTENTIAL ANGLES OF FILMS TOLD DELEGATES AT MEET

The motion picture has been the instrument to bring art, music and drama within the reach of the millions of all nations, R. C. Sheriff told 2,200 delegates to the National Conference of Writers, which closed yesterday with a network round table broadcast over KNX. The Conference was arranged by the Authors League of America and was held under sponsorship of the Screen Writers Guild at the University of California at Los Angeles.

'Prior to the advent of films', Sheriff said, 'such thrills were reserved for the minority, the upper strata of society. The motion picture made art and democracy synonymous and presented sentiment and adventure to the vast majority in the simplest form, at lowest cost.'

The keynote of addresses by other authors, novelists, playwrights, and film writers follow:

James Hilton: 'World-wide misgiving in the future of humanity due to the current international upheaval and the streamlined pace set by the mechanized era of today, may point to a decline of the novel reading public and the novelist himself. A writer must write in the prevalent forms that the age gives him. To put the matter in a nutshell, the modern novelist is increasingly up against a mood prevalent all over the world which might be summarized in the two words "So What"?'

LAWSON'S REMARKS

John Howard Lawson: 'Copyright expresses in formal legal terms the individual's right to speak, think and communicate. The preservation of that right is more than a concern of the author; it is the foundation stone of a free literature and a free people. Legislation and contract place limitations on the bargaining power of the author.'

Mary C. McCall, Jr.: 'The timidity and venality of routine and patterned editorial policy is a source of concern to every American old enough to read. It is more than a trade practice which is inconvenient, discouraging, galling to a handful of professional writers. It represents a way of thinking which, if it is allowed to dominate, may destroy us all.'

Sidney Buchman: 'Inasmuch as the entire writing panorama is a picture of things in motion, the writer does not find his place in society, but creates it. If the writer is to understand the role he is to play, as this kaleidscope unrolls, he must be ready to change his creative expression as rapidly as his world around him changes.'

Georgia Backus: 'Just as the novel, play and film developed their own classics, so must radio create its own. Radio today stands at the crossroads and offers a truly great challenge to all writers.'

Paul Franklin: 'The motion picture, in its infancy, was all eyes with no ears. It grew up. Today radio, the new artistic baby, is all ears with no eyes. We hope with the aid of science and the creative genius of the writer to see radio grow up too.'

Ralph Block: 'Story telling has remained the kernel of writing expression since the dawn of human progress. From papyrus to modern color printing, from the first daguerreotype to the Technicolor super de luxe film, form has changed, but its heart, the story—the writing—is constant.'

CHEVIGNY STATEMENTS

Hector Chevigny: 'The radio writer has risen to a position in his field relatively far more important than the writer attained in the same space of time in the picture business.'

Dwight Taylor: 'The time has come for the writer to lay aside his chronic inferiority complex. Modern conditions no longer justify it and he must be ready to take his active place in an active world. He must become a business man in the sense that he produces a commodity which, through the printing press and motion picture machine he has every evidence that people are willing to buy.'

Sheridan Gibney, SWG prexy, delivered the closing remarks. He disclosed that the Conference will be made an annual event, with the 1942 meeting to be held either in New York or Chicago.

1,000 Visitors Expected In Seattle For AFM Confabs

Seattle, May 25.—A total of 1,000 visitors to Seattle is expected during the convention of the American Federation of Musicians, to be held the week of June 9, according to C. L. Weber, business agent of Local 76, host to the convention.

At least 600 delegates are expected to register, with wives and friends bringing the total to 1,000. Headquarters will be at the Olympic Hotel.

President James Petrillo will arrive a few days in advance of the convention date. It will be his first occasion to preside at a national AFM convention; also the first time meeting has been held in the Pacific Northwest.

Lab Technicians Board Reject Prod Offerings

The Executive Board of Laboratory Technicians Local 683 Saturday voted to reject counter-proposals submitted by the Producers. The board adopted the following resolution in an effort to unify film groups now seeking to negotiate contracts:

'In view of the fact that numerous Hollywood motion picture locals are urgently seeking improved wages and working conditions, the Executive Board and negotiating committee of Local 683, IATSE, which is likewise engaged in negotiations, are ready and willing to cooperate in all efforts to bring unity, higher wages and better working conditions to the workers in the motion picture industry'.

Shearer Plans Trip

Norma Shearer plans to plane to New York next Monday and then to Montreal and Westmount Park, Can., her birthplace, where she will participate in the Canadian Victory Loan. She will be accompanied by Mrs. Sylvia Fairbanks.

Par Terms Gabor

Eva Gabor has been handed a term contract by Paramount following her first assignment for the studio in 'Forced Landing'. Her next role will probably be in 'Channel Port', with Ray Milland.

Planted

Warners

Harry Davenport, 'Kings Row'.

George Meader, 'The Smiling Ghost'.

George Humbert, 'King Rubber'.

Frank Mayo, 'Dive Bomber'.

Paramount

J. Farrell MacDonald, 'Sullivan's Travels'.

20th-Fox

Lionel Pape, 'Charley's Aunt'.

GIRLS WANTED!

Brunette, Latin type, for new show opening at the COPACABANA. Selection will be made atop HOLLYWOOD PLAZA HOTEL ROOF GARDEN Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m. Bring sun suits.

SLUW Unfair Practice Complaint Hits Producers

A complaint charging the major film companies with unfair labor practice was filed with the National Labor Relations Board Friday by Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The complaint filed with George Yager, NLRB field examiner, claims the companies have discriminated against members of Local 727, and asks that the union be designated as collective bargaining representative for all laborers in the industry.

The Producers recently refused employment to members of Local 727 carrying work permits. The real purpose of the move, however, is said to have been to block any attempt by international officers to award jurisdiction over laborers to Studio Utility Employes Local 724. Both unions are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, each has claimed jurisdiction since the IATSE fight with the United Studio Technicians Guild.

U Holds Confabs On Shorts, Serials

Universal yesterday held a supplementary sales convention at the Ambassador to discuss short subjects and serials under presiding supervision of B. B. Kreisler, manager of U's shorts department. West Coast branch managers, salesmen and bookers attended.

Bracken, Preisser Get Tops in 'Homicide'

Paramount will co-star Eddie Bracken and June Preisser in 'Sing a Song of Homicide'. Betty Jane Rhodes, radio singer, has been signed to a term contract by Par and will have a role in the same film.

Long Beach 'Strutters'

'Darktown Strutters Ball', an all-Negro revue, opens June 3 at the Municipal Auditorium in Long Beach, with Lew Serlin and Jack Rothschild producing and Shelton Brooks, composer, heading the cast. Show is slated to move to San Francisco, June 17.

Albertson Topper

Figuring to start (31), Lindsley Parsons is completing deal with Frankie Albertson as featured topper in Monogram's 'City Limits' which Parsons will produce. In featured bracket also are Lorna Gray and Jed Prouty. Jean Yarbrough will direct.

MBS Gives Report

New York, May 25.—A statement issued today by stockholders of the Mutual Broadcasting System declared the recent agreement between Mutual and Ascap would save indie radio stations about $1,800,000 annually on Ascap music.

Cowdin Due in NY

New York, May 25.—J. Cheever Cowdin is due to arrive here tomorrow after a stay of several weeks at the Universal studio on the Coast.

Title Changes

'Girls From Panama', Columbia, to 'Two Latins From Manhattan'.

COUNTY GRAND JURY PROBES IA OFFICERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

panies. The LA Grand Jury inquiry is centered on the activity of IATSE officials in connection with the seizure and sabotage of Technicians Local 37, and their testimony in Superior court relative to invoking the 'special emergency' under which they grabbed control of the studio unions.

In the meantime, the studio locals are in a chaotic condition as a result of the Browne and Bioff indictments. The unions are a beehive of activity. Every possible move is being discussed and explored with the idea of protecting the interests of the workers. One group is known to have been in contact with the Congress of Industrial Organizations. Others are in favor of remaining in the IATSE, but are demanding a new international personnel setup. Some are insisting that Browne and Bioff immediately resign, while others contend that all international officers should call a special convention and then resign.

The situation is said to have been called to the attention of William Green, prexy of the American Federation of Labor, who is presiding at the AFofL Executive Council meeting in Washington. Certain AFofL representatives are said to be recommending that a new AFofL motion picture charter be graned immediately to cover all IATSE studio workers and block any plan to move into the CIO. Such action was taken in the case of the Building Service Employes here after the union head, George Scalise had been ordered to prison.

Fred Billingsley, IA international vice president with headquarters in San Francisco, Harold V. Smith, business representative of the International Sound Technicians Local 695, have been subpoenaed to appear before the LA Grand Jury June 4 at 10:30 a.m. It was reported others might be called. It is presumed they are to be interrogated in connection with the claim of George E. Browne, IATSE president, that he placed telephone calls to secure the consent of all members of the IATSE Executive Board before declaring the 'special emergency' when he sent John Gatelee and Frank Stickland here to take over the studio unions.

Officials of the District Attorney's office directing the IATSE investigation, are reported to have been in contact with William Hall, assistant U. S. attorney who is handling the income tax evasion charge against Willie Bioff, and on which he is now at liberty on $5,000 bond. Hall is understood to have conferred with Joseph Carpenter, former head of the United Studio Technicians Guild, who brought suit against the IA in an effort to regain control of Local 37. Carpenter was president of the local at the time of the seizure.

BIOFF SURRENDERS

Bioff surrendered Saturday on the charge of extorting $550,000 from Producers on the threat of calling strikes, and was released in $25,000 bail, after being photographed and fingerprinted. Hall pointed out that New York authorities had asked that bail be fixed at $50,000, but U. S. Commissioner David B. Head fixed it at $25,000 after attorneys George Breslin and Michael Luddy pleaded that Bioff has a home here, is already under bail in one case, and will be ready to appear at any time desired. It was indicated, however, that the bail will be raised to $50,000, if Mathias F. Correa, acting U. S. attorney in the Southern district of New York is not satisfied with the lower bond. June 5 was set as the date for removal hearing to New York. Attorney Breslin indicated that Willie, who recently served a six months sentence in Chicago for pandering, would not oppose removal.

Browne, who was indicted jointly with Willie, had not been arrested late last night. Telegraphic warrant for his arrest was sent to Chicago, but Browne was reported in Washington attending a meeting of the AFofL Executive Council. It was reported he would surrender today and post bond.

The Government charges that $550,000 in cash to avert threatened strikes of 35,000 motion picture operators, cameramen, technicians, etc., was paid to Browne and Bioff over a period since 1936. Mathias F. Correa declares that $400,000 of the total was paid in that year. The money is said to have been given to Bioff in cash in denominations of $1,000, $500 and $100. The money is said to have been extorted from Loew's Inc., Paramount, 20th-Fox, Warners, 'and other corporations unknown to the Grand Jury.'

DETAILS OF FINDINGS

Details of the Grand Jury findings were contained in an official statement issued by Correa. It stated:

'The indictment which contains two substantive counts and one alledging conspiracy, was handed up by a Federal Grand Jury following a lengthy investigation conducted personally by Mathias F. Correa, United States Attorney, aided by two of his staff assistants, Edward J. Ennis and Boris Kostelanetz.

'The Government charges that Bioff and Browne used their high positions in a powerful AFofL union to extort $550,000 for themselves from four of the nation's leading picture producers and distributors with threats to tie up the entire motion picture industry by calling a strike of some 35,000 men and women engaged in the industry's mechanical crafts.'

Following return of the indictments it was disclosed that leading executives of the different film companies appeared as witnesses before the Grand Jury during the past two weeks. It was reported at the U. S. Court building that Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's Inc., Sidney R. Kent, president of 20th-Fox, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, Abe Warner, vice president of Warners, Pat Casey, Producer-Labor contact, and others had their turn as witnesses in the Grand Jury room.

CONSPIRACY CHARGE

The indictment against Browne and Bioff charges a continuous conspiracy dating to November, 1935. It alleges that four corporations and other corporations unknown to the Grand Jury made payments to the two defendants, who were aided and abetted in their extortion by other persons not named. The indictment alleges that both the threats and payments were made in New York City. The strike threat, it was revealed, was made in 1936.

The indictment is the first of its kind returned in the New York district in which leaders of a labor union have been accused of collecting for themselves from employers on a threat to call a strike. It alleges offenses that are punishable by maximum prison sentences of 10 years and fines of $10,000 on each count. Browne and Bioff if convicted each could be sentenced to 30 years in prison and each fined $30,000.

It was reported here that the income tax evasion charge against Willie Bioff may be revised to include all or part of the $550,000 which he and Browne are charged with extorting from the companies. Interest in IATSE circles here buzzed over the report that others were reported by the Jury to have aided Browne and Bioff in allegedly extorting the $550,000.

The New York Grand Jury is still in session, and it was reported that subpoenas have been issued for Leo Spitz and Sol Rosenblatt, members of the law firm of Rosenblatt and Jaffe, which represented the IATSE.

Meetings Arranged By Units Over Indictments

Business representatives of studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes meet at three p. m. today to discuss means of protecting the interests of members as a result of the indictment of George E. Browne, IATSE prexy, and Willie Bioff. Projectionists District Council No. 2 which meets at 9 p.m. tonight to consider the same question, has invited all officers and board members of the studio locals to attend this session. The Council, which embraces all projectionists south to San Diego except Local 150, is reported to favor maintaining the IATSE but wants a general shakeup in the official International family. It is understood that at these meetings an effort will be made to set up group representation that will result in unity of all the various locals.

The business agents were called into session Friday by Harold V. Smith, chairman of business representatives committee, and head of Sound Technicians Local 695. Several suggestions were made that Browne and Bioff be asked to resign immediately, but one or two representatives took the position that this would be premature as neither of the officials have been convicted of any offense. Others were said to favor asking the International to call a special convention to elect an entire new set of national officers.

Options Buddy Rogers For Term Contract

RKO has optioned Charles (Buddy) Rogers for a term contract. Actor is currently in 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost', latest in Leon Errol-Lupe Velez series. Rogers and ZaSu Pitts join the Epping series in the present one.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offi

Vol. 31 No. 60 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, May 27, 1941 5 Cents

STRIKE AT WALT DISNEY

MCA COL TAKEOVER BOOKED

New York, May 26.—Board of directors of the Columbia Broadcasting System will vote Wednesday (28) on sale of Columbia Artists, Inc., to Music Corporation of America. Latter is absorbing talent under contract to artists bureau as well as entire staff. Thus, Herbert Rosenthal, CA vice-prez, will move over to MCA as v.p. along with others in radio network's talent agency subsidiary. It is be-

● Continued on page 6 ●

Rudy Vallee Pitches East With Preem

Preview of Rudy Vallee's picture, 'Time Out for Rhythm' (Col), either at Westbrook or Portland, Maine, at which the crooner makes a personal appearance, will cause his Sealtest airshow to go for a brief pitch in the east. Advance showing of the film is set for June 19 or 26.

Robt. Kent Returns to Pix at Rep

Robert Kent, who has been in New York legit for the past year, will return to the screen in Republic's 'Under Fiesta Stars' as a heavy in the Gene Autry film. Picture rolled yesterday, with William Morgan directing, at Charleston Flats.

Ann Sothern At Work

Ann Sothern returned to Metro yesterday to resume dramatic scenes in 'Ringside Maisie', after three days recuperation from strenuous jitterbug dances last week.

Robertson Assigned

Willard Robertson has been signed by Cecil B. De Mille to play a southern doctor in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount.

Rapper on 'Heaven'

Irving Rapper will direct 'One Foot in Heaven' for Warners.

PREVIEWED

TIME OUT FOR RHYTHM (Col)

(Preview on page 3)

IA LOCALS SEEK IMMEDIATE PROD. SESH

Studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes are demanding an immediate meeting with the Producers to talk wages and working conditions. Following a meeting yesterday of the business representatives of eight local unions, a letter was sent to Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, requesting a conference with the Producers labor re-

☘ Continued on page 8 ☘

Bancroft Goes Comic

George Bancroft will have a comedy role in Warners 'They Died With Their Boots On', which rolls June 16 under direction of Michael Curtiz.

WALKOUT ALSO SEEN AT SCHLESINGER STUDIO

A strike at the Walt Disney studio has been called by the Screen Cartoonists Guild for 6 a.m. tomorrow. A walkout also has been authorized by the SCG at the Leon Schlesinger studio for 10 a.m. the same day unless company executives have signed a Guild contract by that time. The Schlesinger employes recently returned to work after a one day strike, but claim the company is hedging on the agreement which ended the walkout.

Members of the Disney unit of the Guild meeting last night at the Roosevelt hotel voted 315 to 4 in favor of a strike. A motion was then taken before the general SCG

♣ Continued on page 8 ♣

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	80
Major Studio Calls	261
FK Studio Service	36
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	383

ASCAP LOSES APPEAL AGAINST STATE LAWS

Washington, May 26.—With seven judges unanimous, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers went down for the count today in efforts to invalidate state laws outlawing performing rights combinations. The United States Supreme court, with Associate Justice Frank Murphy not participating, upheld the constitutionality of the challenged Florida and Nebraska anti-Ascap statutes chiefly on the ground that state legislatures have full freedom to prohibit restraints of intrastate trade. As long as there is

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Chas. Guttman Joining Roach as Asso. Prod.

Charles Guttman has been signed by Hal Roach as associate producer and begins at once in preparations on the Streamline product for United Artists release. Guttman was for 14 years associated with Metro's foreign sales department.

Arthur Kelly Arrives for Confabs with Silverstone

Arthur Kelly, United Artists general sales manager, got in from New York yesterday to confer with Murray Silverstone and various UA producers on product that will be announced at the company conventions to be held around middle of June. Both Silverstone and Kelly will plane to New York over the weekend.

U Reties Otterson

Universal has given Jack Otterson, chief art director, a new year's contract. He has been with the studio since 1936.

SCREEN WRITERS PUSH CLEARING COMMITTEE

With the Screen Writers Guild scheduled to resume negotiations with the Producers tonight, the Guilders are pushing plans to complete formation of the Union and Guild Committee to act as a clearing house in handling problems of the studio crafts. Arrangements are now being concluded for a network broadcast by the Committee, on which the economic and bargaining problems of the film crafts would be aired.

As soon as time can be arranged for with the networks, the SWG an-

■ Continued on page 7 ■

Sophie Tucker Cancels Airer Over Illness

Sophie Tucker was forced to bow out of a scheduled appearance on the 'What's On Your Mind' program over CBS last night, being laid up in San Francisco with a high fever. Ted Lewis was rushed in as a last minute substitute. Miss Tucker planned to leave the northern city last night to fill her stage engagement at the Orpheum theatre here starting tomorrow.

Par Unshelves 'Forest'

Paramount has taken 'Forest Service', story by Bradley King and William Tummell, off the shelf and is scheduling it for production in Technicolor on the 1941-42 program. Picture has been retitled 'The Forest Rangers' and Robert E. Kent assigned to work on the screen play.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Liberty Lad**
Oso Mac
Nutria
2d RACE—**Dixie Dew**
Cleo Greenock
Single Wing
3d RACE—**LOVER'S LASS**
Okoole Maluna
Seedoe
4th RACE—**Her Did**
Do Justice
Valdina Lancer
5th RACE—**Cal Naishapur**
Cinesar
Air Speed
6th RACE—**Xenomay**
Palmera T.
Only Girl
7th RACE—**Stella Gold**
Sword Play
Valdina Knave
8th RACE—**Candy Hero**
Patan
Fervorita
CHANCE BET—**Agnes S (4)**
Selections consensus, page 8

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Harrison Holliway back from NY.

Nell O'Day off to a Big Bear vacation.

Vera Zorina planed out for New York last night.

Gene Ruggiero will edit film on Metro's 'Tarzan.'

Walter Wade, agency exec, trains back to Chicago today.

Herbert Stothart recorded score for Metro's 'Blossoms In the Dust.'

20th-Fox studio closes on Memorial Day (30), resuming as usual on Saturday.

Dave Kaufman here to pick up some cinema features for Mason City (Ia.) Globe Gazette.

Barrett C. Kiesling of Metro praisery addresses Inter-State Theatre convention at Galveston.

Helen Ferguson, on her first vacation in years, is spending week at Santa Barbara Biltmore.

Henry Herbel is back from a tour of the Seattle, Portland and San Francisco Warners exchanges.

Drummond C. Boyce, treasurer of Duperial, DuPont subsidiary in South America, visited Warners yesterday.

Edmund Lowe is planning a trip to New York to try to peddle his memoirs, 'Make Believe Man', to a publisher.

Heat drove Arthur Lubin out of Palm Springs yesterday and he leaves for Carmel tomorrow to complete his vacation there.

Rosemary Lane, now east for two Greek War Relief benefits, will guest star on the Eddie Cantor program tomorrow night.

Preview of 'Abbott and Costello and Dick Powell in the Navy' will be held by Universal tonight at the Alexander, in Glendale.

John Beal, recently returned to Hollywood, has received an offer from Gertrude Lawrence to be leading man in the fall edition of 'Lady in the Dark.'

Bob Hope moved into second place in the Crossley sweepstakes, just below 'Fibber and Molly' and pacing Jack Benny and Edgar Bergen, in that order.

Universal is looking for a new title on 'Oh, Charlie', Abbott and Costello film on which added scenes have just finished, and for 'I, James Lewis', sea picture Frank Lloyd Productions is shooting at Catalina.

Benny the Gouge sez—Best of all recruiting campaigns is 'Caught In the Draft'. It makes army life look like a picnic.

Hollywood Inside

CLAUDE BINYON has asked B. G. De Sylva for the screen play assignment on 'Texas Guinan', which Robert Sisk will produce at Paramount around August. Request was made so Binyon could join forces with Sisk on the picture as both were doing the Broadway beat during the time of Texas Guinan's popularity and are familiar with the character. Producer and writer acquired considerable of their Guinan knowledge while covering New York for VARIETY. Whether Binyon will get his request has not been definitely decided by De Sylva as yet, although indications are script will be turned over to him after he completes present assignment on 'Take A Letter Darling'. Paramount purchased all rights to the life of Texas Guinan from Tommy Guinan for around $15,000, which, according to the studio, gives it first call on filming a story around the Broadway name. Mark Hellinger was considering a Guinan story while on the producer roster at Warners and still leans towards bringing her life to the screen but the Paramount deal with Tommy Guinan is said to have forestalled such a production other than on that lot.

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COMPLAINTS are piling up against the lack of the proper air conditioning in Fox West Coast's Alexander theatre in Glendale. Recent weeks with temperature higher than average has caused considerable stuffiness in the house and apparently no efforts have been made to insure the comfort of patrons by having the air cooling plant functioning properly. Several studios which have held previews recently at the theatre are now understood to be eyeing it with disfavor because of the heat, which in a number of cases has forced patrons to remove coats and loosen collars in an attempt to reach some degree of comfort.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT THEATRE here is latest industry affiliate to start its employes on the road to savings by giving each worker government defense stamps which in turn can be utilized for the purchase of government bonds. House Manager Harry Wallin started each of the theatre employes off with four 25c stamps. As a further incentive theatre has agreed to match the employes dollar for dollar and for each stamp purchased by them will give an equal amount of the government securities. This will make it possible for Paramount theatre employes to acquire the bonds at 50% of their total cost.

☆ ☆ ☆

FOX WEST COAST THEATRES has started an extensive advertising campaign for its Hollywood and Los Angeles houses in the San Fernando valley area. Three permanent 48-sheet boards have been contracted, with signs presently reading, six, seven and eight minutes, respectively, from Grauman's Chinese theatre. In addition 200 cards have been posted or tacked in the district and 12-inch display ads have been contracted with the semi-weekly San Fernando newspaper, having a circulation of around 50,000.

☆ ☆ ☆

METRO top executives have been pressuring Judy Garland with a heavy barrage of arguments to try to keep her from getting married. Despite the demands of studio tops the actress has decided to face their wrath and run the risk of losing her prestige as a juvenile star in order to try for a normal married life like other people. She will announce her engagement to Dave Rose, former husband of Martha Raye, on June 15.

☆ ☆ ☆

SCREEN MUSICIANS will put on one of the major entertainment features for the 15,000 delegates to the National Federation of Music Clubs convention in Hollywood Bowl June 21. Nat W. Finston, head of Metro's music department, is chairman of the studio group. He will conduct an orchestra composed of musicians from all picture studios, playing important screen music as well as standard selections.

☆ ☆ ☆

SIX studio photographers shot Ann Sheridan from all angles yesterday as she did a special hula dance number for Warners 'Navy Blues'. There were also 14 syndicate, wire and fan lensers on hand with their cameras. Publicity department has a budget of 350 4x5's, 150 11x14's and 100 kodachromes. Pictures shot yesterday approximate the greatest number of stills ever made of one top actress in one day.

☆ ☆ ☆

USING his own plane as a camera ship, Henry King is directing air sequences for 20th-Fox 'A Yank In the R.A.F.' on Sundays, the only day he can follow squadrons of Harvard trainer ships as they leave Southern California ports for Canada. Director King follows these planes 200 to 300 miles north to get spectacular cloud shots.

MR. ROOSEVELT'S CHAT

Highest Crossley rating ever achieved on the air is expected to be rolled up tonight by President Roosevelt on his 'Fireside Chat'. Extreme importance of his message and the lack of advance info on what he will say has given his White House address a strong build up that will keep millions glued to their sets. All networks carry the talk from 6:30 to 7 p.m. tonight, with NBC utilizing all short wave facilities and translating the talk into many languages to reach dialers in South America, un-nazified Europe and other parts of the world. 'Fireside Chat' will get the most far-flung coverage ever given a radio talk.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

At twilight in the studio the actor's toil is done
And when he wipes the grease paint off beneath the setting sun
He does not seek a nitery to bask in liquid fun.

Instead, the actor hastens home to spend his leisure hours
Arrayed in grimy overalls amid his leafy bowers.
A lot of he-man picture stars are nuts about their flowers.

★ ★ ★

After wearing all those gorgeous toreador garments in 'Blood and Sand', Ty Power is willing to spend the next year in overalls.

★ ★ ★

Many a film star who struts across the screen in soup-and-fish raiment, knows more about alfalfa than he does about swing music.

★ ★ ★

'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen' is too long a title—by at least one professor.

★ ★ ★

Marquee on the Alhambra theatre:
'Mr. District Attorney,'
'Meet John Doe.'

★ ★ ★

Humorous homicide is not exactly new, although there is plenty of it in pictures nowadays. Mercutio pulled a gag as he kicked the bucket in 'Romeo and Juliet.'

★ ★ ★

When a lady in a picture play sets out to slay her man
She does it with a vim and skill that no mere he-man can.
Although she is a dainty gal, refined and slim and frail,
The female in the pictures is more deadly than the male.

★ ★ ★

'Million Dollar Baby' would have been an impressive title a few years back, but it takes at least a billion to attract any attention nowadays.

★ ★ ★

Vic McLaglen and Eddie Lowe are coming back to resume their old feud in 'The Marines Are Ready' and wind up behind the eight-ball, as usual. They both lose the gal.

Greta Garbo plays a dual role in her next picture, which will create difficulties when she wants to be alone.

Then there is Cliff Nazarro, who sings in 'You'll Never Get Rich'. It will be a solo, even though he is a double-talker.

★ ★ ★

A brush-off on a Pullman car is often mighty good
But nothing like the brush-off you can get in Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

Laird Cregar plays a light role in 'Charley's Aunt', although he is the heaviest heavy in town.

★ ★ ★

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark, unfathomed caves of ocean bear.
Full many a studio star remains unseen
Until he ups and moves away from there.

Preview

★

Time Out For Rhythm

(*Musical*)

Columbia production. Features Ann Miller, Rudy Vallee, Rosemary Lane, Allen Jenkins, Joan Merrill, Richard Lane, the Three Stooges, Brenda and Cobina, Six Hits and a Miss. Eddie Durant's Rhumba Orchestra, Glen Gray and his Casa Loma Band, Stanley Andrews. Director, Sidney Salkow. Producer, Irving Starr. Screen play, Edmund L. Hartmann, Bert Lawrence. Story by Bert Granet. Based on a play by Alex Ruben. Musical numbers directed by LeRoy Prinz. Lyrics and music by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin. Musical director M. W. Stoloff. Photography, Franz F. Planer. Film editor, Arthur Seid, Art direction, Lionel Banks. Sound, P. J. Faulkner. Gowns, Saltern. Assistant director, Bud Brill. Previewed May 26. Running time: 74 mins.

'Time Out For Rhythm' stacks up as average musical entertainment that will be able to carry top billing only outside of key city first runs. Considerable worth is given to the production by Ann Miller's dancing, and the vocalizing, but other shortcomings prevent its registering for the top brackets. Production values give the appearance of lavish expenditure and the cast is generously spotted with names for exploitation possibilities.

Story is of two New York agents, successful as a team but when girl trouble splits them, both hit the downgrade until circumstance brings them back together again, and is sufficient for the introduction of the seven songs, the comedy, and the elegant dances and two songs by Miss Miller. Her numbers are colorful and easily the standout of the entire production. She has also made strides as an actress.

Rudy Vallee and Richard Lane handle the two male spots. Vallee has a chance to sing two songs and gives the dramatic portions his own style of portrayal that is beginning to find more ease before the cameras. Lane sells himself thoroughly as the other agent, capturing most of the picture's dramatic moments. Rosemary Lane essays the heavy role and sings the opening number, 'Did Anyone Ever Tell You'. Allen Jenkins gets in some comedy as Vallee's aide and has a chance to show his hoofing in one sequence with Miss Miller. Joan Merrill, working with the Six Hits and a Miss in the title song and soloing with 'As If You Didn't Know', is a particularly bright spot in the proceedings. The Six Hits and a Miss are vocally good.

The Three Stooges sock over their zany comedy for surefire laughs. Brenda and Cobina will please only their ardent fans. Eddie Durant's Rhumba orchestra and Glen Gray and His Casa Loma band offer fine presentation of the songs by Sammy Cahn and Saul Chaplin. Pee Wee Hunt, of the Casa Loma band, makes a specialty number of 'Boogie Woogie Man'. Musical direction under M. W. Stoloff and the dance staging by LeRoy Prinz are first class jobs.

Sidney Salkow had a chore in blending the story and specialties together into some semblance of order. The results are creditable. Irving Starr marshalled the production ingredients well. Franz F. Planer's camera work gives much to the staging of the numbers, as does the art direction of Lionel Banks. Writing credits are divided between Edmund L. Hartmann and Bert Lawrence for the script and Bert Granet for the story based on Alex Ruben's play.

20th-Fox Points for Boom During Next Month's Prod.

20th-Fox is pointing for another production boom early next month, after having dropped to a current four productions from the 10 in work two weeks ago. 'Marry the Boss' Daughter', Thornton Vreeland, rolls June 3, and six days later four start simultaneously—'How Green Was My Valley', 'Riders of the Purple Sage', 'Man At Large' and 'We Go Fast.'

'Week End In Havana' starts June 16, to be followed on June 30 by 'Confirm or Deny' and 'Remember the Day.'

Play Review

NAUGHTY MARIETTA

Scarcely better than the first offering is the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera Association's second operetta, Victor Herbert's 'Naughty Marietta', with the top roles sung by Francia White and Wilbur Evans. Philharmonic Auditorium was well-filled, attesting to the popularity of Herbert's music and a good publicity campaign.

Sterling Holloway, ot pictures, supplied most of the laughs. Fortunately, he didn't have to sing anything but that sad little ditty, 'If I Were Anybody But Me'. He did it in grand style, with the help of Vera Marshe. Miss White's return to Los Angeles was something of a civic occasion, with a speech by the Mayor. She was in good voice throughout the evening, putting over her numbers with the right measure of dash and brilliance required by her role. Evans was an able Captain Warrington. Warren Hull, as Etienne Grandet, was without any voice at all, but his acting was adequate. Support was good from Harry Holman, Frank Yaconelli and Mady Correll.

Aida Broadbent ballet was much the best thing in the show. Costuming was excellent. Choral ensembles were very weak.

Gable, Turner Complete Tests for 'Tonk'

Clark Gable and Lana Turner are completing tests this week to start 'Honkey Tonk' at Metro next Monday. Frank Morgan has been added to top support role as Miss Turner's father. Jack Conway will direct.

'Blood and Sand' Bally Includes Dance Awards

Working in conjunction with the 20th-Fox studio, George Watters of the Fox-West Coast first run exploitation department has staged a comprehensive campaign for 'Blood and Sand', which gets under way at the circuit's State and Chinese theatres tomorrow. Total of 110 24 sheet boards have been posted. In addition a Fiesta celebration has been arranged with the Palladium dance resort, covering 10 days, in which F-WC is donating prizes for the best Spanish dancers, as well as loving cups for the best Spanish costumes. Tieup has also been made on Olvera street whereby 60 feet of space is devoted to 24-sheet cutouts.

To further publicize the attraction all of the trams that operate in the Venice-Ocean Park beach areas have been contracted for space; two traveling trucks are out and numerous radio tieups have been arranged.

Simone Simon Personals Keeps Her in East

Simone Simon stays over in the east until the first part of July to fill three weeks of personals. French actress opens for a week in Pittsburgh (30) and then goes to Philadelphia for another week. She will follow with a return booking at the Loew's State, New York, marking her second date at that house within the past three months.

Tony Martin Deal

Tony Martin's 39-week deal with Woodbury will be terminated next month. He is being offered for a fall series at the head of a 30-minute variety show.

Otto Kruger Works

Otto Kruger yesterday started his top support role in Gregory Ratoff's production, 'Tonight Belongs to Us', at Columbia.

Heading East

Vera Zorina (TWA)
Walter Wade (UP)
Barrett C. Kiesling (TWA)

In from the East

Arthur Kelly
Arthur Murray
Jean Hersholt (AA)
Alfred Hitchcock (TWA)
Jose Iturbi (TWA)
Lillian Gish (SF)
Thornton Sargent
Harrison Holliway

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

MARY JO JAMES, whose mother has conducted the Repertory Theatre in Seattle for the past 15 years, has been signed to a term contract by Warners after a test made while she was here on a three-day vacation. Girl, who is 22, took the test only because Sophie Rosenstein, Warners drama coach, prevailed upon her to read some lines for Lionel Trilling. Drama coach, also from Seattle, formerly was a fellow-faculty member with Mrs. Florence James at the University of Washington. Miss James read from 'The Gentle People' and, following day, took a test in 'The Philadelphia Story' and 'A Bill of Divorcement'. Girl was not angling for the job, taking the test only to please her friend. Her mother and father, Burton James, before going to Seattle, operated a settlement house club in New York where Jimmy Cagney gained his first dramatic experience.

Claire Trevor, Rita Hayworth, Ruth Hussey and Ellen Drew volunteered to appear in the trailer made at Columbia studio last night to help the sale of the government's defense bonds.

LEAH RHODES will design the costumes for leading femme players, Brenda Marshall, Alexis Smith and Lee Patrick, in Warners 'The Smiling Ghost'. Until this promotion she has been an assistant to Orry-Kelly. . . . Emilio de Lavigne of 20th-Fox legal department, and Gertrude Buckman, secretary in the department, are to be married this week end. . . . Patsy Kelly, Bradford Ropes and Otto von Malde were party guests at Leone's last night prior to going to Orpheum theatre for personal appearance.

The Merry Macs, in Universal's 'San Antonio Rose', are working on a set that is the replica of WCCO broadcasting rooms, in Minneapolis, where they made their debut.

SECRETARIES at Metro studio yesterday tossed a shower for Betty Wood Vedder, sec to Producer Edgar Selwyn who will retire to private life May 31. She was married three years ago. . . . Thornton Sargent returned over the weekend from a two weeks' trip to New York. He stopped off en route at Lansing, Mich., where he acquired a new car and with Mrs. Sargent drove the remaining distance into Los Angeles. . . . Hollywood group, including Brian Aherne, Bert Allenberg, Mervyn LeRoy, Jack Conway, possibly Henry Fonda and the 'Navy Blues' Sextette, plane and train to Leland Hayward's Phoenix school for training cadets for U. S. Army Air Corps where first batch of 52 will be graduated on Thursday.

LENI LYNN "Angels With Broken Wings" Under contract REPUBLIC WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc.

Production Starts On Trainee Film At Republic

Production started yesterday at Republic on a War Department training film, 'The 60mm Mortar', being made under supervision of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Les Auerbach is directing, with Harry Knight as assistant director, Herbert Mendelsohn as unit manager, William Nobles and William Bradford handling the camera, Howard O'Neill as film editor, and Ferol Redd, Ed Ullman and Frank Gohrbach handling sound recording.

Major C. S. Stodter will supervise as War Department liaison officer, assisted by Lieut. Col. Gordon P. Savage, and Lieut. Richard C. Wittman as technical advisers. Troops and equipment from the Fortieth Division have been sent to Hollywood from Fort Ord to appear in the film.

Near Sellout for 'Kane' Seen in Frisco

San Francisco, May 26.—'Citizen Kane' will open strong Tuesday at the Geary with a near sellout probable. By genuine coincidence Orson Welles and William Randolph Hearst both checked into the Fairmount Monday afternoon. When asked what he intended to do Welles replied, 'It's a great temptation to send him a note and some tickets but I am afraid he might not take it right. I have been lurking in halls and elevators but nothing has happened yet'.

Guy Rennie's Routine

Guy Rennie, producing shows for the 10 Hull hotels, goes to El Rancho Vegas, Las Vegas, for Memorial Day weekend (29-1) show. He takes along an aquacade revue and pianist-composer Jesse Colbert.

Lucas vice Durante

San Francisco, May 26. — Nick Lucas will replace Jimmy Durante at the 'Stairway to the Stars' nitery Wednesday.

Edmunds at Warners

Frankie Edmunds, former Screen Actors Guild checker, is now employed in the casting department at Warners.

Story Buys

Republic has bought 'Yokel Boy', which Lou Brown wrote and produced on Broadway in 1939 with Buddy Ebsen heading the cast. Studio plans to make the legiter one of its bigger budget pictures for 1941-42. Price was $50,000.

'Two Women', French Goncourt prize novel by Maxcence van der Mersch, has been bought by Metro.

20th-Fox has bought 'Draft Letter', an original by Dave Schwartz.

Lum, Abner Insertion

Lum and Abner, who initiated a new series last night on NBC coast red network, will be inserted from here Saturday night on Alka Seltzer's Barn Dance airing from Chicago.

ASCAP LOSES APPEAL AGAINST STATE LAWS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

no Federal statute specifically granting copyright holders the right to act in concert to protect themselves the states can forbid group action to fix prices and dictate terms on which music can be performed, Associate Justice Hugo L. Black declared.

The decision was a green light for other states to enact statutes of the kind sponsored for several years by the National Association of Broadcasters. Considering the technical points, the highest tribunal held that the three-judge court which outlawed the 1937 Florida law was wrong in failing to consider the legislature's statement that the law could be separated. In regard to the 1939 act the provisions considered by the Federal District court were only trimmings and not the heart of the statute. The same applies in regard to the Nebraska act.

'Federal injunctions against state laws are not to be issued as a matter of course,' Justice Black said, 'and the mere statement of state officers that they will enforce acts of their legislatures is no ''threat'' to inflict ''irreparable injury'' on copyright holders.'

Ascap's only claim to an injunction against the Florida law grows out of the first section—prohibiting associations formed for the purpose of price-fixing—and this section was not passed on by the Federal court, Justice Black observed. 'There is no doubt', he added, 'that the copyright pool is subject to the statute and is designed to dictate the conditions under which copyrighted works can be reproduced.

BLACK'S REMARKS

'Passing upon the possible significance of the manifold provisions of a broad statute in advance of efforts to apply the separate provisions is analogous to rendering an advisory opinion upon a statute for a declaratory judgment upon a hpyothetical case', Justice Black reprimanded.

The consent decree entered in New York, winding up the Department of Justice attack, has no bearing on the fights of states to regulate copyright pools, the opinion held. Justice Black said that states can control purely intrastate transactions and forbid restraint of local trade even if there were no Sherman act. Declared the Court spokesman: 'Unless constitutionally valid Federal legislation has granted to individual copyright owners the right to combine, the state's power validly to prohibit the prescribed combinations cannot be held non-existent merely because such individuals can preserve their property rights better in combination than they can as individuals. We find nothing in the copyright laws which purports to grant to copyright owners the privilege of combining in violation of otherwise valid state or Federal laws. We have, in fact, determined to the contrary with relation to other copyright privileges. But complainants urge that there is a distinction between our previous holding and the question here. This contention is based on the idea that Congress has granted the copyright privilege with relation to public performances of music and that with reference to the protection of this particular privilege combination is essential. We are therefore asked to conclude from the asserted necessities of their situation that Congress intended to grant this extraordinary privilege of combination. This we cannot do.'

Cal. Tenney Bill Appears Dead

Sacramento, May 26. — The so-called anti-Ascap bill prohibiting pooling of musical compositions is apparently dead for this session of the California Legislature. Assemblyman Jack Tenney, of Inglewood, who introduced the measure, has placed it on the ''inactive file' and has no intentions of taking it up.

Tenney is silent on his reasons for abandoning the measure but it is understood he believes Ascap is now living up to most of the provisions of AB 798 and feels that legislation is not necessary after all.

Governor Olson today signed AB 1479, presented by Assemblyman Franklin Potter, Los Angeles, requiring that managers guarantee wages for actors and others employed on theatrical productions. This bill provides that managers must put up security to cover wages with a bank or trust company. The measure becomes effective 90 days after adjournment.

Robson Joins 'Passage'

Flora Robson leaves Hollywood for Salt Cay off the coast of Florida the end of the week to join the cast of 'Bahama Passage' for Paramount.

Blystone Assigned

Stanley Blystone is set for 'Under Fiesta Stars' at Republic and 'Mystery Ship' at Columbia on deals agented by Sue Carol.

XTRA RECLASSIFICATION SEEN DURING WEEK

Deal between the Producers and the Screen Actors Guild covering reclassification of extra pay brackets will be washed up this week. Most of the differences were ironed out Saturday at a meeting between representatives of the two groups. Final draft of proposals is scheduled to be okayed by Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, and Kenneth Thomson, SAG executive secretary.

The revisions will eliminate the $8.25 and $11 brackets and establish a $10 call to replace them. The use of $5.50 extras also will be limited to call for 50 or more players. The revisions also will provide improved conditions for small free-lance actors and day players.

Van Dyke To Revive 'Thin Man' Series At Metro

Major W. S. Van Dyke II will get his retirement from the U. S. Marine Corps this week, after having served seven months at the San Diego base, and returns to Metro to revive the 'Thin Man' series within the next few weeks. First directorial assignment will be 'Shadow of the Thin Man', a Hunt Stromberg production.

Retirement is based on report by Marines Medical staff after a month's observation at hospital that Van Dyke is afflicted with bronchial disturbance. Official action is to be taken by Marine Corps Survey Board on Thursday, which director will attend in San Diego. Action by the board is a necessary preliminary for permission to return to civilian work. Final action will be taken by the Retirement Board, perhaps two to three months hence.

Van Dyke yesterday explained that he cannot enter into any deal or specify any salary with Metro at this time, but would have to work purely for what the studio might voluntarily offer. He is still on government salary and may not take remuneration from a private job. He will remain in reserve, subject to call in case of emergency. His outfit is the 10th Marines, 2nd Battalion of the 2nd Division.

Hope Troupes North For Army 'cast

Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour, David Butler and a troupe of 40 leave this morning for Camp San Luis Obispo where Hope will do his regular Tuesday Pepsodent broadcast. Show will be given first in a tent to 2,200 officers and men and later in the open to around 10,000 draftees at the camp.

F-WC Donation

Fox West Coast Theatres and employes yesterday donated $5,000 to the United Service Organizations' campaign for funds to provide recreational and social facilities in camps and defense industries. Checks were presented by Charles P. Skouras, president of the theatre chain, to Dr. A. H. Giannini, chairman of the Los Angeles board of the U.S.O.

'Fantasia' Big in Frisco

San Francisco, May 26. — 'Fantasia' got an amazing 12 G's on its final eight days here.

Births

GIRL weighing four pounds, 13 ounces, was born yesterday to Mrs. Al Span at Cedars of Lebanon. Father is producer at KNX.

Quite a Sub!

The 'Blondie' airshow, which started as a summer sub, wound up its 100th broadcast last night over CBS for Camels.

IDEAL SPOT FOR WRITER
3 bedroom French type home with nice view. Desirable location. Nice Yard. Less than $12,000.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR. 67151

Huge Jump Reported In Film Payroll For April

Production upswing during the month of April paid off wage earners to the tune of an average weekly payroll of $702,190, or $103,909 more than the total collected by the motion picture workers, exclusive of talent and executives, during the month of March. Figures released by the California Labor Statistics Bulletin show payrolls were up 17.4% during April as compared to the preceding month and were 13.8% better than in April, 1940.

Average number of wage earners also increased from 14,074 during March to 14,827 during April, an increase of 5.4% and a 7.1% jump over the same month of 1940. Average weekly pay checks jumped 11.4% rising from $42.51 per week in March to $47.36 per week in April, a 6.3% increase over April, 1940. Hourly rate of pay moved up slightly, figuring $1.308 during April against $1.305 in March, and a 1.7% jump over April, 1940. Average number of hours worked each week also increased due to demands for wage earners. Latter put in an average of 36.2 hours to collect their weekly check, as against 32.6 hours during March.

U Starts 'Mob Town'

'Mob Town', with William Nigh directing, started yesterday at Universal. Darryl Hickman was added to the cast which includes Billy Halop, Huntz Hall, Gabriel Dell, Bernard Punsley, Victor Kilian, Anne Gwynne, Dick Foran and John Butler.

Warwick's 'Travels'

Robert Warwick draws the producer role in 'Sullivan's Travels' at Paramount, taking part originally slated for Raymond Walburn. Jan Buckingham will play Mrs. Sullivan.

a.m. Dailies

Girl Sues Loew's, Inc.—
Mary Elizabeth Young, former Ziegfeld Follies girl, yesterday filed a plagiarism suit in New York in the Federal court against Loew's, Inc., alleging that the picture entitled 'Ziegfeld Girl' contained duplication of scenes and material from her book of the same title. Miss Young, known as Bettie McDonald in the 1926-30 Follies, sought $3,000 damages and an accounting of the profits from the film 'Ziegfeld Girl.'

Chas. Ray to Wed—
Charles E. Ray, film actor, yesterday filed notice of intention to marry Yvonne Guerin over the weekend or on Monday. The coming marriage will be Ray's second and the first time for Miss Guerin.

Robt. Stack Injured—
Robert Stack suffered body and head injuries yesterday when his hydroplane overturned and broke up in the 225 cubic inch race at Merced, Cal. His injuries were reportedly not serious.

Will Rogers, Jr., Marries—
Will Rogers, Jr., 29, son of the late humorist, was married yesterday to Collier Connell, 29, in Las Vegas, Nev. Justice of the Peace B. Mahlon Brown performed the ceremony.

LEWIS TELLS AAA REASONS FOR CLEARANCE CHANGE

Otis W. Lewis, operator of the Mission Playhouse in San Gabriel, took the witness stand before Arbitrator Herbert Cameron yesterday afternoon in an endeavor to substantiate his complaint against leading distribution companies why picture clearance as applied to his theatre is unreasonable. Lewis has started action before the American Arbitration Association seeking a 28-day clearance off Pasadena, instead of the 21-day clearance off Alhambra now provided his house.

He contended that failure of Alhambra to avail itself of the seven-day availability after Pasadena first run closing was responsible for his being forced to follow 39 to 40 days in some instances, and this, he contends, is being reflected by depleted grosses at the Playhouse.

Following the Lewis testimony adjournment was taken until June 3, at which time the hearing will be resumed.

Earlier in the day Attorney Herbert T. Silverberg, representing 20th-Fox and Loew's, Inc., was successful in having the former company eliminated as a defendant because of its financial interest in the Fox-West Coast operated houses in Pasadena and Alhambra.

Most of the morning session yesterday was devoted to opening statement of Rufus Bailey, attorney representing Lewis, and the introduction of a statement into the records by Arthur Freston (Freston & Files), attorneys for Warners.

Following the Silverberg motion Attorney Bailey admitted that 20th-Fox had a financial interest in the Alhambra Amusement Co., a F-WC subsidiary, but insisted that this did not apply to the Edwards Circuit houses, against which the Lewis complaint is primarily aimed.

Financial holdings of F-WC in the various houses were enumerated by John Betero, of the F-WC legal staff. He stated that 20th-Fox Film Corporation owns 42% of National Theatres Corp., which in turn owns all of F-WC. Latter, he stated, owns the major stock of the United Artists.

In addition to wanting to play product 28 days after Pasadena first run closing, Lewis is seeking to get clearance over Rosemead and Garvey, operated by the Edwards Theatre circuit, and which are now daydated with the San Gabriel Playhouse.

Attorney Bailey called James Edwards (Edwards circuit), as his second witness and then called A. L. Sanborn, who with James Rennie operates the El Monte theatre at El Monte, and who are also seeking clearance adjustments at the hands of the AAA.

Upon resumption of the Lewis hearing next Tuesday indications are it will require four or five days to complete the case for both sides. Lewis hearing is the first of three complaints filed with the AAA, all having to do with alleged unreasonable clearances demanded by major distribs.

Benny Baker Back

Benny Baker, who was on Broadway with the 'DuBarry Was a Lady' show has returned to Hollywood for picture work. Small Company represents him.

Planted

Columbia

Irving Bacon, Betty Blythe, Grace Darmond, 'Our Wife.'

George Cleveland, Earl Gunn, Ben Taggart, Dutch Hendrian, Max Wagner, Duke York, Ed Peil, Sr., Harry Almont, Bud Geary, 'Texas.'

Warners

Lottie Williams, 'Dive Bomber.'
Audra Lindley, 'Navy Blues.'

Preview 'Dragon'

Walt Disney's 'The Reluctant Dragon', combination live action and animation feature starring Robert Benchley, will be press previewed tomorrow afternoon at 4 p.m. Reviewers have been invited to meet at the Disney studio at 2:30 p.m. for a tour of the lot and will be given a buffet supper at 5:30 following the screening.

20th Sets Editors

Robert Bischoff editing film on 20th-Fox 'Charley's Aunt'. Walter Thompson ditto on 'Wild Geese Calling'.

Frisco Reports Chaplin Wins in Kustoff 'Times' Suit

The San Francisco Court of Appeals has ruled in favor of Charles Chaplin in the plagiarism case brought by Michael Kustoff in connection with 'Modern Times', according to word received here by Chaplin's attorneys, Loyd Wright and Pat Millikan. The Circuit Court thus sustained the original verdict given in Los Angeles by U. S. District Court Judge McCormick several months ago.

Suit against Chaplin, charging that 'Modern Times' was taken from a story entitled 'Against Great Walls', written by Kustoff, was filed in March 1939. Kustoff asked for an injunction, an accounting of all profits from production and distribution, and that he be declared the owner of the film.

RKO's International Convention Set in New York June 16-19

RKO's international sales convention will be held June 16 to June 19 at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York. Group of studio execs headed by George Schaefer, prexy, will leave here June 13 to arrive in New York for the opening session. Accompanying Schaefer east will be J. R. McDonough, Joe Breen, Reggie Armour and Perry Lieber, in addition to a number of producers.

ANGELS WITH BROKEN WINGS
BINNIE BARNES • GILBERT ROLAND
MARY LEE
BILLY GILBERT • JANE FRAZEE • EDWARD NORRIS
KATHARINE ALEXANDER • LEO GORCEY • LOIS RANSON • LENI LYNN • MARILYN HARE
BERNARD VORHAUS, Director • Screen play by George Carlton Brown and Bradford Ropes • Original story by George Carlton Brown
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

BINNIE BARNES
She's no angel....
She's a witch with an itching palm.

Jean Renoir Directs 20th 'Swamp Water' As His Initialer

First director assignment at 20th-Fox for Jean Renoir will be 'Swamp Water.'

Irving Pichel will work with Renoir as collaborating pilot, handling dialog direction. Dudley Nichols did the script from the Vereen Bell novel.

Plug for 'York'

'Valley of Heroes', a two-reeler in Technicolor, with the locale of the Cumberland Valley in Tennessee, is being made by Warners to go out before the release of 'Sergeant York'. Alvin York, for whom the feature is named, lives in this region. Owen Crump wrote the original and Gordon Hollingshead will produce.

Carpenter Refutation

Joseph Carpenter, former head of Technicians Local 37, stated yesterday that he was never in any way connected with the United Studio Technicians Guild.

Open New Theatre

Harry M. Popkin, Jack Y. Berman and Pete Lasher open their new Vern theatre at 2811 E. Olympic blvd. tonight.

Title Changes

Universal's 'Sandy Steps Out' to 'Bachelor Daddy.'

MCA TO TAKEOVER COL ARTISTS TALENT BUREAU

● Continued from page 1 ●

lieved the William Morris agency may set a similar deal with NBC's Artist Bureau subsidiary.

Although not as yet official, it is understood that MCA will pay from $250,000 upwards in the takeover. It also is possible that Columbia Concerts division will revert to individual managers in the setup. Deal was engineered by William S. Paley, president of CBS and Jules C. Stein, MCA prexy, who flew in from the Coast a fortnight ago for the purpose.

Understood there will be a contingency in the contract covering possible talent union difficulties, both CBS and MCA officials reputedly taking cognizance of possibility that American Federation of Actors will not like such a mass exchange of talent from one agency to another, despite the fact that many agency contracts with talent permit such assignment.

Deal is one of the biggest ever in agency ranks and stems from Federal Communication Commissions' crackdown on radio networks as monopolies.

It also probably is related to Coast Attorney Martin Gang's blast a few months ago against radio network controlled artist bureaus as monopolies in restraint of the trade of independent agencies. Gang filed a brief with the FCC on behalf of a few Hollywood agencies saying indies could not compete with networks offering performers sustaining time as bait to sign managerial contracts.

It is reported CBS' prexy Paley also had talked with the William Morris agency on same type of deal.

'Gold' Opens June 14

James Roosevelt's 'Pot o' Gold' which United Artists is distributing, will be given its Los Angeles first run at the day-date State and Chinese theatres starting June 4. It follows 'Blood and Sand' (20th) which opens at the two theatres tomorrow. Another opening scheduled for June 4 is 'Rage in Heaven' (Metro), preeming at the Four Star.

Losse Directs Icer

Harry Losse yesterday was signed by Republic to direct the ice-skating sequences in 'Ice-Capades of 1941.'

MacMichael, Paige Will Do Film 'Frying'

Florence MacMichael and Mabel Paige, currently in the New York play, 'Out of the Frying Pan', have been signed at Paramount to repeat their roles in studio's picturization of the piece. They will arrive here in the fall for film work on deals that carry options for further pictures.

Bolger in Frisco

Ray Bolger planed to San Francisco to open a week's personal at the Golden Gate theatre with RKO's 'Sunny'.

Monogram Schedules Four Pictures For June Release

Monogram has scheduled four pictures for June release, starting off June 4 with 'Wranglers' Roost', latest in the Range Busters series of westerns produced by Sam Katzman.

'The Gang's All Here', Lindsley Parsons production, goes out June 11. 'Wanderers of the West', first of four Tom Keene westerns produced by Robert Tansey is scheduled for June 25 and 'Murder By Appointment', A. W. Hackel production, on June 30.

Col Terms Donald Davis

Columbia yesterday put under term contract Donald Davis, New York playwright who authored the stage plays 'Ethan Frome' and 'The Good Earth.'

Ill in Pix

JANE TRACY, of the Warners flackery, is recovering at home from scalp cuts and leg contusions suffered when her horse stepped over a 10-foot bank and fell upon her. She is the wife of Sterling Tracy, KNX producer.

FRED MacMURRAY recovered from his illness of the past few days and returned to work at Warners yesterday.

BOBBY WEBB, Republic casting director, home in bed suffering from a cold in his shoulder.

"SHINING VICTORY"

"... is the achievement of a new director, Irving Rapper. He seems to inspire splendid acting."

L. A. Times.

IRVING RAPPER

"... proves in his first picture that he has full knowledge of mature, dramatic values ... deserves the highest praise for the skilful handling of his players."

Daily News.

DIRECTOR

"... Irving Rapper is to be praised for his attention to incidental business that so many new directors overlook. 'Shining Victory' is a most promising piece of direction."

Hollywood Reporter.

"A great deal of the credit for the success of 'Shining Victory' must go to Irving Rapper, the director, who handles the subject with clean cut accuracy and with deep feeling."

Hollywood Citizen-News.

"Too much cannot be said about Rapper's splendid direction. He tells his story with detail as an author spins an engrossing novel."

L. A. Examiner.

WARNER BROS.

"... presents a production of directorial distinction. Rapper's style is smooth."

Daily Variety.

SCREEN WRITERS PUSH CLEARING COMMITTEE

Continued from page 1

nounces that a series of broadcasts will be presented as part of a large publicity campaign to acquaint all guilds and the public with problems confronting craft groups and unions in Hollywood. Another meeting of Committee representatives is to be called soon.

At the same time it was disclosed that the SWG group named to investigate the advisability of affiliating with a national labor organization will soon become active, especially if the Guild negotiating committee fails to make any progress at its parley with company representatives tonight. Pledges of support have already been received by the SWG from the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

The Guild is now raising a war chest that is expected to reach $100,000, and plans to take a strike vote at any time it becomes apparent that an agreement with the major companies is not possible. The SWG executive board met last night to discuss the negotiations and to plan future moves.

Following the board meeting a statement was given out disclosing that steps are being taken to block the sale of story material to the Producers in the event the scriveners call a stoppage of work. The statement follows:

'Formal action in support of the current SWG negotiations with the Producers will be taken at a special meeting of the Authors League Council and the Dramatists Guild membership in New York tomorrow night. This assurance was given the executive board of the SWG in a telegram received from Elmer Rice, president of the Authors League.

'Rice said that the Screen Writers objective seemed moderate and equitable and that he was convinced they will be supported by all the members of the League. In a long distance telephone conversation the executive secretary of the Authors League stated:

'The Council will invoke the provisions of the Authors League Constitution, making effective immediately an order preventing members from accepting employment from Producers and calling for a membership vote to refrain from selling material to Producers during any critical situation arising from negotiations.

'Consideration of definite action to be taken by the Painters Local 644 in relation to the SWG negotiations with Producers was deferred until the next regular membership meeting on June 8, according to notice received last night. In the meantime it was stated by the Painters Local there is a provision on their books stating any member going through a legitimate picket line will be fined.'

Obituary

NORTON C. TRAVIS

Funeral services for Norton C. Travis, cameraman who filmed 'The Perils of Pauline', Theda Bara productions and other early pictures, will be held tomorrow at the Pierce Bros. Hollywood Chapel with interment following at Valhalla cemetery. Travis, aged 60, died at his home in Los Angeles last Saturday (24). He was believed to have been the oldest film cameraman in point of service, starting in 1900 with Vitagraph when the studios were on the roof of the New York Times building.

He worked for most of the major film companies and was active in recent years. Surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Mary Brewer, Mrs. Myrtle Cassiday and Mrs. Sue Hawkins, all of Brooklyn, N. Y.

GODFREY CRAIG

Funeral services for Godfrey Craig, film actor, who died yesterday at the age of 26, will be held Saturday (31) at 2 p.m. at Inglewood Chapel. Craig at one time appeared in the 'Our Gang' comedies and in other films, notably 'Irish Shamrock', 'Blue Skies' and 'Mayor of Hell'. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Craig, a sister, Adeline, actress, and a brother, Bill.

MARY R. MITCHELL

Funeral services for Mary Ruth Mitchell, 35, screen actress who played in numerous films in the early '30's, were held yesterday in the Little Church of the Flowers, followed by interment in Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Miss Mitchell, who died Wednesday (21), appeared in a number of Joe E. Brown comedies. She retired three years ago.

MANOS RITES

Masonic funeral services will be held today at the Westlake Masonic Lodge for James A. Manos, world famous maitre d'hotel who was in the service of the Ambassador hotel for 18 years. Burial is to take place in Forest Lawn. Manos, whose mother survives in Greece, died Saturday (24) in Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

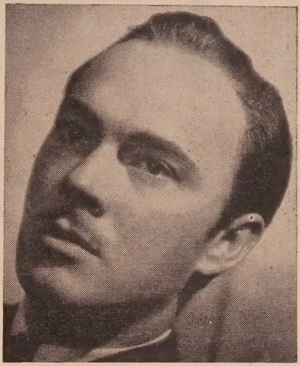
MRS. ALICE D. DEKOCK

Funeral services will be held at Forest Lawn Thursday morning for Mrs. Alice Davis Dekock, 73, mother of George and Edward Davis, who died yesterday. Services will be conducted at the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, with interment in Forest Lawn. She was the wife of Hubert Dekock, who also survives.

Wilson Collison Rites

Private cremation in charge of the Wilshire Funeral Home, Santa Monica, was held yesterday for Wilson Collison, 47, originator of the 'Maisie' character in films, who died Sunday (25) at his home in Beverly Hills.

CRITICAL COMMENTS AFTER JOHN BEAL'S RECENT PERFORMANCE IN THE THEATRE GUILD PRODUCTION OF PHILIP BARRY'S PLAY WITH MUSIC, "LIBERTY JONES"



JOHN BEAL

John Beal is one of the best actors in our theatre, and he plays the hero with manliness and decision.

Brooks Atkinson,
New York Times

John Beal, one of the finest actors appearing on the American stage today.

Edgar Price,
Brooklyn Citizen

John Beal, who has never given a poor performance, is admirable.

Dorothy Kilgallen,
N. Y. Journal American

Mr. Beal, one of our better leading men, personifies Tom Smith, to which role he brings strength and amazing credibility.

Ethel Colby,
N. Y. Journal of Commerce

Mr. John Beal turns in a most forceful and commanding performance. Mr. Beal possesses one of the most dynamic personalities of any young actor of our day.

Jack Mitchell, KBNX

John Beal is a handsome and eloquent defender of Miss Liberty.

Robert Coleman,
N. Y. Mirror

John Beal does an astoundingly fine job as Tom, bringing humanity, great sincerity and clarity to the role. It is a beautiful acting job.

Eugene Burr,
Billboard

John Beal is Tom Smith, and plays with fine intelligence, ease, energy and charm.

Kelcey Allen,
N. Y. Women's Wear

The finest element in his performance, however, proceeds from some inner source, personal and at the same time extraordinarily lyric.

Stark Young,
New Republic

John Beal, one of the stage and cinema's favored, plays young Tom Smith with ardor, conviction and technical resource. His inherent wholesomeness is an asset, his sound technique a help, his eagerness and enthusiasm nicely in character.

Burns Mantle,
N. Y. News

John Beal is excellent. Mr. Beal has a manly grace about his acting and he embodies a real sense of American sincerity.

John Beaufort,
Christian Science Monitor

As her knight in armor John Beal cuts a handsome figure on the stage, and the lofty forthrightness of his performance must inspire the patriotism which inspired "Liberty Jones."

George Ross,
N. Y. World Telegram

John Beal is more than acceptable from all angles. He plays the role sincerely, energetically and stirringly.

Bone, N. Y. Variety

John Beal danced and acted through a performance that will leave the rest of Broadway's romantic leads green with envy.

Yale Daily News

Mr. Beal again proves that he is one of our most ingratiating young actors.

Grenville Vernon,
The Commonweal

Beal is regarded as one of the best performers hereabouts.

Ed Sullivan,
N. Y. Sunday News

John Beal brilliant actor.

Vic Levitt,
Trade Union Service

John Beal is a forceful and convincing actor.

Martin Weldon, WINS

John Beal does a heroic and wholesome job.

Harry Hershfield,
N. Y. Mirror

Mr. Beal was handsome and forthright and courageous and everything else he was supposed to be.

Richard P. Cooke,
Wall Street Journal

John Beal is a substantial and dashing Tom Smith.

James O'Neill,
Camden Courier Post

Tom Smith is played by the ever-reliable John Beal.

Jack Gaver, U.P. Hollywood Citizen-News

John Beal is properly dynamic and courageous as Tom Smith.

Howard Barnes, WOR

Current Assignment:
"THE DEVIL TO PAY" (Columbia)

Management:
MCA ARTISTS LTD.

Strike at Disney Plant Gets Underway

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

session in the Blossom room in the hotel, where the 600 members present voted unanimously to approve the strike action. Similar action was taken in the case of Schlesinger, the Schlesinger unit first voting in favor of a strike and then getting approval from the general membership.

The Guild immediately appointed strike strategy committees in the Disney unit to handle publicity, pickets, ways and means, auxiliary, office, etc. It also was announced that the boycott committee of the San Fernando Valley Central Labor Council is meeting this afternoon to take steps to have the Disney products placed on the unfair list of the American Federation of Labor. Joseph Clarke, International vice-president of the Brotherhood of Painters, is en route here from Tacoma to represent the International in the Disney walkout.

A meeting has been called by Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer, for 3 p.m. today of all unions involved in the Disney dispute. These are understood to include the Office Workers, Cartoonists, Teamsters, Cameramen, and Film Editors. At that time strike policies will be discussed.

A Guild committee is scheduled to meet with Leon Schlesinger today in an effort to reach an agreement that will prevent the walkout scheduled at that studio tomorrow. Tops said the Guild had already made several concessions to Schlesinger, including one calling for an apprentice period for inkers and painters. They claim, however, Harry Sadicoff, Schlesinger attorney is attempting to hedge on certain provisions that were agreed to before the men returned to work. The situation was discussed yesterday at a conference between Schlesinger and Herbert Sorrell and attorney George E. Bodle representing the Guild.

Guild tops stated there was no other alternative but to order a strike at Disney. They said the 'discriminatory firing' of 14 employes, including five Guild leaders, formation of the American Society of Screen Cartoonists, and refusal of the company to bargain made it necessary that the workers take drastic action in order to protect their interests.

An unsuccessful effort to effect a settlement was made yesterday afternoon at a conference between Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact, Herbert Sorrell, Aubrey Blair and attorney George E. Bodle. Spreckels, however, said that Disney still refused to recognize the SCG as bargaining representative for the cartoonists without an election by the National Labor Relations Board.

Approximately 800 employes will be affected by the strike order at Disney's. Of that number about 500 are claimed by the Cartoonists. About 185 would be affected by the strike call at Schlesinger's.

Tobias Joins 'Tanks'

George Tobias will join Warners 'The Tanks Are Coming' troupe next week at Fort Knox, Ky. Player is latest addition to the preparedness short cast which Breezy Eason directs. Tobias leaves here Saturday.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Pocket o' Gold
Pocket o' Gold	Inintime	Pocket o' Gold	Oso Mac	Lady Silver	Liberty Lad
Oso Mac	Fight'g Words	Fight'g Words	Pocket o' Gold	Anaokia	Inintime
2—Clipper II	2—Single Wing	2—Single Wing	2—Clipper II	2—Clipper II	2—Clipper II
Single Wing	Clipper II	Clipper II	Single Wing	Tory Tom	Single Wing
Irrelevant	Irrelevant	Irrelevant	Irrevelant	Single Wing	Tory Tom
3—Lover's Lass	3—Seedoe	3—Gatita	3—Lover's Loss	3—Lover's Lass	3—Lover's Lass
Esco-Mac	Lover's Lass	Seedoe	Seedoe	Esco-Mac	Seedoe
Seedoe	Gatita	Lover's Lass	Gatita	Seedoe	Preview Actor
4—Do Justice	4—Do Justice	4—Do Justice	4—Rain Crystal	4—Agnes S.	4—Do Justice
Her Did	Her Did	Her Did	Her Did	Rain Crystal	Her Did
Soberano	Valdina Joy	Soberano	Do Justice	Hi Briar	Anita Chiquita
5—Cinesar	5—Cinesar	5—Air Speed	5—Cal Naishapur	5—Cinesar	5—Cinesar
Air Speed	Florencita	Cinesar	Indeed	Florencita	Indeed
Indeed	Indeed	Showindo	Showindo	Cal Naishapur	Air Speed
6—Xenomay	6—Xenomay	6—Xenomay	6—Palmera T.	6—Xenomay	6—Xenomay
Torch Betty	Southern Jane	Palmera T.	Torch Betty	Carlottine	Torch Betty
Southern Jane	Palmert T.	Southern Jane	Xenomay	Clarcarole	Twist
7—Stella Gold	7—Stella Gold	7—Stella Gold	7—Stella Gold	7—Stella Gold	7—Sword Play
Valdina Knave	Sword Play	Sword Play	Dinti	Sword Play	Valdina Knave
Sword Play	Dinti	Dinti	Valdina Knave	Dinti	MacFinnell
8—Patan	8—Candy Hero	8—Candy Hero	8—Candy Hero	8—Candy Hero	8—Patan
Candy Hero	Patan	Linum	Heno Lion	Patan	Candy Hero
Hijo Manso	Linum	Hijo Manso	Max Forst	Linum	Linum

IA LOCALS SEEK IMMEDIATE PROD. SESH

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

lations committee to start negotiating contract revisions.

At the same time, it is reported that a communication was sent to Louis Krouse, IATSE national secretary, apprising him of the action taken and of the situation generally. Krouse also was asked whether the International had any information on the pending Wage-Hour decisions affecting disputed classifications of film workers.

The move yesterday indicated that the studio locals plan to take their problems direct to the Producers instead of dealing with the company labor contacts. It also was a tip off that the 10,000 IATSE members here do not intend to stand for any deal being set by the International in the East. Harold V. Smith, chairman of the IATSE business representatives committee who arranged the meeting, stated he was not in a position to state what transpired, but admitted that the rank and file membership was demanding action.

BIOFF RESIGNATION?

From other sources it was learned that Smith's reluctance to talk probably was based on the objections of at least one business representative to any publicity being given the meetings. Dave Lory, business representative of Laboratory Technicians Local 683, was quoted as having stated he understood what transpired at the meetings was not to be made public. Lory did not attend today's session, but was reported by other business representatives to have attended a recent meeting when it was suggested that George E. Browne and Willie Bioff be asked to resign. Herbert Aller, business representative of International Photographers Local 659, also failed to sit in on the parley today.

Business agents reported to have attended today's conference and to have joined in the request for a meeting with the Producers were Charles Ferguson, electricians; Harold V. Smith, soundmen; Zeal Fairbanks, laborers; Bill Barrett, grips; William Cooley, makeup artists; John Swartz, projectionists; Bill Edwards, costumers; Cappy DuVal, property men.

Another meeting of the business representatives has been called for 3 p.m. tomorrow. In addition to the business representatives the group is being expanded to include two members from each local to sit in and advise with the group.

'Puddin'' Ended

'Puddin' Head' was finished yesterday at Republic, under the direction of Joseph Santley. Picture, starring Judy Canova and Francis Lederer, goes into the cutting room.

Folsey Lenses 'Married'

George Folsey has been assigned the camera on Metro's 'Keeping Married'.

Natalie Thompson Bow

Natalie Thompson will make her screen bow in Metro's 'Ringside Maisie'.

Sam Goldwyn Party Heads to Gotham

Samuel Goldwyn, Lynn Farnol and William Schneider planed for New York yesterday. Goldwyn is expected back around Friday after short confabs with RKO executives on distribution of 'The Little Foxes'. Farnol, eastern publicity representative on the two pictures RKO will release for Goldwyn, and Schneider, of Donahue & Coe advertising agency, have been here the past week going over campaign plans on 'Foxes' with Bill Hebert, Goldwyn's Coast publicity director.

Simpson in 'Geese'

Russell Simpson gets a role in 'Wild Geese Calling' at 20th-Fox. Paul Kohner agented.

NEW YORK

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THE SOUTHERN ALL-YEAR ROUTE

★ Five American Flagships daily along the Southern route through Arizona and Texas to Washington, New York, Boston and all the East. Luxurious skysleepers. For reservations, call your Travel Agent or STanley 7-1511. Ticket Offices: 6735 Hollywood Boulevard and 512 W. 6th Street.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE S

Vol. 31 No. 61 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, May 28, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offi

DISNEY STRIKE SPREAD THREAT

ROOSEVELT CHAT NIPS GROSSES

Picture theatres took it on the chin last night, especially during the early evening hours, when the bulk of the Los Angeles population listened to the President deliver his fireside chat. Evening theatre crowds, which ordinarily start crowding into the various houses, particularly in the downtown sector, shortly after 6:30, were conspicuous by their absence. Trade picked up somewhat towards

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Freeman Statement On FDR's Appeal

The following statement was issued last night by Y. Frank Freeman, chairman of the Motion Picture Production Defense Committee, in response to President Roosevelt's appeal for national cooperation:

'The Motion Picture Defense Production Committee, composed of representatives of the three great creative guilds, the Screen Actors Guild, the Screen Writers Guild, and

★ Continued on page 4 ★

Vidor Replaces Fleming as 'Yearling' Director

King Vidor has replaced Victor Fleming as the director on 'The Yearling' at Metro. It is understood mounting costs which were heading the budget to over the $2,000,000 mark and difficulties in Florida led to the switch in directors. Picture has been in production for better than 20 days and location work near Ocala, Florida, still has around three weeks to go.

Rep sigs Betty Kean

Betty Kean, of the Broadway 'Crazy With the Heat' company, reports at Republic as soon as that show closes under contract to play the star comedy spot in 'Yokel Boy', play which studio bought for $50,000 few days ago.

PREVIEWED

BUD ABBOTT & LOU COSTELLO, DICK POWELL IN THE NAVY (U)

(Preview on page 3)

ASCAP BOARD REVIEWS NBC, CBS SETUP

New York, May 27.—Board of directors of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers met today to review the progress of contract negotiations with NBC and Columbia and to determine what action should be taken to force a

♣ Continued on page 12 ♣

Jake Milstein Here

Jake Milstein, eastern representative for Edward Small and David Loew, arrived here yesterday from New York. He will spend a couple of weeks in town gandering product for the 1941-42 season's release.

CUTTERS ORDER VOTE; SCHLESINGER SIGNS

The Film Editors have called for a strike vote at the Walt Disney Studio to determine whether they will join the general walkout ordered by the Screen Cartoonists Guild for 6 a.m. today. The board of directors of the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors announced last night that a general membership meeting has been called for June 3 to take a strike vote. At the same time American Federation of Labor tops said that practically all studio unions and guilds had agreed to respect the SCG picket lines, while others were merely awaiting authorization from their

■ Continued on page 11 ■

PASCAL, BUCKLEY MAY REOPEN TORONTO STUDIOS

Toronto, May 27.—Possibility of the Revina Studios here being reopened after five years is seen with the visit of Gabriel Pascal and Harry Buckley, vice president of United Artists. Pair have been scouting likelihood of putting the studio in shape for production of six pictures within the next two years. If expense doesn't run too high Pascal will turn out his UA program at that lot instead of venturing the hazards of war time picture making in England.

In the Pascal-Buckley party are Martin Paggi, sound technician; Charles Ross, lighting expert, and Arthur Gottlieb and Jack Goetz of Du-Art Film Laboratories. If deal is okayed all around Pascal will make three pictures a year, of which two each year will be George Bernard Shaw stories.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	115
Major Studio Calls	284
FK Studio Service	52
Tinsman Casting Agency	7
Total	458

Owen Lent 20th

20th-Fox has borrowed Reginald Owen from Metro for a featured role in 'Charley's Aunt'.

LITTLE PROGRESS REPORTED IN WRITER, PROD. BATTLE

Representatives of the Producers and the Screen Writers Guild conferred for several hours last night, but were reported to have made little progress towards reaching a contract agreement. The Producers said no statement would be issued on what transpired at the parley, but added that negotiations between the two groups had not been broken off. It was indicated, however, that no date had been set for another meeting.

It is probable that a general membership meeting of the SWG will be called to discuss the situation as soon as the negotiating committee reports. The committee at the last session was instructed to go back to the Producers and try to get a satisfactory deal, but since that time the SWG has proceeded to line up support of other crafts in the event negotiations become stymied and the scriveners decide to take a strike vote.

PRODUCERS DROP OFFER FOR CENT. CASTING EXECS

Producers have withdrawn their offer of a $50 weekly wage minimum for casting directors at Central Casting Corp. The action was taken after representatives of the American Federation of Office Employes were reported to have taken the position at the Wage-Hour hearing that Cen-

☘ Continued on page 4 ☘

Warners Ogling Radio to Sell Pictures

New York, May 27.—Warners, planning to spend an unprecedented amount this season in merchandising its pictures, is reported investigating the possibilities of specialized radio spot announcements. These would be supplemental to newspaper and magazine advertising which also are to get more money this year.

Wm. Walsh Reported NLRB Director

William Walsh was reported from Washington last night to have been named regional director here for the National Labor Relations Board. Walsh for several years has been senior attorney for the board here.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Liedevin**
Little Penalo
Old Smokey
2d RACE—**KAY-DIANE**
Sizzling Pan
Nony G.
3d RACE—**Curious Roman**
Hubbub
Certie
4th RACE—**Raby Rattler**
Sentimentalist
Uallno
5th RACE—**Party Spirit**
Bulwark
Scapose
6th RACE—**Ship Biscuit**
Son of War
Sir Jeffrey
7th RACE—**Count Dean**
Albino
Listowel
8th RACE—**Slappy**
Torch Lee
Winnemucca
CHANCE BET—**Lassator (6)**
Selections consensus, page 12

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Joy Storm waxing poetic nightly on NBC.

Fred Othman recuperating from the measles.

Hal Bock unsheathed the roll for an avocado ranch in Van Nuys.

Jerome Cowan and the missus back from a vacation at Ensenada.

Mary Beth Hughes leaves for Santa Barbara today for week's rest.

Arthur Kober's book, 'My Dear Bella' is about to hit the bookstalls.

Arnold McGuire assigned as NBC producer on Lum and Abner series.

Harry Carroll is setting up club on Ventura boulevard, called Tin Pan Alley.

Henry Fine, formerly a lieutenant at March Field, has been promoted to the rank of captain.

William Bishop, Metro's Chicago manager, here for week's vacation and a looksee at product.

Doc Baker's chance bet yesterday, Agnes S., breezed in at Hollywood Park and paid a mere 54 odd dollars.

George Temple, Shirley Temple's father, will play host at the Masquers Club dinner tomorrow night.

Eleanor Wilson McAdoo's commentary on KFWB is being waxed for broadcast over WOL, Washington.

Idwal Jones has joined the 20th-Fox publicity staff to do special exploitation work on 'How Green Was My Valley.'

Claudette Colbert and her husband, Dr. Joel Pressman, will go to Del Monte tomorrow for four days of golf and resting.

Phil Harris and Alice Faye hopped off in a Paul Mantz plane for a short fishing honeymoon at Lake Meade, near Boulder Dam.

The executive board of the Screen Publicists Guild meets tonight to discuss the proposed new Constitution and transact other business.

Dudley Nichols arrived yesterday from his home in the east where he has been working on the script of 'Swamp Water' for 20th-Fox.

Warners may decide to show 'Sergeant York', Gary Cooper starrer, in two sections, sandwiched around an intermission, rather than make drastic cuts in the film, which is admittedly long, now running close to two and one-half hours.

Benny the Gouge sez—All the boys are going right out with Uncle Sammie, pointing to Benny, Hollywood and Vine a.m. newsie, his namesake, leaving for camp next week. How I wish I wuz younger, the Gouge added.

Hollywood Inside

REPORT coming off the Goldwyn lot explaining why Bette Davis is still ill at her home and work is being held up on 'The Little Foxes' concerns her differences with Sam Goldwyn over her appearance on the screen. Actress has long smarted under critics' descriptions of her as 'bug-eyed' and has grown very sensitive of late about her appearance. When she went before the cameras in the Lillian Hellman play she wore an entirely new makeup, chief advantage of which was extra long eyelashes. These lashes eliminated the prominence of her eyes and, to most of those in the technical crew, greatly enhanced her beauty. Goldwyn, however, took sharp difference with the eyelash idea. He insisted that the role, that of a lady of quality of the early 1900's, made the makeup impossible. After he saw the rushes he is reported to have ordered the false lashes removed. Miss Davis refused to continue until that point had been settled. There were talks between her representatives and those of the producers. She is still reported to be adamant in her stand regarding her appearance, taking the attitude that the long lashes do improve her appearance and do not make her look anything but a lady of quality. Goldwyn spokesmen are still vague about when the actress will return, placing the date as 'some time next week'.

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MOST enthusiastic champion of television's imminence on a national scope is Harrison Holliway, KFI-KECA general manager, who viewed a demonstration in New Yorker theatre in Manhattan last week. Projected on 16x20-foot screen, the fights televised by NBC from Jamaica to the receiving point atop Empire State building and relayed to the New Yorker were as clear in detail and action as the average newsreel, declared Holliway. Loud speakers were placed around the house to diffuse crowd noises and create a ringside atmosphere in the theatre. Barring bottlenecks through inability to obtain material necessary to the manufacture of receiving sets, Holliway believes that commercial television will take a decided spurt within a few months after its licensing becomes effective July 1. Not far off, he ventures, is the time when sporting events will be televised to the screens of theatres throughout the country.

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CLAIRE E. HOFFMAN, Michigan congressman, is displaying considerable interest in the U.S. government and Los Angeles County Grand Jury investigations into the activities of national officers of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The representative, who is urging enactment of national labor racketeering legislation, has contacted IATSE membership leaders here seeking information on the IA setup, particularly with reference to the handling of negotiations and other matters by Prexy George E. Browne, Willie Bioff and other national officers. In the meantime, certain IA membership groups are sponsoring a move to seek the resignation of national IATSE officers and the calling of a special convention to select new heads. The IA situation is reported to have been discussed at the American Federation of Labor Executive Council meeting in Washington, but no announcement has been made as to what, if any, action is planned.

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BACKERS of Arthur Spitz poured $23,000 into the ill-starred operetta venture at the Mason theatre. Idea, after the continental manner, was to present the perennials at 59c top. Despite opinion among theatre men that the productions were well done and capably performed, the payees failed to respond in sufficient numbers to keep it going. Through his friendship for Spitz, for whom he worked in Europe, one of the Weire brothers, of the precision acrobatic team which scored in 'Folies Bergere', went for $13,000. Bette Davis donated $5,000 and an unnamed film writer kicked in with another $5,000. When further coin could not be promoted, Spitz bowed out and another 'noble experiment' went the way of most of the others.

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WHEN the O. W. Lewis (Mission Playhouse at San Gabriel) hearing is resumed June 3 before the American Arbitration Association defense counsel will move for a dismissal on the ground of no jurisdiction. Should this motion be denied by Arbitrator Herbert Cameron, before whom the case is being argued, the defense will begin the introduction of testimony which it hopes will offset that introduced by the plaintiff at last Monday's hearing. Lewis is seeking to compel the major distributors to zone his house 28 days off Pasadena first run closing, instead of 21 days after Alhambra, and also wants seven days' clearance over the Rosemead and Garvey theatres, operated by the Edwards Circuit, with which he is now day-dating.

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THOUGH promotions in exchanges, necessitated under the consent decree due to increased field and exploitation forces, will in the majority of cases be made from within the ranks, one or two cases have arisen in the Los Angeles district where branch managers were obliged to battle New York executives on behalf of the local talent. It was held here that booking personnel should be given any opportunity for advancement that arises and that bringing in men from outside offices would undermine staff morale. Home office executives were convinced and are now reported satisfied that representatives on the home grounds knew best.

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NBC sales managers have moved into the presidency of three of the most important Advertising Clubs along the coast. Yesterday Tracy Moore, western head of network's blue sales department, was inducted as prexy of L.A. Ad Club. Bill Ryan, sales manager of NBC's KPO and KGO in Frisco, heads the Bay City group, and Hugh Feltis, sales chief of NBC stations in Seattle, is top kick of the admen in that city.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

THE PRESIDENT SPOKE,
AND ALL THE LITTLE RADIO COMEDIES AND TRAGEDIES FADED.
NOBODY CARED WHO WON THE FIFTH AT INGLEWOOD,
OR HOW THE DODGERS CAME OUT,
OR WHO WON THE SPELLING QUIZ ON THE SOAP PROGRAM,
OR HOW ASCAP IS GETTING ALONG WITH BMI.
ALL THE WORLD STOOD STILL AND LISTENED
TO THE MOST POWERFUL DRAMA EVER VOICED ON THE RADIO.
THE PRESIDENT SPOKE.

★ ★ ★

All roads lead to somewhere. We have had 'The Road to Rome', 'The Road to Shanghai', 'The Road to Zanzibar' and 'The Road to Morocco'. Now Paramount is contemplating a road play to end all road plays: 'The Road to Brooklyn'.

Milton Berle sends an assuring message from New York—'Hollywood Park Opens; 6,000 Bank Accounts Close'.

Color, take it from the technical sharks, is being so highly developed in the films that it causes emotional reactions on the ear as well as the eye. If it makes a jingle at the box-office, the operators are willing to lend an ear.

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The 'Thin Man' series is coming back to fatten Metro's bankroll.

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George Bricker's 'Ohio' makes a handy title for the boys who handle the bulbs on the marquees. A fellow who can think up a title like that is a copyreader at heart.

Fashion note — Dot Lamour leaves for Honolulu tomorrow to spend a vacation with a lot of clothes.

Weather prognosticators are prognosticating that June will break all heat records. So the Warner boys are putting on 'Hot Nocturne'.

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Hollywood's cowboy stars, who take pride in their gaudy regalia, will turn green with envy when they take a slant at Carlos Lopez. The Mexican buckaroo's raiment makes a rainbow look drab.

Phil Harris and Alice Faye are spending a double honeymoon —at Hoover Dam in the L.A. Times and at Boulder Dam in the rest of the papers.

A youthful actor makes a name in motion picture plays
And does so well that all the world admires his thespic ways,
And when he has a million film fans all about the land,
His sole ambition is to lead a corny night club band.

A young musician studies years to learn his tuneful art
And knows the sweet and swing and all their variants at heart.
And after trekking here and there, almost from pole to pole,
His fond ambition is to play a motion picture role.

Preview

★

Bud Abbott & Lou Costello, Dick Powell In The Navy

(*Musical Comedy*)

Universal production. Stars Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Dick Powell. Features the Andrews Sisters, Claire Dodd, Dick Foran, Billy Lenhart, Kenneth Brown, Shemp Howard, The Condos Brothers. Director, Arthur Lubin. Associate producer, Alex Gottlieb. Original story, Arthur T. Horman. Screen play, Arthur T. Horman and John Grant. Photography Joseph Valentine. Special photographic effects, John Fulton. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Harold H. MacArthur. Film editor, Philip Cahn. Musical numbers staged by Nick Castle. Sound supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; technician, Charles Carroll. Musical director, Charles Previn. Music supervisor, Ted Cain. Arrangements, Vic Schoen. Gowns, Vera West. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Dialog director, Joan Hathaway. Technical advisor, H. E. Harris, U.S.N., Ret. Assistant director, Philip P. Karlstein. Music and lyrics, Gene DePaul and Don Raye. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, May 27. Running time: 85 mins.

Here is a box office running mate for that other Universal service comedy, 'Buck Privates'. Geared to ease the strain of these momentous times, 'In the Navy' (shortened for the sake of space) presents another arm of our national defense in a style that will be hard to beat. There is every indication that the enormous gross piled up by 'Buck Privates' will be matched by this zaney entry in the service comedy race. Universal has given Bud Abbott and Lou Costello the support (not that they need it) of other names and the combination of talent makes as pleasant and hilarious an 85 minutes as any ticket buyer could possibly want.

Its story is strong enough to get in every gag, laugh and song without being a stumbling block to the mad pace. The lines are punchy and the roars many in the script by Arthur T. Horman and John Grant from Horman's original. Dick Powell, radio's number one crooner and pursued by women, disappears, only to be ferreted out as one of Uncle Sam's naval recruits by a femme news photographer. Abbott and Costello are sailors, and what sailors! Some of their routines are standard, but each is dressed up to give something new each time around. What happens as the femme pursuit strikes at Powell aboard ship and the two bad boys of the navy hit their merry stride beggars description but the results will tickle the funny bone right down to the shoe tips.

Abbott and Costello dominate the proceedings as only they can. Dick Powell's performance is swell. He stands out with his rendition of the stirring martial air cleffed by Gene DePaul and Don Raye, 'We're In the Navy', and his other work stacks right up on top. The Andrews Sisters have their chance to shine with three numbers alone and a fourth with Powell, as well as carry a necessary story thread. Their work is class in both respects.

Claire Dood sells her part as the femme photog excellently and moves up another notch in importance after being away from the screen for some time. Dick Foran has one of his infrequent chances to sing and his best acting assignment in quite a while and proves himself capably in the mad shuffle. Shemp Howard, Billy Lenhart and Kenneth Brown are seen briefly, but effectively. A fine specialty dance is contributed by The Condos Brothers with hoofing class.

Arthur Lubin crowns himself with another choice credit for successfully guiding the comedy team through what will prove another money-maker for Universal. His handling of the large production dance numbers, tastefully staged by Nick Castle; the music, the comedy and the drama rate him up among the best on the field. Alex Gottlieb also garners credit for his function as associate producer, injecting every possible showmanly value into the picture.

Joseph Valentine's camera work and the photographic effects by John Fulton skillfully add breadth and life to the picture. The art work of Jack Otterson and his associate, Harold H. MacArthur, is first class; the film editing by Philip Cahn fastly paced; the musical direction, supervision and arrangements by Charles Previn, Ted Cain and Vic Schoen, respectively, sell the tuneful DePaul and Raye songs excellently. Credit also goes to the others lending their services to the production so commendably.

PRODUCERS, IATSE LOCALS MEET ON PARLEY DATE

A meeting of business representatives of studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes has been called for 3 p.m. today to discuss future moves in the unions demand for immediate opening of negotiations with the Producers. The group which is seeking to force action on contract revisions has been expanded to include two members of each local in addition to the business agent.

It was reported that the International Photographers Local 659 and Laboratory Technicians Local 683, which did not attend the last session, would have representatives at today's conference. Leaders said they were awaiting a reply from Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers' Association, to their request for an early meeting with the Producer labor relations committee to talk wages and conditions.

Freeman held several conferences with the Producers yesterday, at which time it was understood both the writer situation and the IATSE locals request were discussed. Freeman declined to say what, if any reply, was being made to the union, but other sources indicated that a meeting between the two groups would be arranged shortly.

U.S. is Laying Off Witnesses in Bioff-Browne Case

New York, May 27.—The U.S. attorney's office states that the government does not plan to prosecute film executives who have testified in the Willie Bioff-George E. Browne case. It regards them as victims of Bioff-Browne, the same as their companies. The executives may be called as witnesses during the trial, to tell how and why the money was assertedly paid to Bioff, but no action will be taken against them.

Espy to NY Friday

Reeves Espy, vice president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, leaves by air Friday for New York, for business conferences that will keep him east at least one week.

Murray Silverstone, United Artists Washup Reported

New York, May 27.—Negotiations are in progress for a bow-out from United Artists of Murray Silverstone. Huddles are taking place between Silverstone and his attorney, Charles Schwartz, on one side, and three of the owners and their attorney, Ed Raftery, on the other.

Owners are Alexander Korda, Charles Chaplin and Mary Pickford, with a fourth shareholder, the Douglas Fairbanks estate, understood taking no part in the proceedings.

Holding up the Silverstone exit is his demand for a 100% payoff of his contract. Head of the distributing organization is said to be getting $3,000 a week, with his contract still having two years to run. Total sum involved is around $300,000.

It has been bruited about the industry for some time that Silverstone and the owners of United Artists did not see eye-to-eye on many subjects from distribution to production.

Name New to Hays Code Seen Breen Successor

New York, May 27.—With Will Hays recuperating in a Chicago hospital from a strep infection, which is likely to delay his coast trip for several weeks, choice of a successor to Joe Breen, this week turned to a possible name executive. The idea was that someone new to production code work, and not in the picture business, might be picked. Besides other requirements, the choice must be satisfactory to the Catholic church.

John Houston's Deal

John Houston has been given a triple-edged contract at Warners to write, direct and produce, and as first assignment under pact gets direction of 'Knight of Malta'. Deal was set by Paul Kohner.

New Michigan House

Traverse City, Mich., May 27.—New Michigan theatre will be opened here tomorrow by the Butterfield Michigan Theatres Co. Five performances will be given, starting at 1 o'clock.

In from the East

William Bishop
William Rodgers
Dudley Nichols

Heading East

Phil Harris
Alice Faye
B. Condon (TWA)
James Pratt (TWA)
Alexander Golitzen (TWA)
S. Barret McCormick

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

TED LEWIS did yeoman job on the sub for Sophie Tucker over CBS on the 'What's on Your Mind' program. Lewis with his psychology was terrific and ether sponsors wanting idea along the lines expressed by Lewis should have a natural in him. . . . Tomorrow is 17th wedding anniversary for Dave and Margie Epstein. . . . Scotty Weston in for couple days from Oakland where he operates the Sweet Ballroom. . . . Warner Baxter will occupy the penthouse on the Bevhills apartment he recently bought. . . . Rather important actor is bragging around that the draft won't get him, whether his board passes him or not. Claims he has Washington influence to keep him from the ranks of the $21 a month soldiers. . . . Guy who did not like the facial contour of Aaron Rosenberg, 20th-Fox assistant director, took a terrific lacing at a local night spot other evening.

Songwriters Jimmie McHugh and L. Wolfe Gilbert go on George Fisher's gaberoo airer on KHJ tomorrow to dedicate their 'Confidentially Yours' as new themer for the program.

ANN HARRIETT, singer with Bill Jordan's Bar of Music, is being given screen tests at Columbia. . . . May Robson memorizes all her radio scripts, word for word, and then tosses the papers away before addressing the mike. . . . Having already incorporated the Hess parachute incident into 'Underground', the melodrama of escape aid to Nazi victims in Germany, Warners also has swiftly added another scene to put one of its characters on the destroyed German battleship, Bismarck, following sneak showing of film at Huntington Park. . . . Edith Craig arrived yesterday from New York after closing in the play, 'Separate Rooms', for picture work.

Team sponsored by Nancy Kelly in the Women's International Bowling Congress championships at the Vogue Bowling Alley, is leading the tournament in the booster division. One of the best players on the team is Sheila Brown, nine-year-old daughter of Sid Brown, Universal sound man. She bowls 230. Older women are on the majority of teams.

FRANK LLOYD is using 100 Indians for next two days in his production for Universal release, 'I, James Lewis'. Aborigines will work on location at the Isthmus on Catalina. . . . Claire Trevor has had to drop her plans to be hostess at the 11th Annual Aviation Festival at Birmingham, Ala., June 5-8. Role in 'Texas', at Columbia prevented her going east. . . . Location sequences on Columbia's 'Tillie the Toiler' started last night at Columbia ranch, with Sidney Salkow directing. . . . Building up a backlog of stories which may be suitable and expedient for him next year, Brian Donlevy has just optioned a yarn by Frank Gruber, called 'Young Sam Bass Began to Roam', dealing with the eccentric outlaw of the southwest in the '70s.

Danny Kaye, Kraft Deal as Bob Burns Sub Appears Off

New York, May 27.—Danny Kaye, legit and nitery comedian currently in 'Lady in the Dark' on Broadway, probably won't accept the offer of J. Walter Thompson agency for several summer dates on Kraft Music Hall airshow during summer layoff of Bob Burns. Acceptance would involve his going to the Coast, which he isn't anxious to do unless there is a film deal coincidentally.

Understood agency wants Burns to take a substantial cut from the current $5,000 weekly he's drawing, figuring he isn't worth such heavy coin. His contract is up in January.

Agency's New York office yesterday said it knew nothing of Coast report that Bing Crosby is asking a 15-minute supplementary show on Mutual so he can sing Ascap tunes.

ROOSEVELT CHAT NIPS GROSSES

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

8 o'clock, but in the main grosses were materially affected.

New York, May 27.—Broadway sat back tonight aware that the citizenry would be at their radios for the world-waited speech of the President. Early in the afternoon agencies sent back virtually all tickets on hand for tonight's performances. Cancellations were reported away over normal.

Business has been slow at the box offices for some time, but today there was little for the legit treasurers to do. There were some exceptions, of course. Advance sales for hit attractions protected them but the others felt the full bruit.

Picture houses downtown faced the same letdown as did legit but neighborhood theatres had a better chance early in the evening before the President's address.

Galveston, Tex., May 27.—Interstate Managers and Executives in convention here tonight sent following telegram to President Roosevelt: 'The two hundred delegates of the Interstate Circuit of Theatres convention in session here at Galveston have just heard your courageous inspiring patriotic appeal and hasten to commend you for your leadership and pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor. America will not fail you'.

Freeman Statement On FDR's Appeal

★ Continued from page 1 ★

the Screen Directors Guild, as well as the Artists Managers Guild, The Association of Motion Picture Producers, labor, crafts, and other fields of film endeavor, reiterates its united determination to do everything within its power, and within the abilities of those who work in motion picture in Hollywood, to do its part in the present National Emergency, proclaimed by the President of the United States.'

Brown, Zimmer Set

Mel Brown gets the unit art director assignment on 'Dr. Kildare' at Metro and Dolph Zimmer will be assistant to Director Harold S. Bucquet.

Kreisler Sees 15% Boost In Universal Shorts Sales

Bernard B. Kreisler, short subject manager for Universal, presented an exhaustive survey of the field to U's Los Angeles district bookers and salesmen at the Ambassador hotel this week indicating possibilities of hoisting revenues from shorts by 15% if proper economic factors are taken into consideration. With charts and graphs to indicate defense coin spending in various districts, Kreisler demonstrated how a knowledge of both future and present government spending can be utilized in selling product to exhibitors in the areas affected. With many of the circuit heads interviewed during his tour of the country of the opinion that under the consent decree the tendency will be towards extended runs and longer pictures, Kreisler found that shorts as fillers would in future get a cold reception from exhibitors unless they were made to provide entertainment.

Cliff Work, vice president in charge of production at Universal, who was present, said that shorts and serials should and would be dignified with more adult appeal to show the same improvement as feature length product in recent years. He could see no place in theatres for the 'spit' serial, 100 feet of new celluloid with 900 feet of stock shots pasted in.

In line with this policy the budget for shorts has been upped to allow for increased animation and Technicolor in the cartoon features. Two Universal series of shorts are being dropped, one being travelogues under the title of 'Going Places.'

Short subject production will hereafter concentrate more heavily on use of name bands with personalities from radio and the stage coordinating with a simultaneous sales drive to make the short department profitable or else.

Among those attending the Kreisler session in addition to Work were Walter Lance, in charge of Technicolor cartoons, William Cowan, short subject musicals, and Henry MacRae, chapter productions. Meeting wound up Kreisler's coast-to-coast tour during which he took up the new short subject sales methods in 30 U offices. He is scheduled to return to New York Friday.

Woosley's Break

Harry Sherman yesterday tested George Woosley, a truck driver on the Paramount lot, and gave him a role in 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte'. Woosley will also go into 'Timberwolves', another Hopalong Cassidy picture.

'Academy Award' Bows on KFI

Transcribed drama series, tagged 'Academy Award', will be aired for a minimum of 13 weeks over KFI beginning tomorrow night at 9:30 p.m. Written and produced by Dr. Kimball Sant, initialer will feature Ona Munson and Elliott Lewis in 'Pride and Prejudice'. Film players will be used in the weekly changes. Music for the entire series is composed and conducted by Ivan Ditmars.

Story Buys

Frank and Maurice Kozinsky have purchased Martin Mooney's story, 'Mr. Celebrity', for production as their next to be released by Producers Releasing Corporation. This will follow completion of their first, also a Mooney yarn, entitled 'Paper Bullets.' Author starts work on the screenplay today.

Sigmund Neufeld has purchased eight original stories by Johnston McCully, author of 'Mark of Zorro', and will use them for his 'Frontier Marshal' series of westerns for Producers Releasing Corp. Tom Tyler and Lee Powell will be co-starred. Screenplay scripters have not yet been assigned.

'The Man in the Street', radio sketch by William Bowers and Robinson Holbert, aired last week on the 'Manhattan at Midnight' program, has been purchased by Paramount.

PRODUCERS DROP OFFER FOR CENT. CASTING EXECS

Continued from page 1

tral directors should be classified as non-exempt under the Wage-Hour Law.

Such classification would entitle the casting directors to time and one half after 40 hours. Company executives, however, contend their offer of a $50 minimum was for 54 hours, with the understanding the directors would be classified as exempt from the 40-hour provision.

Elma Goodwin, business representative of the AFOE, stated the directors preferred the $37.50 minimum which she said was originally agreed to, provided they were paid time and half for overtime. The whole contract situation is expected to be reopened next week, when Mrs. Goodwin returns from Washington, where she appeared before the American Federation of Labor Executive Council in connection with the claim of the Teamsters Union to jurisdiction over certain office workers. A decision on classification of the directors is expected to be handed down by that time.

'Duanes' Additions

Cast of 'Last of the Duanes' has been called back to 20th-Fox today for one day's shooting of additional scenes under direction of James Tinling.

Best Subs Astor

Mary Astor was forced to withdraw from last night's broadcast of 'Hollywood Showcase' due to a cold. Edna Best was rushed in to sub.

CBS Deal on For Concerts Corp. Sale To Minority Group

New York, May 27.—Matching the sale of Columbia Artists Bureau to Music Corporation, deal is under way for CBS to dispose of its majority stock control of Columbia Concerts Corp., Concert Management subsidiary, to a group now holding minority stock. Proposed transaction would involve the payment of about $250,000 for network's 55% of stock, with managements which merged to join CBS in forming Concert Corp. 11 years ago, taking full control and retaining present name until another title can be selected.

Deal awaits approval by CBS board of directors meeting June 4 and subsequent confirmation by the network's stockholders. It is not expected to be completed before at least another 90 days.

Frisco KYA Off Air Due to IBEW Strike

San Francisco, May 27.—Station KYA went off the air at 10:30 a.m. due to a strike for higher pay and jurisdiction called by the local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The announcers and producers switched from the American Federation of Radio Artists to the IBEW two weeks ago, assertedly because AFRA failed to get action. I. B. Kornblum, attorney and executive secretary of the Los Angeles local of AFRA, is in town huddling on the situation.

Phil Harris, Rochester Set For Personals

New York, May 27.—Phil Harris and Eddie Anderson (Rochester) of the Jack Benny airshow are being booked for a personals tour during the two months program is off the air this summer. They would not appear together, Rochester beginning his trek at the Los Angeles Paramount theatre week of June 16, and Harris starting June 27 at the Orpheum in Omaha.

King's Men Will Make 30 Decca Sides

King's Men quartet has been signed by Decca to record 30 sides. They will accompany Bing Crosby, Connie Boswell and Frances Langford on 20 tunes and the remaining 10 will be solo renditions of top songs they've done on the 'Fibber McGee and Molly' airer.

NBC Takes Tune Fete

Massed band of 2,000 musicians, conducted by Rudy Vallee, will give a concert on the front lawn of Ambassador hotel Sunday as a feature of Professional Musicians Week. NBC carries the music for half hour at 2 p.m. over the blue network.

Additions For Balter

Ten more stations have been added on the Don Lee network in California for the sports broadcasts of Sam Balter originating at KHJ six times weekly. Program also airs over the Mutual web for Phillies cheroots.

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COMPLETE Dinner $1 ENTERTAINMENT • COCKTAILS
★★ ALL STAR SHOW ★★
DANCING EVERY NIGHT

TYRONE POWER

...as Juan, the matador of Vicente Blasco Ibanez' immortal novel...

BLOOD *and* SAND

IN TECHNICOLOR

with

LINDA DARNELL · RITA HAYWORTH

Nazimova · Anthony Quinn · J. Carrol Naish · John Carradine · Lynn Bari · Laird Cregar · Vicente Gomez

Produced by **DARRYL F. ZANUCK** · *Directed by* **ROUBEN MAMOULIAN**

Associate Producer Robert T. Kane · Screen Play by Jo Swerling

20th CENTURY FOX

NOW
GRAUMAN'S CHINESE
and
LOEW'S STATE

ROBERT T. KANE

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

BLOOD and SAND

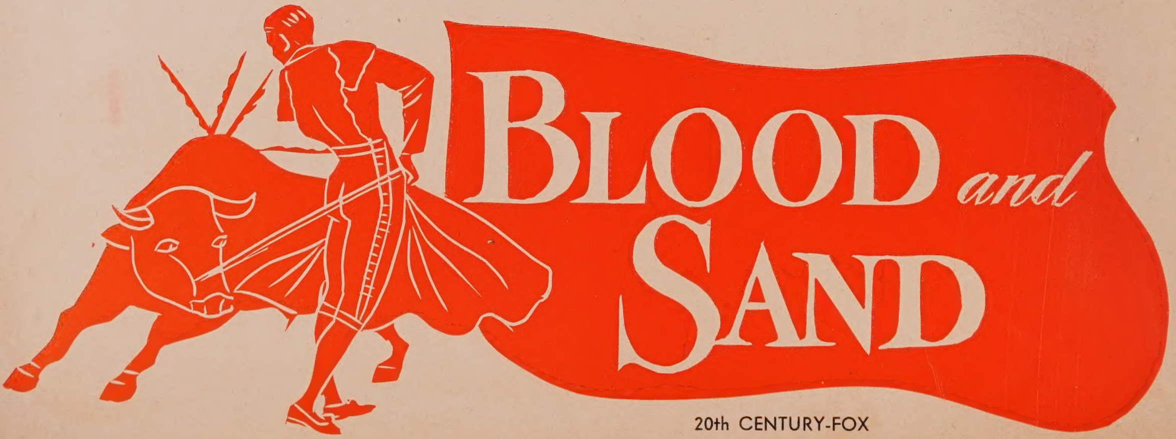
20th CENTURY-FOX

My sincere thanks for the splendid cooperation of all who took part in the realization of "Blood and Sand"

Rouben Mamoulian

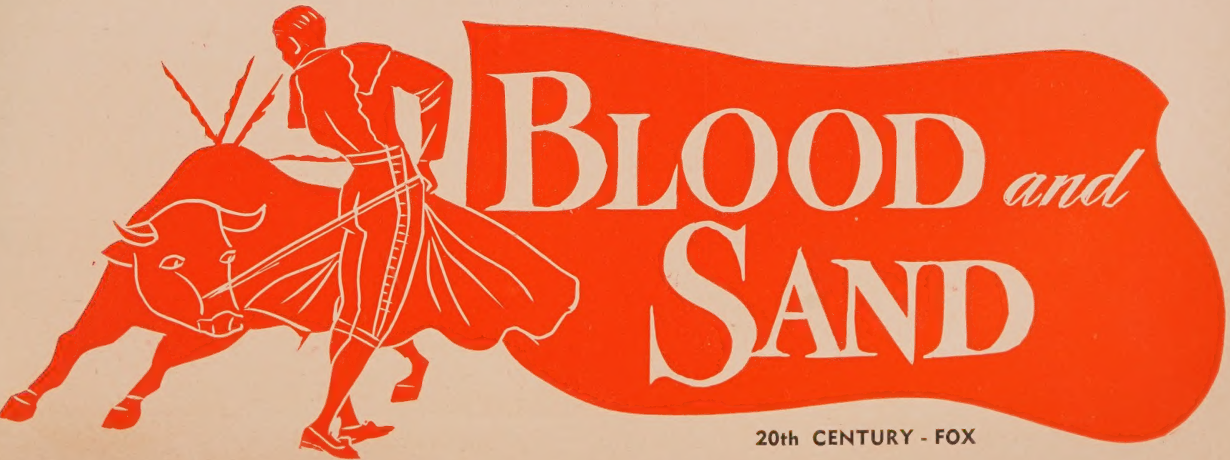
BLOOD and SAND
20th CENTURY-FOX

TYRONE POWER


BLOOD and SAND

20th CENTURY-FOX

RITA HAYWORTH


BLOOD and SAND

20th CENTURY - FOX

Republic 'Ice-Capades' Begins Rehearsals Tomorrow on Rink

Preparing to start Republic's 'Ice-Capades' June 3, Producer Robert North has set rehearsals to begin tomorrow with principals, Dorothy Lewis and Jerry Colonna, and 75 members of 'Ice-Capades' stars and ensemble working rest of the week.

Rehearsals take place on the ice rink of the newly completed Mabel Normand stage. Joseph Santley will direct, and Harry Losee supervises the skating-dancing routines.

Dutch Financiers Enter Maxwell Chain Setup

London, May 27.—Scramble by British interests for control of the late John Maxwell's majority holdings in Associated British theatre chain and production company has extended to a syndicate of Dutch financiers, it is reported here. Latest bidders are said to be working with Nobert Einstein, financial advisor to the Prudential Assurance Company in an attempted takeover.

Test Joan Woodbury

Joan Woodbury is being tested for a role in 'Honky Tonk', the Clark Gable-Lana Turner starrer.

Ill in Pix

MRS. NATALIE KALMUS, director of the color control department of the Technicolor Motion Picture Corporation, is ill from intestinal flu at her home in Bel-Air.

NEW YORK TEAMSTER STRIKE TURNS INTO SERIOUS MATTER

New York, May 27.—Comic opera strike by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 817, of New York, last Saturday against the Musicians' union, turned into a serious matter as the teamsters aligned themselves against the stagehands for walking through their picket lines. Teamsters are now picketing all legit houses here as well as vaudefilmers playing bands.

Teamsters' dispute with the musicians stems from the haulers' demand that they be given jobs carrying musicians' instruments into the houses, as well as jobs driving trucks or cars carrying musicians or their instruments en masse.

As a result the teamsters are now not only picketing the film and legit houses but are also refusing to haul shows from any theatres.

Lesser Rushes Work on 'Strange Victory'

Sol Lesser has swung into preparations for 'Strange Victory', which he will make for United Artists with Martha Scott. Producer yesterday signed William Hurlbut to do the screenplay. Dave Diamond agented the writer's deal. Rheinhold Schunzel will direct the picture.

'Jordan' at Ranch

'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town', starring Robert Montgomery, goes on location at Providencia Ranch today. Company will include Montgomery, Claude Rains and Edward Everett Horton. Alexander Hall is directing and Everett Riskin producing for Columbia.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles, 4; San Diego, 2.
Sacramento, 8; San Francisco, 2.
Hollywood-Seattle, Rain.
Portland-Oakland, Rain.

'Kane' Given Reception at Frisco Geary

San Francisco, May 27.—'Citizen Kane' received tremendous reception at its Geary theatre opening here tonight, even the stage hands coming before the curtain to applaud at the finish. Orson Welles was spotted in the audience to take a bow. He said he had been nervous about audience reaction to 'Kane' in San Francisco but was glad to discover that his worry had been unfounded. Ovation to author-producer-performer was greatest ever accorded a picture personality here.

Spot Barry Fitzgerald

Barry Fitzgerald goes into the cast of the new 'Tarzan' feature at Metro with Johnny Weissmuller and Maureen O'Sullivan. Richard Thorpe starts directorial preparations on the film after he completes 'Barnacle Bill' this week.

Engineer Equipment Trainee Picture Rolls at Goldwyn

Production started yesterday at Samuel Goldwyn Studio on a War Department Training film on engineer equipment. Engineer troops and engineer equipment have been sent from Fort Ord to appear in the picture.

Jack Reynolds is directing, with John Burch as assistant director, Ray Binger handling the camera, assisted by Ellis Carter and Rus Hoover. Ray Curtis is film editor, Artie Johns is handling sound recording, assisted by L. Evans, Fred Lau, and Paul Camp. Red Crawford is handling special effects, Joe LaBella props, and Tommy Thompson and Rus Wooden are grips. Capt. Robert H. Bungay is supervising as War Department liaison officer, assisted by Lieut. John L. Jannarone, as technical adviser.

Extras Council Sesh

The Extras Advisory Council meets tonight at its new headquarters at the Ralph Faulkner School of Fencing on Hollywood Blvd. It is understood the Council plans to invite the business heads of the various studio unions to address the membership on union policies, etc. Chairman Harry Mayo will preside tonight.

Title Changes

Metro's 'Unholy Partners' now titled 'They Met in Bombay.'

MUSIC

ALFRED NEWMAN

GENERAL MUSIC DIRECTOR

20TH CENTURY-FOX

BLOOD and SAND

Festival Films Files Suit Against Kohn On 16 mm. Pix

Festival Films Inc. has filed suit in U. S. District Court charging copyright infringement and asking for a preliminary injunction to restrain Edward L. Kohn, operator of the Movie Parade theatre, Hollywood, from showing 16mm. films entitled 'The Adventurer', 'Easy Street', 'The Immigrant', 'The Vagabond', 'The Fireman' and 'Behind the Screen.'

Plaintiff, represented by Attorney Herbert Silverberg, traces steps by which ownership of copyright was transferred from the Lone Star Corporation to the Van Beuren Corporation which is a subsidiary and affiliated with RKO-Radio, then to the Commonwealth Picture Corporation which eventually sold the rights to Festival.

Action alleges that exhibition of the films was unlicensed and unauthorized and that showing of the films at the Movie Parade theatre from May 1 to 15 has jeopardized deals with other exhibitors to show the pictures at higher admission prices.

Kohn has submitted a plea in which he contends that prints of the 16mm. versions of the films referred to can be obtained from distributors in New York without restriction as to use by any person paying the stipulated rental. He asserts also that these 16mm. pictures have been advertised for rental for several years past in New York City and State and claims that 16mm. rights were conveyed to the Eastman Kodak Co. in 1928. The reply further states that Eastman sold and distributed the 16mm. films to the trade without restriction as to exhibition. It is alleged also that the sound rights to the pictures acquired by the Van Beuren Corporation were subsequent to the rights acquired by Eastman.

U. S. District Court Judge Ralph E. Jenney has continued the case for two weeks for further hearing.

Crump Seeing Hoover On FBI Series

Owen Crump goes to Washington today to confer with J. Edgar Hoover on a series of shorts to be made at Warners which will dramatize actual FBI cases, and to seek permission from the Government to permit Hoover to appear in them. Gordon Hollingshead will produce.

Benny Writers South

Bill Morrow and Ed Beloin leave today for San Diego to soak up some naval atmosphere for Jack Benny's script Sunday, which finales the Jell-O series for the season from the service base at the Border City.

Spot Dick Purcell

Dick Purcell was signed yesterday by the Pine-Thomas production unit releasing through Paramount to do a featured role in 'Flying Blind'. Leo Morrison agented.

Births

DAUGHTER, weighing seven pounds, to Mrs. Peter stackpole, at Good Samaritan hospital Tuesday. Father is a magazine photographer.

DISNEY STRIKE SPREAD THREAT; SCHLESINGER SIGNS

■ Continued from page 1 ■

executive boards before taking official action.

The strike set for 10 a.m. today at the Leon Schlesinger Studio was called off last night when the company signed a three-year contract with the Screen Cartoonists Guild. It was stated that both sides had made certain concessions, but that an amicable agreement had been reached. The pact is subject to reopening annually for negotiations. The deal was set at a conference between Leon Schlesinger, Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, Chuck Jones, chairman of the Schlesinger Guild unit, and Attorney George E. Bodle.

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors, which has been seeking to negotiate a contract with Disney and which recently charged the company with unfair labor practices, issued the following statement:

'The board of directors decided to call a general meeting on Tuesday, June 3, at the Woman's Club of Hollywood for the expressed purpose of taking a strike vote in the case of the Walt Disney Studio. Such action must be ratified by not less than 75% of the members in good standing and entitled to vote thereon. A fine shall be levied upon all nonvoting members.'

DISNEY SITUATION

The situation at the Disney Studio was aggravated yesterday when the company discharged Art Babbitt, chairman of the SCG negotiating committee and the highest salaried animator in the industry. Gunther Lessing, Disney attorney, was reported to have stated that Babbitt was let out because of his union activities on company time. This was denied by SCG officials, who stated that Babbitt had even gone so far as to post a notice on his office stating 'Do not disturb, if you want information attend tonight's meeting.' Members of the Disney unit were peeved over the discharge of Babbitt, who was the first president of the recently scuttled Federation of Screen Cartoonists and who was one of the most popular Disney employes. He was under contract and had been with the studio for nine years.

The Guild said it learned that Lessing for some time had been collecting affidavits from Federation leaders pertaining to Babbitt's activities and that Lessing had questioned employes about their union affiliation. They indicated these actions would be called to the attention of the National Relations Board, which recently accepted a consent decree ordering the Federation disbanded, following SCG charges that it was a company dominated union.

SHRADER REMARKS

Lyle Shrader, International representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, stated that Disney products were being placed on the AFofL unfair list by the San Fernando Valley Central Labor Council. He said notification to this effect would be sent to all unions throughout the United States and Canada.

Pledges of support from other AFofL crafts were received yesterday afternoon at a meeting of union business representatives arranged by Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer in Hollywood. Final plans for the walkout today and establishment of picket lines at 6 a.m. were made at this meeting, as well as a gathering of Disney members of the SCG attended by more than 350. Joseph Clarke, International vice president of the Brotherhood of Painters, arrives today from Tacoma to assist in the SCG strike.

STRIKE DIRECTORS

The strike strategy will be directed by Joseph Clarke, Lyle Shrader, George E. Bodle, Aubrey Blair, William Littlejohn, SCG prexy; Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and the Disney Guild leaders, headed by Art Babbitt. Committees are being set up to handle the pickets, publicity, office, etc.

The walkout was ordered when Disney refused to recognize the SCG as collective bargaining reprepresentative for his employes.

PREVIEW OFF

The preview of 'The Reluctant Dragon', scheduled for 4 p.m. today, as well as the buffet supper planned for correspondents at 5:30 o'clock, was called off by Disney yesterday afternoon. Telegrams were sent to the writers stating the preview, which was to have shown the first combination of live action and animation, had been postponed until further notice. Shortly before the announcement, labor leaders stated the situation had been called to the attention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, and that the American Newspaper Guild would request its members not to cross the SCG picket lines.

Walt Disney called a meeting of all studio employes at noon yesterday, and made the following statement:

'Threats and rumors of a strike are again in circulation within the studio. I believe it only fair to tell our employes that in the event of a strike the studio will remain open. Continued employment and security of employes in their employment demands that production continue. Full and adequate protection will be given all employes desiring to continue to work.

'We have received assurances from authorities that such protection will be afforded and the studio will supplement the efforts of the authorities in this respect so that order will be maintained.

'BLACKLIST, FINES'

'I further pledge our employes that we will under no circumstances, make or agree to any settlement or other arrangement with any union which would, in any way, bar any of our employes from working in this studio or any other place of employment. No blacklist, fines, or other threatened measures could possibly be made effective except through the agreement on the part of our company in the event of a strike, and such conditions will never be agreed to by our company or by me.

'I desire that it be made plain to all my employes that they are free to join any union which they may select or prefer. We always have been ready, are now ready, and always will be ready to bargain collectively with any appropriate bargaining unit designated by a majority of the employes by secret ballot in an election held for that purpose.'

In an earlier statement, when the SCG was demanding disbanding of the Federation of Screen Cartoonists as a company union, Disney had announced his studio would be closed if a strike was called and there was any violence. Later the company agreed to a consent decree at a National Labor Relations Board hearing which ordered the company to disestablish any relations with the Federation, and to cease and desist interfering with the affiliation of its employes with any labor organization. Officers of the Federation scuttled the organization and promptly formed the American Society of Screen Cartoonists, which the Guild promptly branded as the same old group, with a new suit and a new name.

Dieterle Will Resume Production On 'Webster' Today

With Edward Arnold in the place of Thomas Mitchell, William Dieterle's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' will resume production today at RKO. Picture has been shut down for the past five weeks, ever since Mitchell was seriously hurt during the filming of a scene.

Dieterle will be required to shoot for another 12 days or more. Mitchell had worked a week before the cameras previous to being hurt.

Irving Berlin Enlisted on U.S. Pep-up Songs

Washington, May 27. — Irving Berlin, whose 'God Bless America' has become the ex-officio national anthem, has been enlisted by both the Treasury and War Departments to write patriotic theme for Americanism. He has contributed 'Any Bonds Today' for Secretary Morgenthau's Defense Bond cause and 'Arms for the Love of America' for the Ordnance Department. Both will be handled by the Government as nonprofit, non-commercial ballyhoo for a defense pep-up.

Team Foster, Farmer

Paramount yesterday teamed Preston Foster and Frances Farmer in 'Prison Widows', original by Louis Pollock. Jonathan Finn and Gordon Kahn are writing the screenplay.

Dandridge in Revue

Dorothy Dandridge has a featured role in the musical revue, 'Jump for Joy', at the Mayan Theatre, for which she turned down proffered personal appearance tour.

Jevne on Beery Yarn

Jack Jevne is writing an untitled story at Metro for Wallace Beery, having just completed 'Waterfront' for the star.

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Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Old Smokey	1—Drift Silver	1—Old Smokey	1—Little Penalo	1—Old Smokey	1—Old Smokey
Joda's Joe	Little Penalo	Joda's Joe	Old Smokey	Little Penalo	Little Penalo
Max Greenock	Joda's Joe	Little Penalo	Liedevin	Liedevin	Appretry
2—Tommy Whelan	2—Sizzling Pan	2—Jubilo	2—Quick Gold	2—Tommy Whelan	2—Jubilo
Jubilo	Tommy Whelan	Sizzling Pan	Jubilo	Kay-Diane	Tommy Whelan
Sizzling Pan	Zebedee	Tommy Whelan	Tommy Whelan	Sizzling Pan	Sizzling Pan
3—Hubbub	3—Curious Roman	3—Curious Roman	3—Islam Girl	3—Curious Roman	3—Hubbub
Praiseworthy	Spread Eagle	Hubbub	Hubbub	Hubbub	Curious Roman
Curious Roman	Hubbub	Spread Eagle	Curious Roman	Spread Eagle	Spread Eagle
4—Peter Tokalon	4—Peter Tokalon	4—Raby Rattler	4—Peter Tokalon	4—Peter Tokalon	4—Peter Tokalon
Raby Rattler	Raby Rattler	Peter Tokalon	Raby Rattler	Raby Rattler	Sentimentalist
Sentimentalist	Sentimentalist	Sentimentalist	Sentimentalist	Sentimentalist	Raby Rattler
5—Bulwark	5—Flying Bonny	5—Bulwark	5—Party Spirit	5—Bulwark	5—Party Spirit
Party Spirit	Bulwark	Party Spirit	Bulwark	Party Spirit	Bulwark
Balmy Spring	Party Spirit	Flying Bonny	Balmy Spring	At Play	Balmy Spring
6—Son of War	6—Sir Jeffrey	6—Son of War	6—Son of War	6—Sir Jeffrey	6—Sir Jeffrey
Sir Jeffrey	Aethelwold	Aethelwold	Runaway Boy	Son of War	Lassator
Lassator	Ship Biscuit	Sir Jeffrey	Ship Biscuit	Enthrall	Ship Biscuit
7—Count Dean	7—Sextus	7—Count Dean	7—Praetorian	7—Count Dean	7—Count Dean
Praetorian	Count Dean	Praetorian	Parmenarch	Sextus	Praetorian
Sextus	Praetorian	Sextus	Sextus	Praetorian	Sextus
8—Slappy	8—Count Us	8—Laudy	8—Torch Lee	8—Slappy	8—Torch Lee
Torch Lee	Slappy	Torch Lee	Laudy	Count Us	Slappy
Like Greenock	Winnemucca	Count Us	Slappy	Laudy	Like Greenock

John Barrymore Goes East with Vallee For Etherings

John Barrymore will make the trip east with Rudy Vallee's Sealtest crew for airings from Portland, Me. and New York June 19-26. First will be from Strand theatre, Portland, where Vallee personals with premiere of his picture, 'Time Out For Rhythm.' Second originates in Radio City, N. Y., with Producer Dick Mack and the troupe resting up at Vallee's lodge in Westbrook, Me., between broadcasts.

Jinx Falkenberg Set For Mass. Strawhats

Jinx Falkenberg, after finishing in 'Two Latins from Manhattan' at Columbia, will leave here for strawhat appearances at Dennis, Mass. She will be in 'George Washington Slept Here', with Charles Butterworth, opening June 30; 'Old English', with C. Aubrey Smith, opening July 7; 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', opening July 13, and 'Communion', July 20.

F. T. Murray North

F. T. Murray, manager of branch operations for Universal, left for San Francisco following the bookers meeting Monday.

a.m. Dailies

Irene Coleman Suit—

Irene Coleman, actress, yesterday filed suit for $11,081 damages for injuries said to have been incurred in a traffic accident, from the Klauber Wangenheim Co. and William Beckman, truck driver. Miss Coleman charged 'negligence' on the part of the truck driver, resulting in the collision with her car.

Mix Post Installation—

Installation of officers of the Tom Mix post No. 583, American Legion, will be held tomorrow night. Carole Landis, film actress, will present the colors. Among those present will be Mrs. Tom Mix, Sol Wurtzel, Monte Blue, Wallace Beery, Joe E. Brown and Gene Autry.

Honor First LA Theatre—

A bronze plaque will be dedicated on the site of the first theatre in Los Angeles, the vanished Grand, by the Junior Chamber of Commerce on June 8. The theatre, originally known as Childs Grand Opera House, stood on Main street near First.

Weiner Denied Probation—

Eugene Weiner, husband of actress Lillian Roth, was denied probation yesterday in Superior court and sentenced to serve six months in the county jail for blackening Miss Roth's eye during a family fight last February.

Moore, Maschio Theft—

Constance Moore, actress, and her husband, Johnny Maschio, actors' agent, reported to Beverly Hills police yesterday that their home had been burglarized and property valued at $10,000 stolen.

Welles Put in 1-B—

Orson Welles, producer-actor-author, was classified 1-B by the draft board, according to an opinion handed down yesterday. Welles is reported afflicted with bronchial asthma.

Humphrey, Wray Upped To Scenarists On RKO Flickers

John Humphrey and Ardell Wray, who have been assistants to Collier Young, head of the RKO story department, have been promoted to writing jobs as scenarists. William Nutt and Paul Perez, readers, have been upped to take their places.

Young made the promotions after conferences with George Schaefer. Schaefer has instituted a policy of promoting RKO people from their ranks and of filling all jobs, wherever possible, with RKO personnel.

His naming of Charles Koerner, former West Coast district manager, to the post of general manager in charge of RKO theatres to succeed John O'Connor, who resigned, was part of that policy. Max Fellerman, assistant to Fred Meyers, stepped into the job of chief film buyer when Meyers resigned. Reginald Armour, former European manager for RKO, was recently made assistant to the president by Schaefer.

William Koenig, Evelyn Edwards, Lillian Bergquist, Deborah Forbes, Hal Levy, John Weber and George Cecala, all of the RKO reading department, are being groomed by Young for scenarists jobs.

George Murphy Arrives For 'Maisie' Chore

George Murphy arrived yesterday after a trip to New York and Pennsylvania and starts work immediately in 'Ringside Maisie' at Metro with Ann Sothern. Frank Stevens has been added to the cast.

Assigned to 'Widows'

Adela Rogers St. John and Charles Belden have been signed by RKO to ready a screenplay on Belden's original story, 'Modern Merry Widows'. Picture will feature Lucille Ball and Anne Shirley, starting in August.

WB Borrows Scott

Warners has borrowed Martha Scott as Fredric March's co-starrer in 'One Foot In Heaven'. She will play the role of the clergyman's wife. Deal for Miss Scott was set by Noll Gurney.

Gilbert Collabs

Edwin Gilbert is collaborating with Leonard Spigelgass on screen play of Warners 'All Through the Night.' Original story is by Spigelgass and Leo Rosten.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Metro)

'Young Americans'
Dir.: Robert Sinclair
Asst.: William Ryan

ASCAP BOARD REVIEWS NBC, CBS SETUP

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

showdown with the two networks. Special meeting was called after majority of the directors in private conversations decided that NBC and CBS have no intention of reaching an agreement with the Society but plan to stall until fall at least. Sentiment as directors entered meeting was for a course of strong action.

New York, May 27.—Opinion of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers regarding ultimate effect of U. S. Supreme court decision in the Florida and Nebraska cases is in sharp conflict with lawyers close to the music publishing business. Members regard the ruling as merely a barrier to the Society's doing business in those states and not as a sign that Ascap must reorganize its business structure.

Attorneys, however, believe that other states will quickly follow with similar legislation and that the Society should immediately prepare for a readjustment.

Park-In Posts Bond

Park-In Theatres Co. has posted a bond with filing of notice of appeal in U. S. District Court in the action versus M. H. Rogers et al. The plaintiff, contending that the type of theatre designed by Richard Hollingshead, Jr. is copyrighted, alleged that the defendants had infringed upon the copyright. Judgment entered Feb. 27, 1941 held for the defendants with Park-In now taking the case to the higher courts.

Goodwins on 'Marines'

Leslie Goodwins has been assigned to direct 'The Marines Are Ready' at RKO. He is now doing 'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost'.

Goff Ends 'Fiesta'

Ivan Goff has completed work on screen play for the Gene Autry picture at Republic, 'Under Fiesta Stars'.

Loew-Lewin May Film 'Land Fall' as First Of Two for UA

The David Loew-Albert Lewin production company probably will make 'Land Fall' as first of the two pictures it is committed to produce for United Artists release during the year. An untitled comedy also is in preparation. In either case, the first picture will be shaped to hit cameras in July or August.

Talbot Jennings is working on script of 'Land Fall' from the book by Neville Shoup, dealing with the Royal Air Force.

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DISNEY STRIKE HITS THEATRES

SILVERSTONE CANCELS HIS UA PACT

Murray Silverstone, world-wide head of United Artists, after 22 years with the company has cancelled his contract which had two and one half years to run. Silverstone is going into production on his own, releasing through United Artists, with Mary Pickford to be a financial associate, and a producer-director now at one of the major studios coming in also as an associate.

Silverstone plans putting in a

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

Edw. L. Alperson Named RKO's Buying Manager

New York, May 28.—Edward L. Alperson was named general manager of RKO's film buying and booking department today by Charles W. Koerner, general manager of RKO theatre operations. Max Fellerman's status as chief film buyer and booker remains unchanged. Alperson was for many years an assistant to Spyros Skouras of National Theatres, supervising film buying. He takes his new office next Monday (2).

Off Again

The Rudy Vallee Sealtest radio program remains in Hollywood. Producer Dick Mack last night announced cancellation of plans to take the troupe, including John Barrymore, east. Also cancelled was Maine premiere of Vallee's Columbia picture, 'Time Out for Rhythm.'

Tenney Ascap Bill Killed

Sacramento, May 28.—With the unanimous consent of the house, Assemblyman Jack Tenney today changed the amendment of his anti-Ascap bill and had it stricken from the file, killing it for this session of the state legislature.

PREVIEWED

ANGELS WITH BROKEN WINGS
(Rep)

KNOCKOUT
(WB)

(Previews on page 3)

CANTOR REPORTED IN DEAL FOR FAIRBANKS UA HOLDINGS

New York, May 28.—Eddie Cantor is reported negotiating to buy the stock of the Douglas Fairbanks estate in United Artists. Wants to set up his own producing unit as he has already contract for a UA release.

The Fairbanks estate stock, according to by-laws of United Artists must be submitted to the company itself before being offered for outside sale. No verification of the offer was obtainable last night here. Possibility is that Cantor through Bank of America may be making offer to the estate with latter possibly then getting okay for transfer providing Cantor is found acceptable by other member producers as new partner.

UNION SQUADS VISIT HOUSES SHOWING SHORTS

A strike of cartoonists started at the Walt Disney Studio at 6 a.m. yesterday. The walkout was quickly followed by both sides appealing to the National Labor Relations Board, and a short time later picketing of the plant was extended to Los Angeles theatres exhibiting Disney shorts.

A union 'flying squadron' under supervision of Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, visited theatres exhibiting Disney shorts and announced that houses would be picketed unless films were withdrawn. It was reported that a majority of the managers requested that picketing be deferred to give them an opportunity to get sub-

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Harmon Stresses Industry Strides for U. S. Defense

New York, May 28.—Francis Harmon, coordinator of the motion picture committee cooperating for national defense, and executive assistant to Will Hays, today outlined strides made by the industry in supporting defense effort. Harmon said that President Roosevelt in his epoch-making address last night left none of his auditors in doubt as to the importance of our thinking and acting in terms of the western hemisphere. Also that naturally the

★ Continued on page 5 ★

Next Power Films

As soon as Tyrone Power finishes in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' and 'Benjamin Blake' he will probably be assigned to 'The Black Swan', by Rafael Sabatini and to 'Gift of the Magi'.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	179
Major Studio Calls	154
FK Studio Service	19
Tinsman Casting Agency	6
Total	358

MG Terms Elliot Paul

Elliot Paul has been given a term writing contract by Metro.

PRODUCERS, CO. ATTORNEYS TALK LOCALS' DEMANDS

Producers, company attorneys and other film executives spent most of yesterday in conference discussing demands of the studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes for immediate opening of negotiations on wages and conditions. The executives were reported willing to meet with the locals, but were reluctant to make any deals with them until it could be ascertained whether they would be approved by the IATSE International.

The Producers held several huddles themselves, and then called the attorneys into the conference to discuss the legal side of the question, all previous negotiations and contracts having been with the International. Efforts were made to locate George E. Browne, IATSE prexy,

☘ Continued on page 14 ☘

No Edition Friday

Daily Variety will not publish an edition Friday in observance of Memorial Day.

Committee of Unions, Guilds Formulated

Formation of a committee of Unions and Guilds to act as a clearance house in handling negotiations with the Producers was agreed upon last night at a meeting of union representatives at the Screen Writers Guild headquarters. After the meeting the following statement was issued:

'Dissatisfied with the status of

■ Continued on page 14 ■

Trevor Joins 'Honky'

Metro has borrowed Claire Trevor from Columbia for the second romantic lead in 'Honky Tonk.' Picture starts production Saturday, with Jack Conway directing.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Sorry Now**
Prior Right
Copper Toe
2d RACE—**West Acre**
Miscreant
Papenie
2d RACE—**With Us**
Hi Beautiful
Barsand
4th RACE—**Wingspread**
Candy Hero
Pundit
5th RACE—**MAGIC KEY**
Aboyne
Sumatra III
6th RACE—**Over Drive**
Swell Chance
Chaldon Heath
7th RACE—**Easy Sailing**
Richlein
Cargador
8th RACE—**Tow Rope**
Spanish Main
Sir Stratton
CHANCE BET—**Allergic** (8)
Selections consensus, page 14

For Doc Baker's selections tomorrow phone Daily Variety office, HO 1141, between 9 a.m. and noon. Saturday selections may be obtained by phoning office anytime after 9 a.m.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Stewart Faulkners flitting for vacash back home in Indiana.

NBC tosses its annual golf tournament at Palos Verdes June 7.

Morris Stoloff has scored Columbia's 'Sweetheart of the Campus.'

Louise Currie is being tested at RKO by Tay Garnett for 'Unexpected Uncle.'

Lars Skattebol, of NBC'c Manhattan news bureau, taking his sabbatical here.

Jamie Hasson is technical adviser on Harry Sherman's 'Sheik of Buffalo Butte' for Paramount.

Clark Shaughnessy, Stanford's football coach, has received two bids to appear in pic shorts.

Roscoe Turner, operator of the Palace theatre, Las Vegas, Nev., is in town for product deals and a vacation.

Steve Merrill, tenor from radio station WLW in Cincinnati, opens singing engagement at the It Cafe tonight.

Dorothy Lamour draws first guest call on the Holland Furnace series over NBC, taking off July 17 in Chicago.

Grace Hayes has been named to serve on the Defense Council organizing shows to be staged in Army camps on the West Coast.

Anna Lee checked in at 20th-Fox yesterday for makeup and wardrobe tests on 'How Green Was My Valley', which starts June 9.

Laurie Douglas, New York fashion model, has been signed by Paramount to term contract. She will bow in 'Louisiana Purchase.'

Bernie Feins, of the Warners Theatres publicity force, reports for duty at Fort MacArthur June 12, attached to the Signal Corps.

Somerset Maugham planes in today from New York to take up residence here until he completes a new novel he is writing for fall publication.

Due at the State-Lake theatre in Chicago for the week of June 20, Victor McLaglen has extended his personal appearance tour to six weeks.

Billy Mills orchestra and the King's Men will do a half hour musical over NBC red network June 6 as a feature of Professional Musicians Week here.

Benny the Gouge sez—You gotta be photogenic to get anywhere nowadays, but I can remember the time when you had to smile when you called a guy anything like that.

Hollywood Inside

COSTS on Metro's 'The Yearling' have mounted to $925,000, with little or none of the footage already obtained able to be used by the studio. Situation which led to replacing Victor Fleming by King Vidor as director, almost led to Spencer Tracy leaving the cast. Tracy is reported to be dissatisfied with the story. Difficulty also centers around Gene Eckman, who plays the role of the poetic young boy on a lonely farm growing up with a fawn. Eckman is reported to be skittish in the presence of the deer, with the result that his fright has spoiled a large number of scenes. Bad weather and Tracy's dislike of the role, as well as some difficulties in obtaining the technical crew are other factors in the delay. Picture has a budget of $2,000,000. Vidor, who has left for the location of 'The Yearling' company at Ocala, Fla., has three weeks more to shoot.

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OPINION generally held among exhibitors and exchange men is that there will be no great rush among independent theatre owners to file charges with the American Arbitration Association in the Los Angeles district in the near future. It is considered unlikely that more than 10 or 12 complaints, if that many, will emerge within the next few months pending further clarification of operations under the consent decree. Much will depend, however, on the outcome of the three cases currently on the AAA docket, the first brought by O. W. Lewis, operator of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, which is now being adjudicated. Meanwhile the trade is reported favorably impressed with Herbert Cameron, attorney for the State Railway Commission, who is arbitrating the Lewis clearance complaint.

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A NEW RACKET is being worked in Hollywood by the 'We Boys' to try and gimick motion picture personalities. 'We Boys' are using the name of picture stars when telephoning for advertising and donations to phony programs and other confidence schemes. A recent case of their new technique occurred when several filmites received calls at homes from their telephone message services that a 'Bart Marshall' had requested they call him at a given number. In most instances parties contacted thought that it was Herbert Marshall, probably seeking a donation for Bundles For Britain or other recognized war relief agencies, but when they telephoned they found out that it was just another phony gimick being used to collect money and not Actor Marshall at all.

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WILLIAM A. PIERCE, assistant producer to Charles R. Rogers, is celebrating his 10th year with Rogers. In this period Pierce has been associated on the production of more than 40 pictures made by Rogers on the Universal, Paramount and Columbia lots, including a screenplay credit on 'Star Maker' which was the last picture produced for Paramount. Pierce recently was elevated to assistant producer on the two Charles R. Rogers productions just completed for Columbia, 'Adventure in Washington' and 'She Knew All The Answers'.

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FRIENDSHIP between Brenda Marshall and Priscilla Lane at Warners paid its dividends last nignt at preview of the Rudy Vallee Sealtest radio program tonight. Mixed up on rehearsal days, Miss Lane found herself at Victorville instead of NBC in Hollywood an hour before the required time. A hurried long-distance S.O.S. call was placed to Brenda, who rushed to NBC. She played Priscilla's role before studio audience without introduction, bowed modestly out at preview's close. Priscilla does the part tonight for the air.

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METRO flackery is burning over the clean scoop made by Paramount on having Paulette Goddard appear in formal evening shorts at a public gathering. Metro, after getting wind of Paramount's buildup on the Goddard shorts, also began a campaign on the same angle, slanting their stories to have Joan Crawford as creator of the new style. When Goddard appeared at the Miramar Hotel, at the beach recently, the gag was ruined for Crawford and Metro flacks cried 'foul'!

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WILLIAM DIETERLE is huddling with Music Corporation of America to get a top name band for his production at RKO, 'The Band Played On'. Because of time lost in unavoidable delays on 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', Dieterle will forego his expected vacation of several weeks and begin 'Band' much sooner, together with his associate producer, Charles L. Blett.

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FORTY-EIGHT picture directors who have worked with Harry Carey, from 1908 on, will help vet actor celebrate his 33rd anniversary in films at the party at the Carey sanch near Saugus June 14. Invitations have been sent to all, whether active or retired. Anniversary party will follow press preview of Paramount's 'The Shepherd of the Hills'.

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PRE-RELEASE showings of 'Underground' in key cities are being lined up by Warners to take advantage of topical background of the picture, dealing with the Rudolf Hess flight and underground radio activities in Nazi Germany. So far 47 special dates have been set to take place prior to general release scheduled for June 28.

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INDICATIONS are that Tay Garnett will produce his 'Three Sheets In the Wind', containing footage from his world cruise, through Universal sometime this summer. Brian Donlevy will have the principal role on long-standing commitment.

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FOR the first time in the history of 20th-Fox, two pictures that will not be released until next season have been finished before the first of June. Productions are 'Dressed to Kill', with Lloyd Nolan, and 'Last of the Duanes'.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

The film producer is a stern and hard-nosed business man.
He chisels nickels here and there for everything he can.
He balances the chance between a winner and a loss
But loses equilibrium when betting on a hoss.
For when he drives to yonder course to lay a lot of jack
He takes a tip from any bum who hangs around the track.

★ ★ ★

Some of our leading picture makers consult astrologists and numerologists when about to shove off on a new venture, and some of them consult Old Joe Operator, who is in close touch with Old Joe Public, who doesn't have to use a crystal ball to know what he likes.

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Bart MacLane and his good wife tried to ease into a San Fernando Valley film house without being observed, but the manager observed them and handed out professional courtesy. Not only that—Mrs. MacLane won a set of dishes. Showing that them who has gets.

Rochester is going out on a cross-country stage tour without the aid of Carmichael or Benny.

With all those south-of-the-border pictures going out, the Andrews Sisters are tempted to ask a question. 'How,' they query, 'about opening a South American consulate in the Hays office?'

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'Gamblers Don't Gamble', the new RKO story, is more fact than fiction. Only chumps gamble.

When 'The Shanghai Gesture' hits the screen, Madame Goddam will probably be known as Miss Goshdarn.

Prexy Jackson was not the only 'Remarkable Andrew' in American history. Carnegie and Mellon were that way, but in different ways.

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That 200-inch spyglass on Mt. Palomar won't do Hollywood any good. Many a producer can't see a new star on his own lot.

★ ★ ★

'Almost An Angel' threatens to become something colossal, with Chuck Laughton doing a rumba.

With all these campaigns going on, why not start one for the forgotten kids of the U.S.A.?

With 'One Foot In Heaven' and 'Two Steps to Heaven' everything is celestial in Hollywood but the b.o.

★ ★ ★

Picture stars, when hale and hearty
Often grow exceeding arty.
When they slip
And incomes dip,
Comes a journalistic party.

McHenry's Campaign

Murphy McHenry, of George Brown's publicity department at Paramount planes to New York tomorrow night by American Airlines to confer with home office on projected heavy national campaign for 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye.' McHenry will remain east a week.

Film Previews

Angels With Broken Wings

(*Comedy Drama*)

Republic production for Republic release. Cast: Binnie Barnes, Gilbert Roland, Mary Lee, Billy Gilbert, Jane Frazee, Edward Norris, Katharine Alexander, Leo Gorcey, Lois Ranson, Leni Lynn, Marilyn Hare, Sidney Blackmer, Tom Kennedy. Director, Bernard Vorhaus. Associate producer, Albert J. Cohen. Screenplay, George Carleton Brown, Bradford Ropes. Photography, Ernest Miller. Film editor, Edward Mann. Art director, John Victor Mackay. Musical director, Cy Feuer. Songs by Jule Styne, Eddie Cherkose. Previewed at Studio City theatre, May 28. Running time: 72 mins.

Republic's 'Angels With Broken Wings' is not up to that studio's usual standard and will take a lot of powerful selling to put over in the market for which it is intended.

Story is weak, mixed up and dull. Dialogue is juvenile. Acting, wherever the yarn doesn't hobble the players completely, is far from sparkling, save in one or two instances. Direction by Bernard Vorhaus is as good as direction can be in such circumstances.

Gilbert Roland nearly steals the picture in a role that has scant footage, but a role to which he brings a deal of fresh suavity and amusing Latin mannerisms. Mary Lee puts over a song with the same charm she has shown in the Gene Autry pictures. Binnie Barnes, as a conniving ex-wife trying to take advantage of a rich husband through an outlawed Mexican divorce, is as good as the screenplay will permit her to be. Indeed, the same comment must be made about the other players, save Leo Gorcey, who supplies a few good chuckles as a would-be hard guy.

Picture is used to introduce, all in one film, the combined talents of Mary Lee, Jane Frazee, Lois Ranson, Leni Lynn and Marilyn Hare. Miss Hare makes her screen debut, carrying off her tiny role as well as could be done. Miss Frazee, a looker, an excellent dancer and a good singer, is never allowed to do more than look pretty. Miss Ranson, who can also dance and sing, is given little to do. Miss Lynn sings one song more than capably. Billy Gilbert is occasionally funny in his role.

Story, which is the chief drawback, revolves about the dilemma of Sidney Blackmer and Katharine Alexander, who want to get married but can't because Blackmer thinks his Mexican divorce from Miss Barnes is illegal. Her daughters, the Misses Frazee, Lynn and Hare, devise a plot to outwit Miss Barnes, using Miss Frazee's beau, Edward Norris, as a lure. Norris poses as a rich South American, choosing a name from a cigar band. Name turns out to be that of Roland, who comes to New York to investigate, falls for Miss Barnes, then, in a fairly amusing finale (when he knows she is after his dough) pretends to be a fugitive from a mental institution. Marriage of Blackmer and Miss Alexander is made possible at the fade.

Knockout

(*Drama*)

Warners production. Features Arthur Kennedy, Olympe Bradna, Virginia Field, Anthony Quinn, Cliff Edwards, Cornel Wilde. Supporting cast: Richard Ainley, William Edmunds, Frank Wilcox, John Ridgely, Ben Welden, Vera Lewis, Charles Wilson, Edwin Stanley. Director, William Clemens. Associate producer, Edmund Grainger. Screen play, M. Coates Webster. From a story by Michael Fessier. Dialog director, Gene Lewis. Art director, Stanley Fleischer. Photography, Ted McCord. Film editor, Doug Gould. Sound, Dolph Thomas. Gowns, Damon Giffard. Assistant director, Elmer Decker. Previewed May 28. Running time: 72 mins.

'Knockout' won't cause much of a stir at the boxoffice but capably serves the dual purpose of being a neat little program offering and a good showcase for the developing talents of Arthur Kennedy, its male lead. Its plot is familiar, right down to the oldest of prize fight stories, but is interestingly told to sustain a fairly average level of interest. All departments have functioned in workmanlike style to bring this to the screen with economy but without slighting any of the necessary details.

Kennedy is seen as a young fighter, fistically talented but dropped from the ring for the sake of marriage to Olympe Bradna. His married life gets off to a bad start when his manager, Anthony Quinn, has him fired and black-balled from all work to force the fighter back in the ranks of leather pushers through economic necessity. The young pug's comeback rise is rapid until a femme menace in the person of Virginia Field, wealthy society miss playing sports scribe on her father's newspaper makes a play, breaking up his home and giving him social ideas. When he tries break off with Quinn latter frames him with a drugged mouthpiece and Kennedy is tossed out of organized boxing for apparently throwing a fight. From there on story hits the usual formula down-grade style, with our pug ending up in the hospital a whiskey-soaked wreck with a brain concussion. His wife comes back into his life, he pulls himself together and all ends on a satisfactory note.

In addition to Kennedy, who impresses with his performance, Anthony Quinn stands out, again proving his capacity to do justice to most any type role. Olympe Bradna is pleasing as the meek wife and Miss Field very alluring as the gilded siren. Cliff Edwards shows excellently as the comic second for Kennedy, while Cornel Wilde and William Edmunds, particularly the latter, do justice to their briefer assignments.

William Clemens' direction doesn't waste footage with unnecessary movement, hewing closely to the compact script written by M. Coates Webster from the story by Michael Fessier. Edmund Grainger gives the production full value for the budget allotment and Ted McCord's photography is good.

LA Civic Opera Nets On Four Weeks Nears $200,000

Getting away last week to a corking good start with 'Rio Rita', at the Philharmonic Auditorium here, Los Angeles Civic Opera Association stands to gross in excess of $200,000 on its four weeks' each in Los Angeles and San Francisco. 'Naughty Marietta', current in LA, opened at the Curran in Frisco, and all musicals will play a week in each town. Take from the Frisco run will run around $90,000 it is estimated, with about $120,000 garnered here. Two more operettas remain to be played here, 'The Chocolate Soldier', featuring John Charles Thomas, next week, and then Ethel Waters in 'Cabin in the Sky', imported direct from the east.

In previous seasons Civic Opera has dipped considerably in the 'red' despite better than average grosses, but this year, according to Edwin Lester, general manager, season will likely show a profit.

Homer Curran and Louis Lurie of San Francisco are each said to have guaranteed $5,000 to insure the attraction against loss, but from present indications neither will be called upon to put up any coin.

Marcia Ralston, Condos Set for Rep 'Rose'

Marcia Ralston has been assigned to 'San Antonio Rose' as her first role under recently inked Universal contract. Elaine Condos, dancing sister of the Condos Brothers, is also set for a specialty number in the picture as her first film assignment.

Haines Given 'Furs'

William Wister Haines has turned in his script on 'Casey Jones' at Paramount, and has been assigned to write 'Angel in Furs', Dorothy Lamour starrer.

Andrews on 'Wires'

Jack Andrews has drawn the scripting job on 20th-Fox 'Whispering Wires'.

Maibaum Assigned

Richard Maibaum is assigned to script Paramount's 'Tomorrow's Admirals.'

In from the East

Somerset Maugham
Myke Lewis
Lew Ayres (UA)
McClelland Barclay (AA)
John Payne
Bonnie Baker (SF)
Nathaniel Shilkret

Heading East

Leland Hayward (AA)
Murray Silverstone
Fritz Lang
Matty Fox
Burgess Meredith (AA)
Murphy McHenry (AA)
Reeves Espy

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

MIKE ROMANOFF'S cafe venture is a success. Place opened only six months but is already paying dividends. First one 18 cents on $50 shares. . . . Practically every resort and hotel in California was full up on reservations over the holiday weekend, according to auto clubs and other sources of information, to accommodate largest exodus of vacationers in years. . . . Joan Carroll, 9, comes in June 5 from the New York 'Panama Hattie' company to resume contract at RKO where she will be starred in 'Obliging Young Lady', bought especially for her. . . . Franklyn Phillips, western editor of Pic, and Eleanore Roberts, of Margaret Ettinger's publicity offices, plane for Prescott Arizona today to be married at the Episcopal church there by Rev. Marshall E. Travers. Couple will take a month's honeymoon in New York and bride then resumes her activities with the Ettinger office. . . . Benny Shader, 15-year-old Fort Collins, Colo., youth, arrives here today to be the guest of Smiley Burnette over the weekend. Hollywood trip is prize offered by the Republic film cowpoke to the most outstanding 4-H Club youth at the National Western Stock Show in Denver recently. . . . Jack Bolger of Universal's sound department has returned from a vacation in Texas and goes on 'Almost An Angel' as boom man.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK

Martha O'Driscoll at the opening of Hollywood Park in a tailored black suit with striking suede accessories. Vest of azure blue and black suede featured checkerboard design with matching envelope purse. Blue gauntlet gloves matched a clever swaggeret stick which is a modern adaptation of similar cane Miss O'Driscoll carries in Cecil B. De Mille's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Cleverly concealed in the swaggeret handle was a compartment for cigarets and matches. Hat was large black felt Breton sailor. Black gabardine pumps had tiny blue tailored bows.

BOB HOPE, one of the partners in the Pirate's Den, will head a special show Sunday, June 1, commemorating nitery's first anniversary. On subsequent Sunday nights during the month, other partners in the club, Ken Murray, Bing Crosby, Tony Martin, Fred MacMurray, Johnny Weissmuller and Jimmie Fidler, will appear in special shows. . . . William Guthrie, former G-Man and now location manager for Warners, brings back the report from Washington that while there he tried out the new rifle range in the FBI building and hit a moving target 92 times out of 100 with a sub-machine gun.

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Frisco IBEW Strike At Station KYA Settled

San Francisco, May 28.—The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers strike at KYA has been settled. The station resumed broadcasting at 4 p.m. today, after being silent since 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. I. B. Kornblum, who negotiated the settlement despite an illness which bedded him under a doctors care at the Hotel St. Francis, insisted on the announcer-producers resuming work before signing a contract, contending it was not an American Federation of Radio Artists strike.

The station was on the air before Kornblum permitted signing of the pact, giving the boys $42.50 per week the first year, $45 the second year.

The IBEW called the strike after taking the KYA announcers into a special unit assertedly because AFRA got no action and partly because AFRA blanket contracts at KSAN and KJBS took in IBEW combo men. The IBEW made no attempt to hold the jurisdiction over KYA announcers after Kornblum stepped in, both unions cooperating to sign. As a result of this dispute, however, combo men may have to belong to both unions.

Rathbone, Bruce Set for 'Sherlock' Again

Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce were contracted yesterday to resume their 'Sherlock Holmes' series on NBC starting late September. Half hour program will precede Jack Benny on the red net here at 7:30 p.m., a switch from its former blue band. Sleuth series has been spotted in the winter due to the seasonal nature of the advertised product.

David Burton Leaves 20th After Year

David Burton has checked off the 20th-Fox lot after completing direction on 'Private Nurse' with Brenda Joyce, Jane Darwell and Sheldon Leonard. Burton, during his year's stay on the lot also directed 'The Man Who Wouldn't Talk', 'Manhattan Heartbeat' and 'Jennie'.

Three More Days To See
HARRY HOLMAN

as The Governor of Louisiana
in
NAUGHTY MARIETTA
Philharmonic Auditorium

Col Management Takeover By Music Corp. Seen Shortly

Takeover of Columbia Management of California, subsidiary of Columbia Artists, by Music Corp. will probably be completed next week, it was said yesterday by principals in the deal. Consummation awaits action in New York by CBS board of directors on sale of Columbia Artists Bureau to MCA.

Attorneys for both outfits are studying the legal technicalities involved in the transfer of client contracts. Understood that in broad interpretation of the contractual commitments the sale can be made without consulting each individual client now being handled by Columbia Management. Provisions of Artists Managers Guild contract, which would be applicable in the CBS-MCA deal, is said to allow for the transfer of talent without individual consent by giving said talent the right to sever the new alliance after six months trial period if the arrangement proves unsatisfactory.

Affected by the abandonment of its artists bureau by CBS will be 85 clients, working in pictures and radio, and the bureau personnel of 10 persons headed by Manager William Forbes.

Ilka Chase Heading Substitute Program For Al Pearce

'Penthouse Party', headed by Ilka Chase with a weekly change of guest stars, moves into Al Pearce's Camel spot over CBS beginning Friday from New York. Pearce resumes for the ciggie after a layoff lasting until Oct. 6.

Regulars in support of Miss Chase will be Yvette, singer, Paul Baron's band and Bert Parks, spieler. Guesting on next week's initialer will be Rubinoff and Judith Anderson. Program airs here over KNX at 6:30 p.m. and four hours later in New York.

Bennett Directs 'Bound'

Spencer G. Bennett will direct 'Arizona Bound', first of the new Buck Jones-Tim McCoy westerns Scott R. Dunlap will produce for Monogram. Picture rolls June 8.

DISNEY STRIKE HITS THEATRES; SQUADS OUT

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

stitutes for the Disney pictures. The union agreed.

Both the company and the Screen Cartoonists Guild expressed satisfaction with the first days developments. Disney spokesman claimed that only 309 out of 1,214 employed had failed to report for work, and insisted that production was proceeding as usual. The Screen Cartoonists Guild said that 450 out of a possible 600 workers in the unit claimed by the Guild were on strike, and said that many others would join the picket lines today. Yesterday was payday at Disney, and the union claimed many workers went in to get their checks. Strikers later were paid off at the gate.

Carpenters, machinists, teamsters and culinary workers refused to cross the picket lines yesterday. Some cameramen, soundmen, and film editors also were out. It was announced last night that all cameramen, soundmen, electricians and other crafts would not cross the picket lines today. A move also was being made to keep the film editors out. The latter have called a meeting for June 3 to take a strike vote themselves. A telephone company truck turned back at the gate when advised a strike was in progress.

A meeting of Disney employes who crossed the picket lines was held last night at the Abraham Lincoln School near the plant. It was reported that each worker present was given the names of three strikers and were told to contact them last night and try to persuade them to return to work. It was reported they were told to make specific inducements to each individual worker, offering to reinstate bonuses, etc.

'LAST DITCH' MOVE

Union officials insisted that this 'last ditch' move indicated that the strike was effective and that production was being seriously hampered by the walkout.

A 24-hour picket line is being maintained at all entrances to the Disney Studio. The picket line is enlarged to several hundred each time a new shift reports or one is dismissed. Femme pickets marched with the men.

The company filed a petition with the NLRB requesting an immediate election of employes to designate a collective bargaining representative.

The Screen Cartoonists Guild also filed a new unfair labor practice complaint against the company, claiming that the American Society of Screen Cartoonists is a successor to the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, which was ordered disbanded as the result of a consent decree. The union insists that formation of the Society was announced at the same meeting when employes were told the Federation was being abolished. They also stated that officers of the new organization were also officers in the Federation.

Replying to charges of the company that the union was trying to coerce workers into striking, Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and one of the strike leaders, said:

'The only interference and coercion has been practiced by the company in the discharge of six Guild leaders and the setting up of two company unions. But they are going to find out that this has only cemented the determination of the workers to form a union of their own choosing and one that can not be dominated by the company. The Guild offered to accept a cross check of its membership with the Disney payroll to designate a bargaining agent, but the company turned this down, so why should the union now agree to an election. The workers tried in every way to reach an amicable agreement, but Gunther Lessing blocked their every move to make a satisfactory deal with the company.'

DISNEY STATEMENT

Roy Disney returned from New York yesterday, and quickly went into conference with Walt Disney and other company executives on the strike situation. The company, in urging an election of employes, issued the following statement:

'Rumors circulated that the Disney company is seeking to include in the proposed studio election by secret ballot to determine the official studio bargaining agent, workers beyond the jurisdiction of the Screen Cartoonists Guild's claims, were denied today by company spokesmen. The company expressed itself as willing and insistent that an election by secret ballot be held by workers falling directly within the classifications now claimed by the Guild. Although the Guild originally designated that no supervisory or miscellaneous studio classifications were to come under membership jurisdiction, it is now claiming seven supervisory classifications, as well as departments, including comic strip, the messenger department and training school employes. This was borne out yesterday by the presence of members of these groups in the SCG picket line. Even though the Guild's demands are in excess of those originally outlined by the Labor Board's decision in the Disney matter, in July 1939, the Disney company expressed itself late yesterday as still willing to call an election among the crafts and classifications of employes claimed by the Guild.'

MEMORIAL DAY

Disney executives announced that the studio will be closed at 5:30 p.m. today until Monday morning in observance of Memorial Day.

Union representatives said that Disney executives had refused to even talk with the Guild, much less agree to an election, until it was disclosed that the workers were preparing to strike. They said the members had been tricked so often, with formation of company union, etc., that a majority of them did not care to risk taking any more chances on promises. They said that the strike would be carried to a successful conclusion, and that when it was over there would be a 100% AFofL union closed shop.

The pickets cheered yesterday when a sound truck of Machinists Local No. 311 announced that Mr. Schlesinger is here. Leon Schlesinger, who recently signed a three-year contract with the Screen Cartoonists Guild, drove by the picket line and stopped to chat with Herbert Sorrell and Lyle Shrader, who was instrumental in negotiating the Schlesinger deal.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Mary Pickford Hostess For Women Attending PCC-MPTOA Sesh

Mary Pickford will function as hostess at a number of entertainment features being framed for the women in attendance at the annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners. Meeting is to be held simultaneously here with that of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, with the former organization acting as hosts. A special garden party has already been arranged for the ladies of the convention, with the wives of studio executives lending their presence.

Grand finale of the dual convention will be an industry buffet supper at Earl Carroll's night spot on the closing day of the exhibitor gathering.

Griffith To Be Guested By Dallas Variety Club

R. E. Griffith, veteran Texas showman, will be guested by the Dallas Variety club, No. 17, the night of June 7. Tribute is being paid for his efforts in connection with 'The Father of the Boys Camp' at Belton. Event will be staged on Father's Day. Lemonade, cake and fried chicken will be the piece-de-resistance on the menu, with plenty of speechmaking and Bob O'Donnell delivering the invocation.

Other speakers will be L. M. 'Mike' Rice, reviewing the activities of the Boys Camp, and William 'Bill' McCraw, former attorney general of Texas.

F & M El Cap Takeover for Par Pix June 15

Fanchon & Marco likely will assume possession of the El Capitan theatre, as a Hollywood first run outlet for Paramount pictures, about June 15. House policy has not been definitely decided upon but indications are that F&M will send some of their Paramount stage shows to the Hollywood blvd. house, to run in conjunction with screen attractions. F&M have been angling for number of years to get a Hollywood foothold and acquisition of El Capitan is in line with this plan.

Name Bands for Orph

Orpheum theatre is going in for a siege of 'name' bands on its stage. First will be the Jimmy Lunceford combo, opening for a week next Wednesday. On June 25 Ella Fitzgerald's femme ork will be featured.

Ill in Pix

BILL QUINN, veteran indie distributor, is in Methodist hospital with a broken knee cap and chest injuries, the result of an auto collision while returning from the formal opening of the New Vern theatre. An operation will be performed today on the injured leg with Quinn expected to be confined to the hospital for at least a week or two.

ART WRIGHT, sound technician on 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' at 20th-Fox, recovering at the Queen of Angels hospital from sinus operation.

Harmon Stresses Industry Strides for U. S. Defense

★ Continued from page 1 ★

attention of the film industry continues to be focused on our own continuing effort to achieve a better understanding and closer cooperation between the 21 American Republics.

Harmon also touched on film business' maintenance of an uninterrupted supply of films to the 'brave people of beleaguered Britain.' He said the British board of trade had long ago expressed a desire that film imports be maintained at the highest possible level, and that this service in maintaining British morale has been done.

Murray Silverstone Cancels UA Pact

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

large chunk of his own coin, besides that of Miss Pickford and additional monies needed to finance two or three pictures a year will be provided by New York and Los Angeles banking interests. Silverstone heads for New York tomorrow, as does Miss Pickford, and following their arrival the corporate setup of the new enterprise will be established.

Silverstone for some time has been figuring on going into production and recently requested his release from the member owners of the company, Miss Pickford, Charles Chaplin, Alexander Korda, and Bank of America representing the Douglas Fairbanks estate. Final accord was reached at meeting held in Loyd Wright's office Tuesday night, with Silverstone agreeing to remain in his current position until a successor is named. Also agreement was made that certain monies which accrue to him under terms of his contract be paid Silverstone, with the amount to be determined through calculations.

Silverstone plans on having working capital of around $2,000,000 for the production of his pictures, all to be made here with possibility that besides the initial producer two others will align themselves with the company shortly. Miss Pickford will not be active on the production end. Silverstone will maintain his quarters in New York but spend about half of his time here.

UA SESSION TODAY

The member owners of UA will hold a meeting today and discuss possibility of a successor to Silverstone or the naming of a temporary head in New York until one is chosen. Not known whether the company will go outside of its ranks or possibly give the post to Arthur Kelly, general sales head, now here and who took over his post newly created for him four months ago.

Silverstone spent 19 of his 22 years with the company in the foreign field, being in charge of the European continent for 15 years. He was brought to America almost three years ago to head the organization, succeeding Dr. A. H. Giannini, who was president.

Puppeteers Site

Site at 716 North La Cienega has been picked by Yale Puppeteers for their Turn-About theatre, which will house stage productions by the group. Incorporated in the structure will be a 300-seat theatre with two stages, puppet workshop, scenic and wardrobe designing studio, rehearsal hall and a Green Room.

2,000 20th Employes Praise Roosevelt For Speech

Some 2,000 employes at 20th-Fox yesterday signed a statement to President Roosevelt, praising him for his speech of Tuesday evening. The statement, dispatched immediately to Washington, D. C., read:

'We are the men and women of 20th Century Fox Studio. We believe that great leadership has once more come to America in an hour of crisis. We believe that the course you have charted is the only course consistent with national dignity and honor.

'We believe it is the only course which can lead to a continuance of freedom. We believe in you, Mr. President. And to you, we herewith give our pledge of loyalty and service unconditionally and without reserve'.

Anton Rothchck Arrives Next Week On Picture Setup

Anton Rothchck, European producer, will arrive here next week to make releasing arrangements, probably through United Artists, for 'R.A.F.', story which he intends making here. Rothchck arrived in this country recently from London.

He has signed John Beal for the lead in the picture and plans early production. Story is from the novel by Keith Ayling. Negotiations on the sale of the book were handled by the Ned Brown agency.

Sophie Tucker Scores Heavily At Orpheum

Sophie Tucker opened a week's stay at the Orpheum theatre yesterday, headlining what is the closest approach to oldtime two-a-day vaude house has presented in many years. Fully recovered from her recent brief San Francisco illness, comedienne scored heavily at the downtown house yesterday, doing 27 minutes at the first show and leaving her auditors clamoring for more. Owing to previous commitments Orpheum booking will be limited to a single week.

John Payne Westing for 20th Film

New York, May 28.—John Payne planed for the Coast today after a stopover en route from Roanoake, Va., his home town, where he has been vacationing. Actor goes into 'The Light of Heart' at 20th-Fox.

ANGELS WITH BROKEN WINGS
LEO GORCEY
He's no angel....
He's a high-flier from Hell's Kitchen.

BINNIE BARNES • GILBERT ROLAND
MARY LEE
BILLY GILBERT • JANE FRAZEE • EDWARD NORRIS
KATHARINE ALEXANDER • LEO GORCEY • LOIS
RANSON • LENI LYNN • MARILYN HARE
BERNARD VORHAUS, Director • Screen play by George Carlton Brown and Bradford Ropes • Original story by George Carlton Brown
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Republic Schedules 8 Features, 7 Westerns, Serial in 1st Quarter

Republic has scheduled eight features, seven westerns and one serial for production during the first quarter of the 1941-42 season. Features will include five comedies, two dramas and one musical, while in the western group one will be a Gene Autry-Smiley Burnette and two each from Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes, The Three Musquiteers, and Don Barry. Slingin' Sammy Baugh headlines the serial, 'King of the Texas Rangers.'

Features are 'Lady for a Night', drama; 'Mountain Moonlight', a Weaver Brothers and Elviry comedy already completed; 'Hurricane Smith', drama, now shooting; 'Navy Blue Eyes', comedy with music; 'Argentine Holiday', musical with a Latin background; 'Pardon My Stripes', comedy; 'The Devil Pays Off', mystery comedy; and 'Gobs in Blue', comedy with music.

The Autry-Burnette western will be 'Sierra Sue.' The two from Rogers and Hayes are 'Jesse James at Bay' and 'South of Santa Fe.' 'Empty Saddles' and 'Gauchos of Eldorado' are the two Three Mesquiteers and the Don Barrys are 'Death Valley Outlaws' and 'The Apache Kid.'

Dennis Morgan Will Do Iowa College Date

Dennis Morgan will appear with the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Wendell Schroeder for the dedication ceremonies for the new Loras College Bowl there. Request for Morgan to sing was made by Archbishop Beckman of Dubuque, Iowa.

Eddy as Soloist

Nelson Eddy will appear as soloist at the St. John's Episcopal church at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at a service to be conducted by Reverend George Davidson, D.D. called 'Special Service of Intercession for Britain'.

Spot Harry Lewis

Harry Lewis, formerly with the Pasadena Community Playhouse, has been signed to a term pact at Warners and his first assignment is 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough.'

Boteler's 'Americans'

Wade Boteler is set at Metro for a character role in 'Young Americans'. Ben Lewis has been assigned to the picture as film editor.

Romanoff a Prof

Mike Romanoff returns to acting in 20th-Fox 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' He plays the role of an Oxford professor.

a.m. Dailies

Leon Janney Divorced—

Wilma Janney, actress known professionally as Wilma Francis, yesterday won a divorce from Leon Janney in Superior court.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Hardy Family'	Metro	General Office	George Seitz	May 26
'Young Americans'	Metro	Frederick Stephani	Robert Sinclair	May 27
'Mob Town'	Universal	Ken Goldsmith	William Nigh	May 27
'Almost An Angel'	Universal	Joe Pasternak	Henry Koster	May 27
'Raiders of the Desert'	Universal	Ben Pivar	John Rawlins	May 31

15 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'City Limits'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	June 2
'Arizona Bound'	Monogram	Scott Dunlap	Unassigned	June 6
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	June 2
'Billy the Kid', Western	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sam Newfield	June 2
'Ice-Capades'	Republic	Robert North	Joseph Santley	June 2
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	June 2
'Unexpected Uncle'	RKO	Erich Pommer	Tay Garnett	June 2
'Riders of the Purple Sage'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	June 2
'Marry the Boss' Daughter'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	Thornton Freeland	June 3
'We Go Fast'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	William McGann	June 4
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 2
'Niagara Falls'	UA	Hal Roach	Gordon Douglas	June 6
'Masked Caballero'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ford Beebe	June 2
'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'	Warners	William Jacobs	Eddie Sutherland	June 2
'The Maltese Falcon'	Warners	Henry Blanke	John Huston	June 2

20 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Unassigned	Unassigned	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Fugitive Valley'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	June 9
'Phantom Rider'	Monogram	Robert Tangey	Bob Hill	June 9
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 15
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'The Ghost Runs Wild'	Monogram	Unassigned	Unassigned	Preparing
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Ted Tetzlaff	June 16
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	William Pine and William Thomas	Frank McDonald	June 30
'The Remarkable Andrew'	Paramount	Richard Blumenthal	Unassigned	June 30
'Mr. Celebrity'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Unassigned	Preparing
'Tanks a Million'	Roach	Hal Roach	Fred Guiol	June 20
'Man At Large'	20th-Fox	Ralph Dietrich	Eugene Forde	June 9
'How Green Was My Valley'	20th-Fox	Darryl Zanuck	John Ford	June 9
'Weekend In Havana'	20th-Fox	William Le Baron	Walter Lang	June 16
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	June 20
'All Through the Night'	Warners	Jerry Wald	Vincent Sherman	June 9
'Kings Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	June 16

Nine Productions Skeded at 20th For June Starts

Nine new pictures will go before the cameras at 20th-Fox during the month of June. One of the bigger ones is 'Weekend in Havana', Technicolor film with Alice Faye, Don Ameche, Carmen Miranda and Cesar Romero. Hermes Pan yesterday began working out dance routines for a chorus of 80 in the musical.

'How Green Was My Valley', also a big picture, 'Remember the Day', 'Cadet Girl', 'The Bowery Nightingale', 'We Go Fast', 'Lone Star Ranger', 'Marry the Boss' Daughter', and 'Men at Large' are the others.

Spot Bruce Bennett

Bruce Bennett gets featured spot in 'Two Latins from Manhattan' at Columbia.

Coast League Baseball Results

San Diego, 9; Los Angeles, 4.
Hollywood, 7; Seattle, 5.
San Francisco, 8; Sacramento, 3.
Oakland at Portland, rain.

Story Buys

Republic has completed the purchase of 'Maid to Order', original story by Isabel Dawn and Boyce De Gaw, for use as the background for its special production, 'Ice-Capades of 1941.' Dawn and De Gaw will receive original story credit on the picture and Jack Townley and Robert Harari are shaping the screen play for the ice show.

'Hank the Night Watchman' (Bill Kelso) all night radio announcer, has sold an original screenplay, 'Intrigues of the Air Waves', to Miguel Torres. Latter has signed Sibyl Bowan to play the lead. It will be her initial dramatic role in films.

Albert S. Rogell has purchased the film rights to 'Peace With the Yaquis', story by Grinnell Sutton which is localed in Mexico.

Shilkret Arriving

Nathaniel Shilkret is planing in from New York to accompany Kathryn Grayson, young Metro singer, when she records 'The Mad Scene' and 'Spargi' from 'Lucia di Lammermoor', 'Tales From the Vienna Woods' and 'Voices of Spring' for Red Seal records.

James Hogan Signs Four Film Deal With Darmour

James T. Hogan has signed with Larry Darmour to direct four pictures a year on a deal negotiated through the Sam Jaffe agency. Contract goes into effect in September when Hogan's pact at Paramount is completed. He has been under a term ticket at the latter lot since 1935.

Hogan will probably continue as director on the 'Ellery Queen' features produced by Darmour for Columbia release, having directed two of the group and now on loanout from Paramount for a third.

DeWolf Ends 'Buckaroo'

Karen DeWolf has finished screen play for 'Lady Buckaroo', cowboy musical starring Penny Singleton at Columbia. Robert Sparks produces.

Laughs, Laughs, Laughs!
at
SLAPSY MAXIE'S
with
BEN BLUE & CULLY RICHARDS
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. WEbster 9513
Management: Sammy Lewis

WITHOUT QUESTION THE HILARIOUS LOVE AND LAUGH FROLIC OF THE YEAR!

WHAT IS LOVE?
WHAT IS LOVE?
She Knew All the Answers

STARTS
OMORROW
RKO
ILLSTREET
and
PANTAGES
THEATRES

starring

JOAN BENNETT · FRANCHOT TONE

with JOHN HUBBARD · EVE ARDEN · WILLIAM TRACY

Based upon a Cosmopolitan Magazine Story by Jane Allen · Screen play by Harry Segall, Kenneth Earl, Curtis Kenyon

Directed by Richard Wallace · Produced by **CHARLES R. ROGERS**

COLUMBIA PICTURES

A

CHARLES R. ROGERS
PRODUCTION

The Critics Speak

Lively screwball fun served in a manner that catches audience attention immediately. You'll want to see "She Knew All The Answers" again as it's that funny.

HARRY MINES, Daily News

"She Knew All The Answers" is gay film. . . . An amusing picture that gave many laughs.

DOROTHY MANNERS, L. A. Examiner

A comedy of extraordinary brightness and high entertainment value, "She Knew All The Answers" should find wide welcome where sheer amusement is wanted. It is the best potential box office entry Charles R. Rogers has turned out in years. . . . A fine piece of screen craftsmanship.

DAILY VARIETY

Charles R. Rogers has given Columbia a picture that is definitely an audience natural.

BOX OFFICE DIGEST

Rogers' first for Columbia good fun. A neat business comedy. The show chalked up enough laughs to assure profitable business in its playdates.

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Producer Chas. R. Rogers proves herewith that a comedy about a chorus girl and Wall Street can be smart, sophisticated, funny and clean at one and the same time. It's quite a feat and quite a picture, a substantial money's worth for any theatre's customers.

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

Not the least of the many accolades which are the just due of this unusually bright and thoroughly enjoyable comedy is awardable for its cleanliness. The film does a sharp about-face from the trend toward suggestiveness which has asserted itself in many recent high-cost and so-called sophisticated offerings. Picture is Producer Charles R. Rogers' first for Columbia and probably the best he has ever made.

BOX OFFICE

Charles R. Rogers rates raves for an entertaining piece of screen fare, one that should garner its share of healthy box-office receipts.

SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW

She Knew All The Answers

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

STARTS TOMORROW—RKO HILLSTREET & PANTAGES THEATRES

DIRECTED BY

RICHARD WALLACE

She Knew All The Answers

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

FRANCHOT TONE

Management
M. C. LEVEE AGENCY

She Knew All The Answers

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

WILLIAM A. PIERCE

ASSISTANT PRODUCER

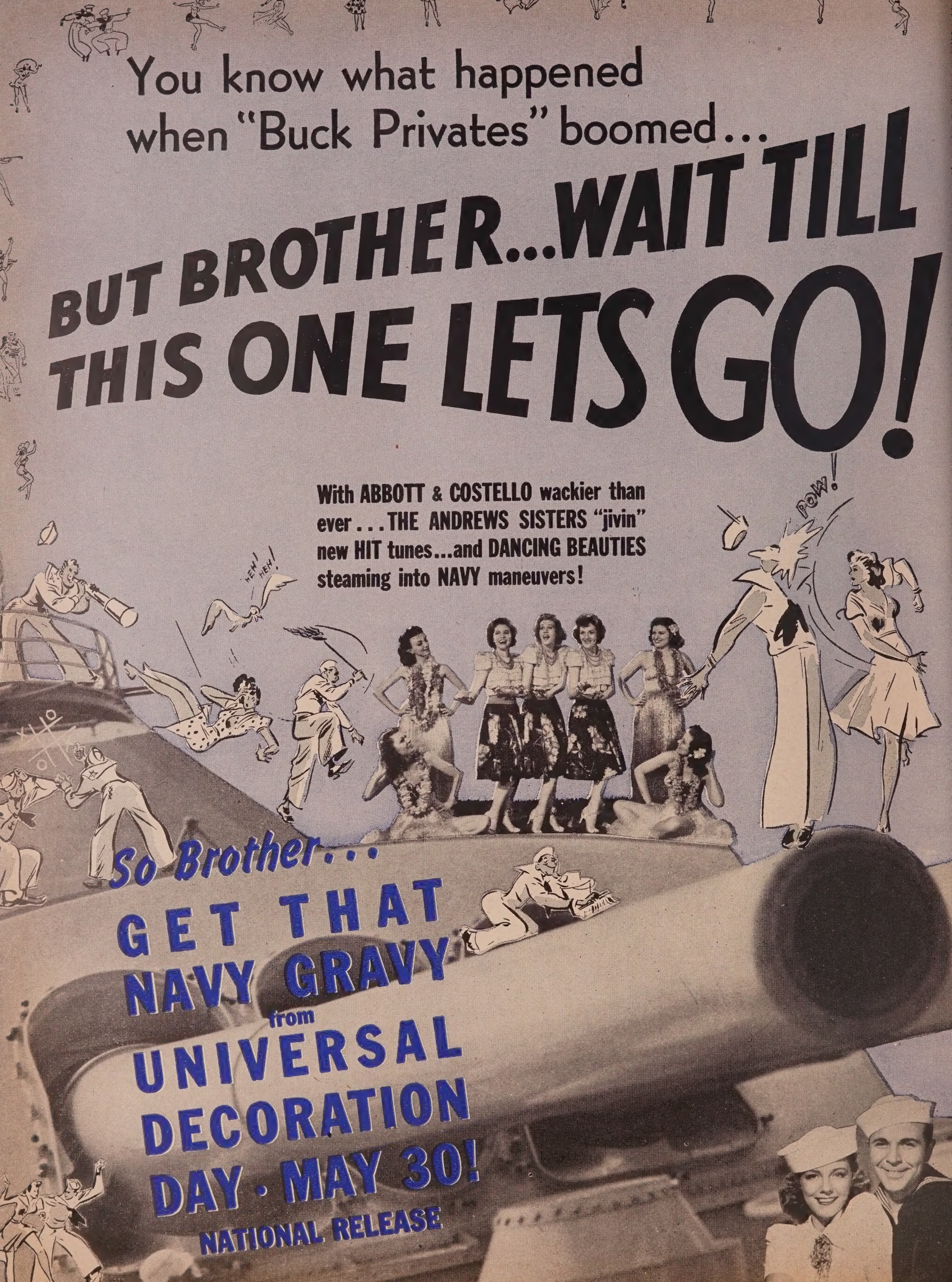
"SHE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS"
"ADVENTURE IN WASHINGTON"

With Deep Appreciation
to
Charles R. Rogers
For Everything

JOHN HUBBARD

Management
NAT GOLDSTONE AGENCY

She Knew All
The Answers



You know what happened
when "Buck Privates" boomed...

BUT BROTHER...WAIT TILL THIS ONE LETS GO!

With **ABBOTT & COSTELLO** wackier than ever . . . **THE ANDREWS SISTERS** "jivin" new **HIT** tunes...and **DANCING BEAUTIES** steaming into **NAVY** maneuvers!

So Brother...

GET THAT NAVY GRAVY
from
UNIVERSAL
DECORATION DAY · MAY 30!
NATIONAL RELEASE

PLAIN SHOW TALK

by NATE BLUMBERG, President UNIVERSAL PICTURES

PICTURES that take you out of the RED and deposit you into the FAT BLACK do not come along every day—and we all know it. When they do come you have to make the most of them. Every exhibitor in the United States is familiar with the wildfire hit made by Abbott and Costello in "Buck Privates". Every exhibitor who played it made money. Now Universal presents Abbott and Costello in a picture that will outdo even the phenomenal business of "Buck Privates". BUT, Universal hopes you are SET for it; SET to play it for extended time; SET to HOLD it so you can CASH IN on it! PREPARE for this baby right NOW. You don't have to screen it. You don't have to worry about it. You just have to COLLECT on it PROPERLY! If ever a picture in this business comes SOLID, this is IT!

IT'S set—if YOU'RE set!

Bud ABBOTT & Lou COSTELLO
DICK POWELL

IN THE NAVY

with **THE ANDREWS SISTERS** • **Claire Dodd** • **Dick Foran**
Butch & Buddy • **Shemp Howard** • **Sunnie O'Dea** • **Condos Bros.**
Directed by ARTHUR LUBIN • **Associate Producer ALEX GOTTLIEB**
Screenplay by Arthur T. Horman and John Grant
Original Story by Arthur T. Horman

Frances Neal, RKO Pact Up in Court For Judge's Okeh

Petition for approval of contract between RKO Radio and Frances Neal, 20, has been filed in Superior court in line with regulations governing minors in films. Terms of the contract provide that Miss Neal is to be paid $150 weekly for the first six months, $175 weekly for the following six months, with six additional yearly options on a sliding scale winding up at $1,250 weekly for the final year.

Actress has not been assigned to any extra work in pictures, getting her first role in 'Lady Scarface', shortly to be released. She has had some Little Theatre experience.

A. C. Blumenthal Reply Date Extended to (10)

New York, May 28.—U. S. District Court Judge Grover Moscowitz today extended to June 10 the right of A. C. Blumenthal to file memorandum supporting his claim of illness, in Blumenthal's attempt to quash a government subpoena served on him for failure to testify in the Joseph Schenck-Joe Moskowitz trial. If guilty of deliberate evasion of the summons Blumenthal is subject to a $100,000 fine.

Jackman Lenses 'Blind'

Fred Jackman, Jr., will handle the cameras on 'Flying Blind', next Thomas-Pine production for Paramount release. Picture is scheduled to start in two weeks with Richard Arlen and Jean Parker in the leads.

Earl Felton Set

Earl Felton has been set at Paramount to collaborate on 'The Murder Farm', intended Bob Hope-Paulette Goddard mystery comedy.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Copper Toe Valdina Joan Aunt Begee	1—Holly Merryheart Curiosa	1—Curiosa Copper Toe El Nido Alexa	1—Curiosa Copper Toe Holly	1—Holly Copper Tot Lady Silver	1—Aunt Begee El Nido Alexa Holly
2—Papenie Playful Wink Godspeed	2—Playful Wink Papenie Miscreant	2—Golden Float Godspeed Papenie	2—Playful Wink Papenie Godspeed	2—Miscreant Golden Float Godspeed	2—Playful Wink Miscreant Godspeed
3—First Gold With Us Frat Boy	3—Roughage Hi Beautiful Games Over	3—With Us Hi Beautiful Frat Boy	3—Bye Sweep With Us First Gold	3—With Us Frat Boy First Gold	3—Roughage First Gold Kekawaka
4—Wingspread Candy Hero Pundit	4—Candy Hero Wingspread Valdina Gypsy	4—Candy Hero Wingspread Valdina Gypsy	4—Candy Hero Wingspread Fervorita	4—Candy Hero Wingspread Pundit	4—Wingspread Candy Hero Pundit
5—Sumatra III Magic Key Aboyne	5—Sumatra III Aboyne Magic Key	5—Mad Sue Magic Key Sumatra III	5—Aboyne Magic Key Sumatra III	5—Sumatra III Aboyne Mad Sue	5—Magic Key Sumatra III Aboyne
6—Copperman Chaldon Heath Port	6—Copperman Swell Chance Over Drive	6—Copperman Merry Bid Chaldon Heath	6—Swell Chance Copperman Over Drive	6—Copperman Over Drive Royal Marboro	6—Copperman Legend Call Chaldon Heath
7—Peter Tokalon Cargador Easy Does It	7—Cargador Peter Tokalon Valdina Minx	7—Cargador Peter Tokalon Easy Sailing	7—Peter Tokalon Cargador Easy Does It	7—Peter Tokalon Cargador Valdina Minx	7—Peter Tokalon Cargador Testa
8—Spanish Main Dick Naish'pur Tow Rope	8—Allergic Dick Naish'pur Sunphantom	8—Spanish Main Dick Naish'pur Sunphantom	8—Dick Naish'pur Allergic Spanish Main	8—Spanish Main Dick Naish'pur Sunphantom	8—Spanish Main Count Anklet Home Burning

Chas. Skouras Heads To Frisco For F-WC Pic Sesh

Charles Skouras has left for San Francisco for the Memorial Day holiday to sit in with Fox West Coast group including Larry Kent, Pete Lundgren and Cullen Espy, already there setting 20th-Fox product deal for F-WC northern California houses with William Kupper.

Formula for the Los Angeles district regarding 20th-Fox product was arrived at last week.

Litvak Renewed

Anatole Litvak's director contract at Warners has been renewed and his first assignment under the new deal is 'Hot Nocturne.' Deal has also been concluded with Paramount for the loan of Betty Field for the picture.

Title Changes

'The Devil to Pay', Columbia, to 'Ellery Queen and the Perfect Crime.'

'King and Queen of the Jungle', Paramount, to 'Her Jungle Mate.'

'Lord Epping Sees a Ghost', RKO, to 'Mexican Spitfire's Baby.'

Warners 'King Rubber' now titled 'Law of the Tropics.'

Committee of Unions, Guilds Formulated

■ Continued from page 1 ■

general labor relations with the Producers joint action by the committee of unions and guilds for effective culmination of negotiations was agreed upon last night.

'With representatives of additional unions and guilds in attendance, 10 points of common contract interests were drawn up for each craft to discuss with its own membership. A motion was made and passed that the experiences and negotiations of each union and guild would be made available to all.

'A main point of discussion was the report of the radio committee on the coast-to-coast broadcast for the airing of common union and guild problems, which included the amount of money to be expended and the type of program to be presented in order to express the point of view of the union and guilds of Hollywood.

'The committee found that bargaining negotiations with the Producers have become steadily more difficult and unsatisfactory during the past year. It was decided that this situation will grow worse unless effective joint action can be devised by the guilds and unions interested as various contracts come up for renegotiation.

'It was unanimously agreed that the successful planning of such joint action for the improvement of bargaining activity was the most important task confronting the crafts of the motion picture industry at this time.'

Dorothy Lamour Given New Contract At Paramount

Dorothy Lamour yesterday was handed new contract at Paramount, starting her sixth year with the company.

She leaves today on the Lurline for a month's vacation in Hawaii. Four roles are set for her return, 'The Fleet's In', a Navy musical; 'Her Jungle Mate', (formerly 'King and Queen of the Jungle'); 'Angel In Furs' and 'Road to Morocco'.

Publicists Guild Seeks Sesh on Constitution

The Screen Publicists Guild Executive Committee last night voted to call a general membership meeting early in June at which time the new Constitution will be submitted for final approval. The Committee also voted to contribute $150 toward cost of the FWB air program launched by various unions and guilds to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento. The Guild will name a committee to study economic conditions with a view to possible revision of the current Producer-SPG contract in October. The committee will gather statistics on the cost of living, wages, etc.

PRODUCERS, CO. ATTORNEYS TALK LOCALS' DEMANDS

Continued from page 1

who surrendered in Chicago on an extortion charge and was released in $2,000 bail. The general manager of one major studio is reported to have contacted Willie Bioff, personal representative of Browne, and now at liberty under $30,000 bond on charges of extortion and income tax evasion, to ask his opinion on the advisability of talking wages and conditions with the local unions.

It is understood that the Producers finally started paging Pat Casey, who has been in New York several weeks awaiting a decision by the Wage-Hour Division on disputed classifications in the film industry. It was reported that request had been made that Casey leave for the Coast at once to handle the situation, but from New York it was said that Casey, a recent witness before the U. S. Grand Jury, would not be able to leave before the first of next week.

The executives were reported to be considerably perturbed by the letter from the Studio Locals stating they intended to handle their negotiations without any aid from the International. They asked for an early meeting with the Producer labor relations committee headed by Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association. It is understood that Freeman in replying to the request will ask that the initial meeting be deferred until Casey reaches the Coast.

While the Producers were trying to decide what policy to adopt, a committee of four members from each studio local, including the business representatives, were in session to map out a program. It is said they plan to cement the groups together with adoption of a Constitution By-Laws, and that a committee to draft them as well as a ways and means committee have already been appointed.

The International Photographers cians 683, which were not repre- Local 659, and Laboratory Technisented at the last meeting had committees present yesterday. Certain representatives voiced opposition to any affiliation with outside crafts but this was passed over as it was agreed that all the locals would stand pat as a unit and make their deals here, rather than have the International set them in the east.

Another meeting of the committees from the various locals has been called for June 2 at which time the group organization will be completed.

6 THRILLING LONG DISTANCE RACES
and 7-FURLONG HANDICAP
Sunday at CALIENTE
in Old Mexico
12 RACES • FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Off

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 63 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, June 2, 1941 5 Cents

FILM WAGE-HOUR DECISH OK'D

UNIONS IN DISNEY FITE AFTER RKO

With processing of Walt Disney films already blocked at Technicolor, Williams and Pathe laboratories, the Screen Cartoonists Guild and other studio unions start pressuring RKO today in an effort to stop release of Disney productions through that company during duration of the Disney strike. Tops in the American Federation of Labor said meetings also have been arranged with West Coast theatre

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Ray Jones Receives New Contract At U

Ray Jones, head of Universal's still department, has been given a new contract. New pact runs for four years. Jones has been on the Universal lot for the past 10 years. He recently was top prize winner in the first annual still photography show staged by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Antrim Short Assumes Philbrick Job Today

Antrim Short assumes his new duties today as executive assistant to Howard R. Philbrick, general manager of Central Casting Corp. He formerly was with the Screen Actors Guild. Ralph Acton checks out of Central today on a two weeks vacation, and Dave Landauer returns from vacation.

Robt. Gillham Arrives From NY Today

Robert Gillham, Paramount advertising and publicity chief in New York, gets in here today. Is preceding Neil Agnew, company general sales manager, who will address MPTOA convention next week. Besides they will get product lineup for 1941-42 season while here.

Neil Hamilton Set

Neil Hamilton will have role in 'Look Who's Laughing', Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy starrer at RKO.

REVIEWED

SINGAPORE WOMAN
(WB)

(Review on page 3)

REPS IA LOCALS SESH TODAY ON PROD. DEMANDS

Representatives of studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes meet at 3 p.m. today to discuss their demands on Producers for immediate opening of negotiations on wages and conditions. In the meantime, Pat Casey was reported hurrying to the Coast from New York at the re-

★ Continued on page 9 ★

Kent Training In

Prexy Sidney R. Kent arrives here today by train to confer with 20th-Fox studio tops on product announcement to be made at annual sales convention in Chicago July 9.

REPORT BEING SENT HERE; FEW CHANGES

The Wage-Hour decision on disputed film classifications has been approved, Washington reports stated last night, and is being sent here for release this week, probably today or tomorrow. It is understood that only a few technical changes are being made in the original recommendations of Eldred M. Cocking, Wage-Hour analyst who made the film industry survey.

It was learned from authoritative sources that certain changes are being made in the terminology of best boy and gaffer, and that there will be some differentiation between graduate and practical nurses. It is

♠ Continued on page 8 ♠

Litomy Becomes Executive Secretary of Local AGVA

Leslie Litomy, formerly with the American Guild of Variety Artists in New York, is taking over the duties of executive secretary of the Los Angeles local of AGVA. He succeeds Lee Travers, who is being recalled by the Screen Actors Guild after being loaned to AGVA for one month.

Kenneth Thomson, temporary administrator of the local AGVA in a letter to the national board, paid high tribute to Travers for his work with the local. Thomson stated that the affairs and finances of AGVA showed marked improvement during the administration of Travers, and that the latter accomplished much for the membership. He said the work of Travers shows what 'can be accomplished by an able, honest and conscientious administrator who is allowed to work without interference'.

THEATRE BIZ SHOT OVER HOLIDAY

Theatre biz was pretty well shot locally over the three-day holiday, with only a few of the deluxers having any grosses to brag about. Heaviest draw picture was 20th's 'Blood and Sand', which garnered around

◆ Continued on page 9 ◆

Kibbee Joins 'Angel'

Guy Kibbee has been added to the cast of 'Almost An Angel', the currently-shooting Deanna Durbin picture at Universal, for a featured spot.

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, June 1.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Intermezzo	Schubert
Things I Love	Campbell
Hut Sut Song	Schumann
My Sister and I	BMI
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
Maria Elena	Southern
Lullabye Lane	Warren
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Dolores	Paramount
Amapola	Marks

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	105
Major Studio Calls	280
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	7
Total	392

SELZNICK, CAPRA MAY JOIN UA AS PROD.-OWNERS

United Artists is set for a revitalization with offers reported having been made to and considered by both David O. Selznick and Frank Capra to enter its ranks as producer owners. Amount of stock that would be tendered these producers was not agreed upon, but it would be ten-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Masquers Honor Benny

Jack Benny will be the piece de resistance at the Masquers Club 'pan roast' in his honor June 10. Willie Collier, Sr., will serve as toastmaster and Robert Armstrong, president of the Masquers, will preside.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Boxida**
Lovers Lass
Okoole Maluna
2d RACE—**Brown Splash**
Double A
Kantan
3d RACE—**Taj**
Vegas Justice
Over Gold
4th RACE—**Red Jewel**
Valdina Bishop
Canfield
5th RACE—**Swell Chance**
Sun By
Knight Call
6th RACE—**Sentimentalist**
Valdina Minx
Battling Kate
7th RACE—**CUTE TRICK**
Urge Me
Flying Streak
8th RACE—**Ezechias**
Lostagal
Sunphantom
CHANCE BET—**Igorete** (5th)
Selections consensus, page 9.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Harry Brand guested Ken Murray at El Rancho Vegas.

Terry Brickley joins Lou Irwin agency as associate.

Richard Haydel, moppet pianist, signed to term contract at Metro.

Barton Aylesworth, manager at the Fox Wilshire theatre, vacationing.

Hal Roach and Fred Guiol daring the trout at June lake over weekend.

Lou Holtz in from his personal appearance tour. Last stand was Pittsburgh.

Vacationing at Santa Barbara are Eleanor Powell, her mother and Merrill Pye.

Bing Crosby will record George M. Cohan's 'Mary's a Grand Old Name' for Decca.

David Snell has finished recordings on Marx Brothers comedy, 'The Big Store'.

Judy Canova boarded a Pan-American Clipper Saturday for a vacation in Honolulu.

Gracie Allen and George Burns spent Memorial Day at Santa Barbara Biltmore.

Dean Dorn of Metro praisery off on vacash to his home town, Chippewa Falls, Wis.

Wallace Beery planed to Jackson Hole haunts to snag himself some big mackinaw trout.

Brian Donlevy went to inspect his gold mine in the desert and to brave the sun in region of Death Valley.

Max Gordon headed for St. Louis last night to handle some matters for Sig Romberg. Returns to Columbia post next week.

Frances Langford and Jon Hall are off by auto for her home, Lakeland, Fla. She returns in month on assignment for Hal Roach.

Jack Scholl in New York to discuss status of musical comedy he wrote in collaboration with M. K. Jerome, and slated for Broadway production.

Felix Mills has entered his racing yacht in second heat of 1941 series of the 45-foot sailing association's competish between Los Angeles and Catalina (14-15).

John Emery completes his part in 'Mr. Jordan Comes To Town' at Columbia today and remains on the Coast for further film work instead of returning to the New York stage.

Benny the Gouge sez—A holiday in Hollywood is really a holiday. All you can see is a flock of tourists looking for film stars who ain't there.

Hollywood Inside

UNIVERSAL has completed and shipped 210 complete naval band orchestrations on 'We're in the Navy', Gene DePaul-Don Raye tune, to the naval band headquarters in Washington. Orchestrations will be distributed to every ship and base having their own bands by naval headquarters which has approved number as one of the U. S. Navy's official songs. Official stamp of approval was given martial air by Lieut.-Comm. Charles Benter in charge of all naval bands, and the San Diego Naval Base, where background footage for 'Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, Dick Powell in the Navy' was filmed, has made tune the Base's official song. Universal saved considerable in making up the orchestrations, covering around 36 band instruments, by photographically printing the special arrangement instead of making engraving plates for the various instrument parts. One of the cleffers of the song, Don Raye, is the son of Lieut-Comm. Donald McRae Wilhoit, formerly retired but now in active service.

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BROWSING around in public domain after the Ascap-broadcaster fight broke, Jack Kapp, head of Decca records, happened across the string of early hits written by the Negro composer, James Bland. Figuring that such a prolific tunesmith must have other works that were never published, Kapp hopped over to the U. S. copyright bureau to follow up his hunch. His search rewarded him with 70 unpublished songs and for a consideration of 35c a sheet had them copyrighted. Nine of the best tunes will be put in a Decca album. Among Bland's ditties in public domain are 'Carry Me Back to Ol' Virginny', 'Golden Slippers' and 'Evening By the Moonlight.'

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MURRAY SILVERSTONE, who got release from more than two years of his contract with United Artists as world-wide operations head, is reported to have received a settlement of around $150,000 on his ticket. Silverstone was getting $3,000 a week. Besides this sum, it is understood, Silverstone at the time he was brought to New York from England to replace Dr. A. H. Giannini was given a $100,000 bonus to make the move. Just how Silverstone will be paid the coin on the settlement will be worked out in New York with UA attorneys.

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WITH full radio coverage still unobtainable for musical plugs on pictures, Warners followed up idea they concocted on 'Strawberry Blonde' for 'Million Dollar Baby' and made up smart song trailer for the picture. Has singer doing melodic rendition of story sequences and characters as well as doing lyrics of the song. Warners figure trailer gets attention of patrons in 800 theatres in advance of pic which means that around 20,000,000 see and hear it, which is equivalent if not in excess of plugs they could buy over the ether waves.

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GUS MOHME, 20th-Fox manager in Mexico, is here advising on additional bull fight sequences to be injected into the Spanish version of 'Blood and Sand'. Studio shot around 20,000 feet while on location in Mexico City and had 500 feet of bull fighting in the U. S. versions of the film. Bull ring fights for the Spanish version will total around 1,000 and footage not used will go into the studio's stock shot library. Footage being added to Latin-American version is understood to be of a more exciting nature than that allowed by U. S. censors.

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REQUIRED by city ordinance to install a large reservoir of water due to its location in the fire-hazard area atop Mt. Lee overlooking Hollywood, Thomas Lee has contrived a two-fold effect for the watershed on the grounds of his new television studio, W6XAO. Water will be stored in a pool, which will serve the dual purpose of fighting off fires and accommodating natators for swimming events to be held for televising. Studio has its official opening July 31, with a ceremony planned for the dedication.

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NBC agreed to a withdrawal of LA Soap Co. participation in Art Baker's Notebook on the chain's coast blue network when it was disclosed that only a few outlets were carrying the program. Sponsor cut in for only five minutes of the half hour show and the sustaining nature of the piece caused many affiliates to pass it up. Cancellation of the contract was agreed to by Raymond R. Morgan agency, representing the sponsor.

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IN HONORING the memory of Tom Mix by naming an American Legion post after him, war veterans for the second time have thus paid tribute to people in show business. First was the S. Rankin Drew post in New York, named after the son of the Sidney Drews, who died in action in the last war. Post numbers among its members 12 winners of Congressional medals for valor.

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NEGOTIATIONS to acquire a substantial portion of five acres recently purchased by a Richmond, Cal. real estate firm are being conducted by Fox-West Coast Theatres. Idea is for circuit to build a new house on the site, if satisfactory terms can be worked out. Proposed theatre will be one of several which F-WC plans for the northern California area.

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TWENTIETH-FOX is adding an extra $10,000 to the budget of 'Dance Hall' to take care of additional music in advancing the picture from program to feature rating. Studio is also giving Cesar Romero and Carole Landis star billing, instead of featured, in the picture.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was a time when yokels stayed at home
To tend their hogs, their chickens and their cows.
In bygone days they had no urge to roam
In city streets where intellectuals browse.

And now when come the genial summer days
Joe Yokel rents his ancient rustic barn
To city slickers with their highbrow plays,
And drives to town and doesn't give a darn.

★ ★ ★

So you think nobody reads books. So you think nobody listens to book reviews on the radio. That is what they thought 18 years ago when Joseph Henry Jackson started reviewing books over station KGO in Oakland. Joseph Henry is still reviewing books in the oldest sustaining program on the air.

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Corsairs of North La Brea celebrated their first birthday last night at the Pirates Den with due ribaldry. Reading from left to right, the buccaneers are Rudy Vallee, Bob Hope, Fred MacMurray, Jimmie Fidler, Johnny Weissmuller, Errol Flynn, Bing Crosby, Tony Martin and Ken Murray, the toughest crew of yearlings that ever scuttled a picture.

How about the Best Dressed Man of the Week? Our entry for the first week is Bing Crosby, giving the rest of the boys an easy start.

'Angels With Broken Wings', if you can believe the critics, is going to fly like that.

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Then there is 'Knockout', which is more like a left jab.

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Hollywood grows more and more highbrow. Maxie Rosenbloom goes into 'Harvard, Here I Come' and Mike Romanoff plays an Oxford don in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' One of these days you may see Benny the Gouge in the Daisy Chain at Vassar.

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History is being made in Hollywood as well as in Europe, and as in all historical events there is a question of authenticity. Most throbbing historical problem in Hollywood today is who wore the first formal shorts—Paulette Goddard or Joan Crawford? It will make a lot of difference with future generations.

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Meredith Willson teaches a lesson in biological continuity with the three songs he composed for the Maxwell Coffee airshow. Ditties, sung in their natural order, are 'You and I', 'Two in Love' and 'A Family of Three.'

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Singers around Hollywood are always making tours of South America, whether they do or not.

'We Go Fast' might be a tale of traffic in Los Angeles, but it isn't.

Film Review

Singapore Woman

(*Drama*)

Warner Bros. release of Harlan Thompson production. Features Brenda Marshall, David Bruce, Virginia Field, Jerome Cowan, Rose Hobart. Supporting cast: Connie Leon, Abner Biberman, Richard Ainley, Gilbert Emory, Stanley Logan, Heather Angel, Dorothy Tree, Bruce Lester, Douglas Walton, Bruce Lester, Eva Puig, Charles Irwin. Directed by Jean Negulesco. Screenplay, M. Coates Webster and Allen Rivkin, from a story by Laird Doyle. Dialogue director, Hugh MacMullin. Photography, Ted McCord. Editor, Everett Dodd. Reviewed at Warners Hollywood, May 29. Running time: 65 mins.

Harlan Thompson has turned out a better than the run-of-the-mill B pictures in 'Singapore Woman', and at the same time affords Brenda Marshall and David Bruce, comparative newcomers to the screen, full opportunity to demonstrate what they can do in the way of acting. And both come through with flying colors. Had the Warners so willed, 'Woman' might easily have been made into an A rating film, and in many spots it probably will be given top position.

Aside from a few lapses, the Thompson production emerges most satisfactorily, and these lapses are not enough to in any way deprecate the picture's value. Of the featured players Jerome Cowan probably has the fattest role next to Miss Marshall and Bruce.

Locale is laid in China, with rubber plantations, Singapore dives and tin mines as the principal backgrounds. Bruce, the owner of a plantation, starts out to rehabilitate Miss Marshall, whose father has made it possible for his (Bruce's) success. The Marshall girl, through a series of circumstances, has become an underworld sot, presumably possessed with a jinx which entangles all who come in contact with her. Bruce, who is betrothed to Virginia Field, falls desperately in love with Miss Marshall, who reciprocates his feelings only to be confronted on the eve of their marriage by a former husband who has been presumed lost at sea. The death of the husband in a motor car accident removes the final difficulties and paves the way for happiness.

Bruce is reminiscent of Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., in his early days of the screen, even to the hairline mustache, but he can troupe, and Warners likely will find plenty of stellar parts for him. Miss Marshall fills her role capably, with her transition from the depths to perfect contentment ably worked out by Director Negulesco, who has done a most expert job of directing. Cowan handles his part of the equipment man and friend of Bruce excellently and fine performances are turned in by Miss Field and Miss Hobart. Richard Ainley has a small part of the long-lost husband and Charles Irwin does a bit as a newspaper reporter, handled with his usual finesse.

The screenplay, concocted by M. Coates Webster and Allen Rivkin from the Laird Doyle story, is virtually flawless, and camera work of Ted McCord is an eyefull.

BRAZILIAN LAUDS U. S. FILMS AT RKO BANQUET

RKO studio officials Friday hosted Dr. Pedro Calmon, director of the national faculty of law of the University of Brazil and a member of that country's committee (similar to the Whitney group here) to build better relations between the Americas.

J. R. McDonough presided at the luncheon in the RKO commissary due to the absence of George Schaefer. Joseph and Mrs. Breen also were in attendance. Speakers included Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Dr. Calmon and Rene G. La Vaux, Belgian motion picture producer. La Vaux translated Dr. Calmon's remarks, which were in Spanish.

Dr. Calmon praised the fine artistry of American pictures, describing them as the best the world has ever offered, and emphasized the responsibility thus incumbent upon Hollywood. He said that responsibility was to the fact that America 'holds a monopoly' on films of high quality and should use pictures as an educational medium to create better understanding between the United States and his country.

Archbishop Cantwell, who also spoke briefly, said that 'the motion picture industry is the greatest source of education today'. He praised the Good Neighbor policy and the efforts of the industry to help further good relations between Latin America and the United States.

Esther Fernandez, Mexican star under contract to Paramount; Carmen Miranda, Lupe Velez, Gloria Lynch, Chilean actress; Michele Morgan, Signe Hasso, Alberta Vila, Argentine star; Anne Shirley, Gloria Swanson, Adolphe Menjou, Ben Piazza, Perry Lieber and Kenneth Thomson, representing the Whitney committee, also were present. Other guests included a score of civic officials.

Toasts were drunk in coffee, the Brazilian national beverage.

SAG Expects Producer, Extra Answer Today

The Screen Actors Guild is scheduled to receive an answer from the Producers today or tomorrow on the proposed reclassification of extra brackets. The deal has been stymied by objection of certain officials to a proposal to limit employment of $5.50 extras to calls for 50 or more players. The Producers also are expected to set a date for their next meeting with the Screen Writers Guild, tomorrow having been tentatively suggested.

John Lee Marries

John Lee and Helen Jones were married Saturday in Las Vegas. Lee is public relations director for the Screen Actors Guild and also maintains a public relations office in San Francisco.

$800,000 Collected By Amusements For Greek Relief

In excess of $800,000 has been collected by the Amusement Industry division of the Greek War Relief Association, Inc., it is stated by Adolph Zukor, committee chairman. In addition it is known that many thousands of dollars were turned over to the local committee, bringing the industry contribution well over the $1,000,000 mark.

Of the $800,000 reported by the Zukor committee, more than $600,000 was cabled to Greece where it was used to buy medicine, clothing and food for women and children, the statement said. 'A Great deal of the money also was used in the evacuation of more than 1,000,000 women and children before the Axis powers arrived.

'More than 8,000 theatres participated in the drive,' the Zukor statement continues. 'This was the largest number of theatres ever enrolled for a charity drive in our industry, and the amount collected far exceeded that of any similar cause in our industry.'

Hugh Bennett Repeats

Hugh Bennett, former film editor, after his initial start as a director in 'Henry Aldrich For President' at Paramount, has been assigned to direct the next in that series, 'Mr. Aldrich's Boy.'

Heading East

Max Gordon
Mary Pickford (AA)
Murray Silverstone
George Seid
Katheryn Trosper
Frances Langford
Jon Hall
H. C. Potter
Jack Kapp
W. F. Fitzgerald (AA)
Jean Renoir (AA)
Irving Pichel (AA)
Marie Valentine
Mervyn Freeman
Ed Raftery
Will Yolen

In from the East

Lou Holtz
Howard Dietz
Samuel Goldwyn
Sidney R. Kent
Rosemary Lane (AA)
Myron Selznick (AA)
J. C. Stein (AA)
Robert Gillham
George Schaefer

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HEDDA HOPPER IS 51 today. Not hiding or denying it and says she's willing to show her birth certificate if she has to go into an airplane plant on biz. . . . Today will be 'De Mille Day' in Los Angeles, Charleston, S. C., Washington, N. C. and Key West, Fla. Mayors of the four cities have set aside the day to honor Cecil B. De Mille who will, before he finishes shooting 'Reap the Wild Wind', which starts today, be 60 years old, 40 years in show business, 28 years in the picture industry. He will also celebrate his 39th wedding anniversary soon. . . Director Harold Young Saturday night tossed a dinner party at the Beachcombers for Mr. and Mrs. Bert Lahr, Ken Murray and Cleatus Caldwell. . . . Bing Crosby, Mary Martin and Jack Teagarden have recorded Johnny Mercer's 'The Waiter, the Porter and the Upstairs Maid.' . . . Harold Bell Wright, recovered from pneumonia, will attend the press preview June 16 of Paramount's 'Shepherd of the Hills', when Harry Carey will also be honored for his 33 years as an actor. . . . Wayne Morris received his commission as an ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserves, attached to aviation, Saturday.

During a lull in the sale of records by Guy Lombardo, it was suggested to the bandleader by Decca's Jack Kapp that he cut a side of the oldie, 'And the Band Played On.' Lombardo consented and helped by the timely break of the Warners picture, 'Strawberry Blonde', the platter turned out to be the biggest seller in the Lombardo list.

JOHN HUBBARD house warms the house he recently purchased in Brentwood with a party tonight for the cast and crew of 'Our Wife', in which he is playing at Columbia. . . . Sylvia Kahn, western editor of Modern Screen, and Irving Wallace, magazine writer, will be married tomorrow at Santa Barbara courthouse. . . . Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Forester next Friday evening at Samuel Goldwyn studios will play hosts at a 'binocular benefit' for British merchant seamen. Entertainment will be a variety program. Walter Wanger, Joan Bennett, Hal Wallis, Louise Fazenda, Arthur Hornblow and Myrna Loy are heading the committee of patrons and patronesses.

It's 27 wedding anni for Eddie and Ida Cantor June 9. All radio show friends of Cantor are using tribute to he and frau during current week with chanting of 'Ida'. Al Jolson going on as special guest Wednesday with Cantor is doing special arrangement of the song number.

TED NORTH "Mark Of Zorro" "Chad Hanna" Under contract 20th CENTURY-FOX WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc. XXXX

Army Calisthenics Film Rolls Today At Roach Studio

Cameras roll today on a War Department training film on physical training and military calesthenics, to be produced at Hal Roach Studio for the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Hal Roach, Jr., is directing, with Al Woods, assigned as assistant director. Art Lloyd is director of photography, assisted by Wallace Chewning. W. B. Delaplain is handling the sound recording, assisted by Roy Raguse.

Major John W. Harmony has been sent to Hollywood from West Point to act as technical adviser on the film. Much of the picture will be shot at Fort Ord, where the army is building a new 'obstacle course' based upon new methods of physical training which will be adopted by the Army upon completion of the film.

20th-Fox Foreign Biz Up 40-50%

In those countries where 20th-Fox is not prevented by the war from doing business, box-office receipts, according to Overseas Director Walter J. Hutchinson, are running from 40 to 50% ahead of last year.

Demand for pictures is greater than the supply, for they are being shown (in war-torn countries) in many places besides regular houses. Revivals are numerous.

Yolen Transferred East

Will Yolen has been transferred to Warners New York exploitation staff and left Saturday for the east to take over his new duties. He has been doing exploitation here for the past year as a member of the studio's publicity department.

Seid on Vacash

George Seid, head of Columbia laboratory, left for New York Friday on his annual vacation. He will go on to Canada from New York with Arthur Gottlieb for two weeks of fishing.

Obituary

JENNY DOLLY

Jenny Dolly, 47, of the Dolly dancing sister team, was found dead in her Hollywood apartment on N. Wilcox avenue yesterday. The body, clad in pajamas, was discovered by a friend and the apartment house owner hanging from an iron window grill in the living room. She was in private life the wife of Bernard Vinissky, and had been living at the apartment with her two adopted daughters for the past few months. Investigation was being made before funeral arrangements are announced.

SIR HUGH WALPOLE

Sir Hugh Walpole, British novelist, died at the age of 57 in his English home at Brackenburn of a heart attack Sunday, after a week's illness. He was a prolific writer, turning out almost a book a year during the past two decades. He made frequent lectures in America and had been several times a visitor in Hollywood.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

Following tabulation of network popular music performances is confined to WOR, New York outlet for Mutual Broadcasting System. Compilation herewith covers the week beginning May 24 through May 30 (Fri.) from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., and is based on data provided by accurate reporting service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry:

Title	Publisher	Total
I Understand	Feist	12
Dolores	Paramount	11
Intermezzo	Schubert	8
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	8
Begin Beguine	Harms	8
Amapola	Marks	7
Aurora	Robbins	7
Love Me a Little Little	Mayfair	7
My Sister and I	BMI	6
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro-Bernstein	6
Look At Me Now	Embassy	5
You Stepped Out of a Dream	Feist	5
Corn Silk	BVC	5
Hut Sut Song	Schumann	5
Look at Me Now	Embassy	5
You're Dangerous	Santly	5

RKO Shooting Five, Editing 11 For New Season

The largest group of important pictures ever made at one time by RKO is now being readied for release at the start of the new season.

Five are shooting at the present time and 11 films, made during a production peak which saw from six to nine pictures shooting simultaneously during the past two months, are in the editing stage. Six of these are top budget pictures, representing a heavy production expenditure.

RKO, normally with few more than a dozen writers on the payroll at one time, now has 26 writers working on scripts and treatments for 16 features set for early production. First of these to go will be 'Unexpected Uncle', which awaits only the availability of Charles Coburn, now finishing his role in Columbia's 'Our Wife'.

Danker East Attending Funeral of Father

Danny Danker, Coast radio head for J. Walter Thompson agency, is in Brookline, Mass., to attend the funeral of his father, Daniel J. Danker, Sr., who suffered a heart attack at the wheel of his car and struck a tree last Thursday. A niece of Danker, riding in the car, suffered injuries which may prove fatal. Danker Stratolined east when advised of his father's death. The elder Danker was about 65.

Katherine Stone Rites

Funeral services for Mrs. Katherine M. Stone, 47, employe of Hollywood Pantages theatre since its opening, were held Saturday. She died Wednesday at Glendale Sanitarium. Pallbearers were Rodney and Lloyd Pantages, William Thomas, Lou Snitzer, Ira Darnell, Ralph Ray and George Marakas.

Harold E. Kelly Rites

Funeral services for Harold E. (Doc) Kelly, veteran film extra, will be held at 3 p.m. today in the Sawtelle chapel. Kelly died Tuesday.

Landau At Metro

Richard Landau has checked in on writing staff under Jack Chertok in Metro's shorts subject department.

SELZNICK, CAPRA MAY JOIN UA AS PROD.-OWNERS

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

dered them as a gratuity to enter the ranks of the company with the other producer owners, Charles Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Alexander Korda and the Douglas Fairbanks estate. Selznick, although having two pictures to deliver under his current contract with the company, has had a number of conferences with Mary Pickford on continuing as a partner in its ranks, and Capra is said to be leaning toward the setup into which he nearly entered prior to the time Sam Goldwyn left the company. It is understood that the UA outfit, in addition to giving stock to the two producers, would also participate in the financing and underwriting of production costs of their pictures. Mary Pickford left for New York last night and it was understood that before her departure she had hopes of the two deals going through immediately.

Purpose of her trip is said to be to confer with James Mulvey, Sam Goldwyn New York representative, to join the UA outfit, replacing permanently Murray Silverstone, worldwide head. Arthur Kelly, vice-president in charge of sales, is temporarily taking over the Silverstone chores in addition to his own. Kelly, it is said, wants to keep in the sales post; that he wants to perform the job thoroughly without having to confer with producers and doing administrative work.

Mulvey was tendered the Silverstone post about a month ago, and is said to have turned it down at that time, but it is figured Miss Pickford may be able to influence him to change his mind. Sam Goldwyn was in New York last week, and it is said that one of the reasons for his trip might have been to dissuade Mulvey from leaving him.

Kelly, who has been with the company for 24 years, starting in as treasurer succeeding Maurice Cleary, is remaining here for another 10 days to get production lineup to present to his regional sales convention first starting in New York middle of this month.

Silverstone, who was relieved of his duty with appointment of Kelly at stockholders' meeting on Thursday, left for New York Friday to arrange for corporate setup of his proposed production unit that will release through UA.

Broadcast Business Reaches New High in 1940

Washington, June 1.—Setting a new high, the broadcast business in this country hit $154,823,787 during 1940, according to Federal Communications Commission report. Increase was almost 20% better than 1939. Above total represented time sale only, on figures presented by the networks and 765 stations.

National Broadcasting Company's share was $37,137,823 out of total of $71,919,428 major network time sales, with a net profit for NBC of $3,918,772, including its own station operations.

Columbia's share was $31,137,825, with a net profit of $5,006,634, including its stations.

Mutual did $3,600,161, with an asserted loss of $39,712.

In addition to time sales, the broadcasting industry realized $13,181,948 from talent sale and other services during 1940, an increase of $1,871,696 over 1939.

John Nathan Urges S.A. Mart Buildup

New York, June 1.—Revelation by John Nathan, Paramount's manager in Argentina, here for home confabs, and other company's foreign reps, that every Latin-American country has some restrictions against film imports and removal of rental money, together with an exaggerated sensitiveness of the people in that market territory, posed the problem of promoting good will at the regular semi-monthly meeting at the Hays office, with Jock Whitney's committee representative in attendance. Just plain, good American pictures, with no reference to pan-Americanism in story or locale, was suggested as an answer.

Brower Quits Soundies

N. H. (Jack) Brower has resigned as general manager of Soundies, Inc. Decision of the Roosevelt-Mills firm to move its headquarters from here to Chicago prompted the Bower action. Long identified with coast distribution he could not see the proposed transfer to the middle west.

Title Changes

Title of Ferenc Molnar's play, 'The Play's the Thing', being filmed at RKO, has been changed again from 'Through the Thin Wall' to 'Three Rogues'.

'The Devil to Pay', Columbia, to 'Ellery Queen and the Perfect Crime'.

RKO's 'Look Who's Talking' now titled 'Look Who's Laughing'.

SHADRACK BOYS
ARE HERE AGAIN
AT
PIRATES' DEN
335 N. La Brea • WY-9245
NO COVER CHARGE

Whitney Asks DeMille To Hurry Pic On Mexican Police

'Rurales', story of the Mexican police organization, is being pushed on the Cecil B. De Mille schedule at Paramount following a communication from John Hay Whitney, co-ordinator of commercial and cultural relations in the motion picture section of the Council of National Defense. Whitney's letter, sent to Y. Frank Freeman, in charge of operations at Paramount, stressed the fact that Hollywood needed to show its friendship for Mexico by actual evidence.

His letter, in part, stated: 'We have concluded that the truest and most obvious way in which we can demonstrate our good faith would be by the production in Hollywood of an important feature picture laid in whole or in part in Mexico.' Whitney further stated that 'if there is a possibility that Cecil B. De Mille could produce this subject (Rurales), your studio would be making an important contribution to the cause of good will in the Americas.'

Production push on 'Rurales' means that Paramount will turn the production of 'For Whom the Bell Tolls' over to another producer and director. Although studio had never officially announced De Mille to handle the Ernest Hemingway novel, it was generally anticipated he would have the assignment, even though 'Rurales' has been on his schedule to follow 'Reap the Wild Wind' for some time. Latter picture, in Technicolor, goes before the cameras today with Paulette Goddard, Ray Milland, John Wayne, Raymond Massey, Robert Preston, Lynne Overman, Susan Hayward, Martha O'Driscoll, Walter Hampden, Spring Byington, Louise Beavers, Elisabeth Risdon, Janet Beecher and Victor Kilian heading the cast.

Theodore St. John and Jeanie Macpherson have been set by De Mille to start a screen treatment on 'Rurales'.

Coast League Baseball Results

Sunday Games

(All double-headers)

Los Angeles, 5-9; San Diego, 9-8.

Hollywood, 2; Seattle, 2 (16 innings).

San Francisco, 7-5; Sacramento, 5-4.

Portland, 0-2; Oakland, 5-7.

Saturday Scores

Los Angeles, 12; San Diego, 3.

Oakland, 6-3; Portland, 0-5 (doubleheader).

San Francisco, 14; Sacramento, 13 (13 innings).

Hollywood, 6; Seattle, 3.

Friday Games

(All doubleheaders)

San Diego, 5-0; Los Angeles, 3-4.

Seattle, 14-0; Hollywood, 0-6.

Sacramento, 3-3; San Francisco, 1-3 (called at end of eight innings, midnight rule).

Portland, 4; Oakland, 1 (called at end of seventh, rain; second game postponed).

Studio Unions Demand RKO Withhold Disney Pictures

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

heads, and added that the Brotherhood of Painters has already launched a nationwide campaign to 'drive "Fantasia" from the screen'.

In the meantime, a 24-hour picket line is being maintained at the Disney plant. Officials of the Screen Cartoonists Guild stated that production was at a standstill, while the company insisted there had been an increase in production film footage during the first week of the walkout. An offer by the National Labor Relations Board to dissolve the recently formed American Society of Screen Cartoonists Guild and to call an election of Disney employes within 30 days to designate a bargaining representative was rejected by the SCG. Union leaders said company executives had made no effort to talk an agreement until the strike was ordered and it became apparent that production would be tied up.

AFofL leaders said the Disney strike situation has now become general, since the company is the only one in Hollywood that is not employing union labor. They said this would be pointed out to RKO executives, who would be told that with all the companies releasing union-made products there was no necessity for RKO handling non-union Disney films.

Strike leaders reported last night that all studio unions have issued instructions for their men not to cross the picket lines today. They said these included soundmen, cameramen, teamsters, carpenters, electricians and film editors. The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors meets tomorrow night to take a strike vote at Disney, but in the meantime have been asked to keep their members on the outside. It was intimated that if the editors crossed the picket lines, the AFofL would claim jurisdiction over the cutters in the Disney plant. Many of them, however, have not reported for work since the strike was called, and a majority stated they would not cross the picket lines today.

Plans for Local 683 to lock the processing of Disney film were laid at a conference between Herbert Sorrell, business representative of the Motion Picture Painters, 644; Joseph Touhy, head of the Teamsters; Dave G. Lory, business representative of the Laboratory Technicians Local 683, and Norville Crutcher, member of the Local 683 executive board.

LORY MAKES STATEMENT

Lory's letter to laboratories follows:

'Pursuant to our conversation this date, I am advised that the Screen Cartoonists Union, local 852, will picket Technicolor Motion Picture Laboratory if film belonging to Walt Disney Productions is allowed to be processed. In view of this circumstance and the fact that this local presently has members on strike at Walt Disney Studio, I must advise you that our members will be forbidden to handle any film belonging to Walt Disney Productions.

'Your plea that the film currently in process will be lost is well taken, and I am agreeable to give Technicolor until 6 p.m., Tuesday, June 3, for film now being processed, with the understanding that no new film will be started in process. Mature consideration has been given to your plea that orders contracted for prior to this date be fulfilled, and that the union's action be directed against only such film as is received subsequent to this date. I must advise you that this request must be rejected as incompatible with the best interests of our membership.

'In event any attempt is made by Technicolor to force our members to perform work on film belonging to Disney Studios, I will have no alternative but to invoke strike action against Technicolor. In view of the importance of the action herein involved I urgently request an immediate reply.'

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

Company officials, in announcing there had been no interruption of production, issued a statement which said in part:

'A substantial increase in production film footage was announced today by the Walt Disney Studios when they released the following figures in answer to claims by the Screen Cartoonists Guild that last Wednesday's walkout of Disney Guild members and sympathizers is seriously crippling production.' Figures were then cited to show that production on 'Dumbo of the Circus' averaged more feet frames than during Oct., 1940, to May, 1941. The statement then continued:

'Studio personnel inside the gates attribute the jump in efficiency to the present lack of agitation prevalent during the past few months, and to the absence of studio "deadwood", doubtful talent, and "green" hands.

'In addition, a surprise move within the studio has taken the form of a general reaction on the part of the key creative personnel, who have presented a statement to Disney insisting that the studio head take advantage of the current situation to approve their earlier suggestions for a complete personnel reorganization, in line with the exigencies presented by the diminished world market. A majority of those carrying the creative burden of the studio have long felt that the organization is bogged down with "deadwood" which Disney, for reasons that the industry could not absorb them, has been reluctant to weed out for several years.

'Members of the group, which includes directors, story men, animators, layout and background artists, point out that a reorganization setup would effect not only a more stable organization but greater economies, rather than a loss of money, as has been predicted by Herb Sorrell, business manager of the Motion Picture Painters, with which the Screen Cartoonists Guild is affiliated.'

AWAIT NLRB WORD

The company said it was awaiting word from the NLRB on its petition for an election. The Guild, however, rejected this move, although the NLRB offered to order the reinstatement of all strikers and workers discharged by the company. Guild officials said they had once even offered to accept a cross-check of their membership with the Disney payroll, but that the company refused. They said no offer was acceptable to Disney executives until Gunther Lessing had 'maneuvered the company behind the eight ball' and a general strike had been ordered. Prior to that they said company officials had even refused to talk with the union.

Notice to laboratories to stop processing Disney films was served by Local 683 after Herbert Sorrell, Aubrey Blair, AFofL organizer; Attorney George E. Bodle and Joseph Touhy, head of the Teamsters, had visited the laboratories and Sorrell had advised officials that a picket line was planned in front of their plants.

Certain Disney employes who refused to strike called the Labor Department in Washington and requested the services of a labor conciliator. It is understood, however, the Department took the position there was nothing to conciliate since Disney refused to recognize the union.

The Screen Writers Guild has pledged its support to the Screen Cartoonists Guild in its fight for recognition at the Walt Disney studio. The following wire was sent to the SCG last night by the SWG executive board:

'The Screen Writers extend fullest sympathy and moral support in the Cartoonists' courageous fight for better working conditions.'

55 Writers at 20th-Fox Have 11 Screen Plays Set; 6 in Hopper

With 55 writers working, high tide of scripting activity at 20th-Fox has established backlog of 11 screen plays entirely completed, with six more in final stages of preparation. In the group of screeds ready for shooting are 'How Green Was My Valley', 'Remember the Day', 'Week-End in Havana', 'The Night the World Shook', 'The Light of Heart', 'Falling Star', 'Down to the Sea in Ships', 'Marry the Boss' Daughter', 'Hearses Don't Hurry', 'We Go Fast' and 'Man at Large.'

Close to completion are 'The Bucharest Ballerina Murders', 'Flight Surgeon', 'Delayed Action', 'Ten Gentlemen From West Point', 'The Black Swan' and 'Confirm or Deny.'

Par Dividends Set By Board In NY

New York, June 1.—Board of directors of Paramount Pictures, Inc., has declared a dividend on its common stock of 20c per share, together with a quarterly dividend of $1.50 on its first preferred stock, and a quarterly dividend of 15c on its second preferred stock, payable July 1, 1941, to common stockholders of record on June 11, 1941, and preferred stockholders of record on June 12, 1941.

SOEG Meets Tomorrow On Hiring Biz Rep.

The Screen Office Employes Guild meets at 8:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Roosevelt hotel to discuss the employment of a full-time business representative. The SOEG executive board at its meeting tonight is expected to recommend the employment of Glenn Pratt, current Guild prexy.

"REACHING FOR THE SUN"

JOEL McCREA

IN TWO WILLIAM A. WELLMAN PRODUCTIONS

Coming Soon
"THE GREAT MAN'S LADY"
with BARBARA STANWYCK

"REACHING FOR THE SUN"

NOW PLAYING PARAMOUNT THEATRE—LOS ANGELES

EDDIE BRACKEN

Management
MCA ARTISTS, LTD.

Just Completed
"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

"REACHING FOR THE SUN"

NOW PLAYING PARAMOUNT THEATRE—LOS ANGELES

Warners Initiates Summer Vacation Pacts for Students

Summer vacation contracts with high school and college students are being initiated by Warners as a novel venture to cultivate talent which may later be utilized full time by the studio. Students will be signed to optional contracts, effective during the summer months, and redeemable after graduation if the talent has matured satisfactorily. Selectees will be Warners employes at the studio only during school intermissions. Plan will give youngsters an opportunity to train without interference with school career.

First college student to be signed under this arrangement is Barbara Barton, of Winnetka, Ill., niece of Congressman Bruce Barton. She is a junior at Christian College, Columbia, Mo. She arrives today for screen test.

Myke Lewis Sales Chief For Pigskin Series

Myke Lewis, former general sales manager for Harry Sherman Hopalong Cassidy pictures, and for many years with Paramount distribution, has signed to become general sales chief for 'Football This Week', a new series of shorts to be distributed during the forthcoming football season, and featuring Norman Sper. Thirteen one-reelers will be released, one each week, to be produced by Football News Reels. Lewis pulls out around June 13 for a tour of the various exchange centers of the country to line up playing time for the new feature shorts.

Jack Kapp Breezes

Decca's Jack Kapp hopped back to New York over the holiday and returns around June 10.

a.m. Dailies

Shannon Death Natural—
Death of Peggy Shannon, former Follies girl, on May 11, yesterday was declared natural by police investigators who attributed it to combination of low vitality and heart attack.

Lombard's Mother Wins—
Carole Lombard's mother, Mrs. Elizabeth K. Peters, has been legally awarded $100,000 estate which had belonged to Mrs. Peters' grandfather, principally Redlands property.

Auctioning Victor Hugo—
Victor Hugo restaurant of Beverly Hills and furnishings will be sold at public auction by firm of commercial liquidators on (9).

Now!
Tyrone POWER in
"BLOOD AND SAND"
in TECHNICOLOR
with LINDA DARNELL · RITA HAYWORTH
Companion Feature
"The COWBOY and the BLONDE"
with Mary Beth Hughes • George MONTGOMERY
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND
7th and BROADWAY
GENERAL ADMISSION 30¢ to 1 40¢ to 6 WEEK DAYS

REPUBLIC RUSHES 18 YARNS TO CLEAR UP SCHEDULE

Republic is currently rushing 18 stories through the scripting mill, employing 29 writers on the yarns in an effort to clear its schedule of the remaining features in the last quarter of the current year and set productions for the first quarter of 1941-42. Biggest lineup of stories now in work are on the slate of Albert J. Cohen, who has eight writers busy on five stories he will produce.

Being prepared for Cohen are 'Doctors Don't Tell', Martin Berkeley and Norman Burnside on the screenplay; 'The Devil Pays Off', being scripted by George Yates and Julian Zimet; 'Lady For a Night', Isabel Dawn doing the screenplay; Mauri Grashin and Robert Shannon scripting 'Pardon My Stripes' and Herbert Dalmas preparing a treatment on 'Gobs In Blue'.

Producer Leonard Fields has Sidney Sheldon and Ben Roberts screenplaying 'Mr. District Attorney' and Olive Cooper doing similar chore on 'The Best American'. Jack Townley and Robert Harari are scripting 'Ice-Capades' for Robert North, and producer also has the original screenplay by Taylor Caven and Edwart Adamson, 'There Goes My Wife', ready for shooting. Armand Schaefer has Louis Stevens doing a treatment on 'The Big Bonanza'. Dorrell and Stuart McGowan are scripting 'Down Mexico Way', Gene Autry starrer to be produced by Harry Grey; Producer H. S. Brown has five writers, Ron Davidson, Norman Hall, Bill Lively, Joseph Poland, Joseph O'Donnell, doing the script on the Slinging Sammy Baugh serial, 'King of the Texas Rangers'.

In the George Sherman unit Don Ryan is doing 'Ten Nights In a Ballroom', Elliot Gibbons, 'Apache Kid', and Richard Murphy the treatment on 'Death Valley Outlaws'. Joe Kane has James Webb doing a treatment on 'From Rags to Riches' and Webb has completed his original script of 'Bad Man of Deadwood', Roy Rogers-Gabby Hayes western which Kane will produce. Lou Gray has John Kraft preparing a treatment on 'Empty Saddles', a Three Mesquiteers western.

New F-WC Larchmont Will Be Opened (4)

Fox-West Coast will open its new Larchmont theatre, to replace structure destroyed by fire last November, on Wednesday (4). Revamped nabe house will have a seating capacity of 870, of which 210 will be loge seats. Walter Leamon has been named manager, transferred from circuit's Regina. Frank Rose, former assistant at the Egyptian, replaces at the Regina.

Gene Tierney Weds

Gene Tierney eloped to Las Vegas yesterday with Count Oleg Cassini, who used to run a dress shop and was the fourth husband of Merry Fahrney, the patent medicine heiress.

Goldwyn At Studio

Samuel Goldwyn returned from New York Saturday after a quick trip east to take care of some personal business.

Clemens' 'Homicide'

Paramount has signed William Clemens to direct 'Sing a Song of Homicide.'

71 Roles

Columbia has completed the casting of the 71 supporting roles in 'Texas' with the addition of Raymond Hatton, Willard Robertson, Joseph Crehan and Edward Cobb to the featured character players.

Junior SDG Ballots Out for Nominations To Brd. Directors

Ballots have been mailed out by the Junior Screen Directors Guild for nomination of candidates for the board of directors. When all the ballots have been counted the 10 Class A candidates and four Class B candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be placed on a final ballot from which five Class A representatives and two Class B nominees will be elected. The new board will meet Sunday (15) at the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce to elect new officers.

Retiring Class A members of the board (first assistants) are J. A. McDonough, Harry Scott, and Hal Walker, incumbent president. Retiring Class B members (second assistants) are Rex Bailey and Joe Dill. Class A members remaining on the board for another year are Jasper Blystone, William Scully, Frank Shaw, Walter Strohm and Joe Youngerman. Class B members remaining on the board for another year are Henry Brill, Virgil Hart, Edward F. Mull and Willard Sheldon.

In addition to electing a president, vice-prexy, secretary and treasurer at the June 15 meeting, three members 'either Class A or Class B,' will be elected to represent the Council on the Screen Directors Guild board of directors.

200 Attend Interstate Sesh At Galveston

Galveston, Tex., June 1.—More than 200 house managers, bookers and other attaches attended the annual convention here of Interstate Theatres. Rousing defense talk and bond appeal by Prexy Karl Hoblitzell featured closing session, following which an Americanism pledge was taken by everyone in attendance. Several invited guests also made talks at the final meeting.

Lane Chandler Set

Lane Chandler will return to Paramount for one of the top supporting roles in Cecil B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind'. Picture starts today.

'Caballero' Rolls

Universal's 'The Masked Caballero', next Johnny Mack Brown starrer, will roll today under direction of Ford Beebe.

Rep Signs Ed James

Republic has signed Ed James as a writer and he has been assigned to work with Armand Schaefer.

Program for AFM Seattle Convention June 9 Formulated

Seattle, June 1.—Program of entertainment for the American Federation of Musicians convention beginning June 9 is now complete. Registration will be at the headquarters hotel, the Olympic, on Sunday (8) and Monday morning. An hour concert by the Seattle Symphony will precede the official opening of the convention at two o'clock Monday.

Monday night there will be dancing and refreshments in the Olympic Bowl and the Marine Room.

Tuesday morning's business session will adjourn at noon, with the afternoon given over to a cruise around the Seattle waterfront and into Lake Washington. A banquet on Tuesday evening will wind up the convention's social affairs with business sessions only for the rest of the week.

All downtown Seattle theatres will admit free delegates, wives and families every day until 5 o'clock during the convention.

President James A. Petrillo, accompanied by honorary president, Chas. N. Weber, will arrive in Seattle on June 4.

FILM WAGE-HOUR DECISH OK'D

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

reported that no material changes will be made in the classification of cameramen, sound technicians, cartoon animators, etc.

The decision, as was stated in Daily Variety several weeks ago, will not make any provisions for an immediate inspection of the industry with reference to past violations. This means that the question of back pay will not be touched on, and that any individuals or unions seeking to tap the so-called $3,000,000 retroactive pay jackpot will have to file suit in United States court.

Routine inspections will be made within the next four to six months, however, to determine whether all companies are complying with the Wage-Hour Law. If at that time any of them are found to be chiseling retroactive pay awards will be made.

Disputed classifications included set designer, assistant set designer, second cameraman, still cameraman, assistant cameraman, script clerk, company grip, standby painter, gaffer, assistant gaffer, nurse, first-aid man, process projectionists, sound man, costumer, makeup artist, publicist, title writer.

Shaefer Planing In

George Schaefer planes in today from New York after having gone east last Tuesday to spend the holiday with his family.

Story Buys

RKO has bought an original story by Budd Schulberg entitled 'Passage to Bordeaux.'

1 ACRE HOLMBY HILLS $8000
Desirable homesite with unsurpassed view. North of Sunset. Room for pool and tennis court. Big sacrifice.
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR 67151

Universal, F-WC In 1941-42 Product Sesh This Week

Deal with Universal Pictures for the 1941-42 product will be started this week by Fox-West Coast, which has already completed its California buy of 20th-Fox, with details of the Pacific Northwest still to be worked out. Negotiations with United Artists for company's entire season's output will also be launched by F-WC in the immediate future.

With overlapping deals insuring the circuit a continuance of Metro and Columbia product for another season, F-WC has already strongly fortified itself for pictures for next year. Entire output of 20th was lined up by virtue of financial interest held by 20th in National Theatres, parent company for F-WC, and the Universal and UA deals can be worked out on same basis because neither of these companies are signators to the government consent decree which limits the signing companies to sales of packages not exceeding five pictures.

Deal for 20th output for the Southern California area was worked out early last week, with the Northern California buy consummated at San Francisco late in the week. Proposed signing up of the Evergreen Theatres, northwest subsidiary of National Theatres, has been temporarily set back due to signing of Eddie Alperson as general booking manager for RKO theatres. Alperson was to have headed for Seattle to head film buying staff for National Theatres in that section. A successor will likely be named within the next few days.

Spyros Skouras, prexy of NT, is expected here some time this week to sit in on the Universal confabs and may remain over for the UA parleys.

Only 'package deals' which F-WC will have to work out for next season will be in acquiring Warners, Paramount and RKO product. These deals are expected to be held up for some weeks as none of these companies have as yet officially designated their 'packages' under which rule they will be obligated to sell under the consent decree.

Howard Dietz Planes In On Defense Setup

Howard Dietz planed in from New York Saturday in connection with his newly assumed duties as chairman and co-ordinator of the 'Millions for Defense' radio program to be aired this summer. Head of Metro publicity and advertising, and aide to Secretary Morgenthau on the Government bond selling setup, will recruit stage and film players to help the campaign.

Higgins On 'Fiesta'

Kenneth Higgins finished script on 'All-American Girl' at Hal Roach and has been assigned to write 'Fiesta', original by LeRoy Prinz and Hal Roach, Jr., which will be filmed in Technicolor.

Dekker Lent Metro

Metro has borrowed Albert Dekker from Paramount for a role in 'Honky Tonk.'

Ragland For 'Maisie'

Rags Ragland has been given small part in 'Ringside Maisie' at Metro.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Valdina Joan	1—Boxida	1—Okoole Maluna	1—Lovers Lass	1—Okoole Maluna	1—Boxida
Okoole Maluna	Valdina Joan	Valdina Joan	Okoole Maluna	Boxida	Lovers Lass
Seedoe	Spy Ann	Boxida	Boxida	Lovers Lass	Seedoe
2—Air Speed	2—Cinesar	2—Double A	2—Cinesar	2—Double A	2—Galvale
Double A	Air Speed	Air Speed	Air Speed	Air Speed	Cinesar
Cinesar	Brown Splash	Brown Splash	Brown Splash	Cinesar	Air Speed
3—Vegas Justice	3—Sq. Diamond	3—Flying Back	3—Vegas Justice	3—Over Gold	3—Sq. Diamond
Sq. Diamond	Flying Back	Over Gold	Sq. Diamond	Taj	Over Gold
Over Gold	Taj	Taj	Flying Back	Sq. Diamond	Taj
4—Vald. Bishop	4—Southern Jane	4—Vald. Bishop	4—Red Jewel	4—Vald. Bishop	4—Get On
Get On	Red Jewel	Canfield	Vald. Bishop	Southern Jane	Vald. Bishop
Red Jewel	Vald. Bishop	Red Jewel	Valley Boy	Quercus	Carlottine
5—Verse	5—Sun By	5—Swell Chance	5—Verse	5—Verse	5—Verse
Sun By	Verse	Verse	Tin Pan Alley	Knight Call	Sun By
Swell Chance	Swell Chance	Tin Pan Alley	Sun By	Swell Chance	Tin Pan Alley
6—Battling Kate	6—Sentimentalist	6—Battling Kate	6—Valdina Minx	6—Battling Kate	6—Sentimentalist
Sentimentalist	Valdina Minx	Valdina Minx	Sentimentalist	Sentimentalist	Valdina Minx
Scotch High	Battling Kate	Sentimentalist	Foxster	Last Hand	Scotch High
7—Cute Trick	7—Flying Streak	7—Cute Trick	7—Urge Me	7—Cute Trick	7—Cute Trick
Flying Streak	Cute Trick	Flying Streak	Cute Trick	Flying Streak	Flying Streak
Torch Betty	Lady Bos'n	Torch Betty	Lady Bos'n	Torch Betty	Torch Betty
8—Palmera T.	8—Ezechias	8—Palmera T.	8—Palmera T.	8—Ezechias	8—Sir Stratton
Day Dodger	Sir Stratton	Sunphantom	Ezechias	Sunphantom	Sunphantom
Sunphantom	Palmera T.	Ezechias	Strombus	Palmera T.	Palmera T.

Ill in Pix

ANTON GROT, art director at Warners, is recovering from toxic poisoning at Santa Barbara Cottage hospital, and is expected back at studio in two weeks. He has been replaced for job on 'The Maltese Falcon' by Robert Haas.

TERRY McDANIEL, Pasadena manager for Fox West Coast, is at the Methodist hospital here, suffering from a collapse brought on by a reported self-imposed diet.

EDGAR BUCHANAN has reported at Columbia to resume work in 'Texas' after a week's illness with a cold.

THEATRE BIZ SHOT OVER HOLIDAY

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

$8,000 at Loew's State Friday through Sunday, and hit better than $7,000 at the Chinese where it is day-dating.

Downtown streets yesterday were virtually deserted and only theatre patronage was that of people who already had their minds made up. Paramount, with 'Reaching for the Sun' (Par) managed to eke a disappointing $7,000 over the three days, while the RKO and Pantages with Columbia's 'She Knew All the Answers' topping, after a good start on Friday, petered out Saturday and yesterday.

The same applied to Warners Downtown and Hollywood, where 'Million Dollar Baby' is the main screen feature. Holdovers and moveovers proved dismal, only exception being 'Fantasia' at the Carthay Circle where final days have been announced.

Hundreds of thousands of Los Angeleans thronged the nearby beaches, many of them remaining from Friday to Sunday, and others who took advantage of the three-day suspension of business generally to go out of town, returned here too late on Sunday to be in a theatregoing mood. Generally it was the poorest three-day holiday weekend experienced in Los Angeles in years.

Patrick In 'Falcon'

Lee Patrick goes into the cast of 'The Maltest Falcon', John Huston's maiden directorial effort which rolls Wednesday at Warners.

REPS IA LOCALS SESH TODAY ON PROD. DEMANDS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

quest of company executives to sit in on the situation.

The Producers are scheduled to meet again today, but it is understood that Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, is asking the unions to await the arrival of Casey. The Producers were upset by the letter from the locals demanding contract revisions, and stating that the locals would handle the negotiations without any aid from the IA International.

The local representatives are setting up committees to draft a Constitution and By-Laws covering the alliance of the unions, and a ways and means committee to advise on future policies. Each local is represented by its business representative and three from the rank and file membership. The alliance of all crafts was recommended by Harold V. Smith, who has been acting as chairman of the IA business representatives committee.

Births

SON, eight pounds, to Mrs. Richard Irvine, at Good Samaritan hospital, Memorial Day. Father is associate art director for Walter Wanger Productions.

SON, weighing seven pounds two ounces, to Mrs. Errol Flynn (Lili Damita) Saturday at the Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

'Sundown' On Location In New Mexico

Walter Wanger's 'Sundown' company has gone on location in the desert 80 miles west of Albuquerque. Production Manager Dan Keefe and Art Director Alexander Golitzen left Memorial Day to erect a tent city to house 200 persons. Henry Hathaway, who directs, leaves this week with a technical crew and picture will roll June 16.

Ted Reed at Par Today

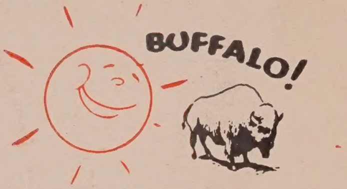
Director Ted Reed returns today to his desk at Paramount from his ranch near San Diego where he has been reading several scripts.

RACES
TODAY!
MONDAY, JUNE 2
COMMUNITY CHESTS DAY
FIRST POST 2 PM
ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO WELFARE
Gen. Adm. $1.10 tax pd.
Clubhouse $2.20 tax pd.
SEASON BOOKS WILL BE HONORED
HOLLYWOOD PARK
Inglewood

LAUGHTER!
BOX OFFICE SUNSHINE!

195 PREVIEW CARDS • 188 RAVED!

Some of the cheering: "Grand entertainment!" "Eddie Bracken the outstanding comedian of the year!" "Excellent!" "Very good, let's have more like it!" "A perfect picture!"



170 PREVIEW CARDS •168 CLAMORED!

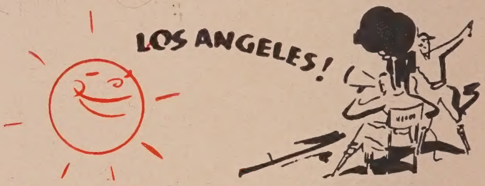
A few of the raves: "The funniest and best picture I have seen in a long time!" "Swell!" "One of those stories that can really happen, I loved it!" "Very good indeed!"

183 PREVIEW CARDS •179 CHEERED!

For example: "That Eddie Bracken is the funniest ever!" "Grand—more of the same please!" "Best show of the year!" "Terrific!" "In my opinion that's some picture!"

180 PREVIEW CARDS • 175 WERE WOWED!

Here are just a few samples: "Fun and laughter every minute!" "Enjoyed 'Reaching for the Sun' more than any show I've ever seen!" "A real worth while picture!" "Great!"


LOS ANGELES!

200 PREVIEW CARDS • 194 APPLAUDED!

Glance at a few: "Never laughed so hard in my life!" "Everybody enjoyed that picture!" "Eddie Bracken's a side-splitter!" "Wonderful picture!" "Sure hope to see Eddie Bracken in another picture soon!"

JOEL McCREA ELLEN DREW
"REACHING FOR THE SUN"

A Paramount Picture with **EDDIE BRACKEN** • **Albert Dekker** • **Billy Gilbert**

Produced and Directed by **WILLIAM A. WELLMAN** • Screen Play by W. L. River

SEE IT NOW! . . . . . . PARAMOUNT THEATRE

Copy 1

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 31 No. 64 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, June 3, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

U. S. INQUIRY IN DISNEY STRIKE

O'CONNOR, MEYERS UP FOR U JOBS

New York, June 2.—Deal has virtually been consummated whereby John J. O'Connor and Fred Meyers, formerly general manager and chief film booker, respectively, for RKO theatres, join the executive staff of Universal Pictures shortly.

Understood that employment contracts for both will be presented to the Universal board of directors at its meeting Tuesday for approval.

O'Connor and Meyers conferred

■ Continued on page 4 ■

Cal. Assembly Refuses To Override Veto on Hot Cargo Measure

Sacramento, June 2.—The Assembly today refused to override the veto of Governor Culbert Olson on legislation to outlaw the hot cargo and secondary boycott, which studio unions actively opposed. The defeat is not final, as notice of reconsideration was given. The vote on a motion to override requiring 54 votes was 50 to 24. The Senate labor committee reported favorably for passage on a bill by Assemblyman Jack B. Tenney to give the courts jurisdiction over disciplinary actions by labor unions against members.

Daniels Succeeds Crone In RKO Changeover

J. R. Crone, production manager at RKO for past five years, has resigned with Walter Daniels, his assistant, being stepped up to the spot and taking over yesterday. Crone had been on the lot for 10 years. Sid Rogell, studio manager, promoted Argyle Nelson, currently assistant director on the William Dieterle picture 'Flesh and Gold', formerly titled 'Devil and Daniel Webster', to take over the position vacated by Daniels.

PREVIEWED

HANDS ACROSS THE ROCKIES
(Col)

(Preview on page 3)

MARY PICKFORD TO PRODUCE ON HER OWN AGAIN

New York, June 2.—Mary Pickford, who planed in from Hollywood today, revealed that she is planning to go into production again herself. This is aside from her association with Murray Silverstone, who is establishing his own production unit to release through United Artists.

Miss Pickford said she will have

● Continued on page 10 ●

Vice-Consul Acts

Carlos Barbe, Uruguay vice-consul here, will play the part of Captain Rodrigo in the Wilding production, 'Ever Since Eden', to be filmed on the Hal Roach lot.

CONCILIATOR CONTACTS UNION LEADERS HERE

The United States Department of Labor is investigating the Walt Disney strike. While no official move has yet been made to get the company and Screen Cartoonists Guild together, it was disclosed yesterday that Lyman Sisely, U. S. labor conciliator here, had contacted Walter Spreckels, Disney labor contact; Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, and Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644. It also was reported that Sisley plans to talk with Walt Disney.

Sisely is understood to be making his inquiry on instructions from

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

IA REPS CALL TWO HURRIED MEETINGS IN PROD. FIGHT

Representatives from the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, at a conference yesterday, called a meeting of all IA local negotiating committees for 8 p.m. Wednesday (4). The group also called a meeting for Thursday night (5) of committees appointed by the allied unions to draft a Constitution and By-Laws and ways and means of handling negotiations with the Producers.

There was considerable discussion

◆ Continued on page 8 ◆

Seek Removal of Bioff, Browne Retinue

Motion Picture Studio Set Electricians Local 728 last night passed a resolution calling for the resignation of George E. Browne, prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, his personal representative, Willie Bioff, and all IATSE appointed officers. The remainder of the meeting was devoted

★ Continued on page 8 ★

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	149
Major studio calls	342
FK Studio Service	38
Tinsman Casting Agency	41
Total	570

Villa Given 'Aires'

Alberto Villa, recently placed under contract at Paramount, will do 'The Gentleman From Buenos Aires' on that lot before going into 'Hula Honeymoon.' Pamela Harris has been assigned to prepare 'The Gentleman', which will be a musical.

ASCAP SETS UP HOUSE CONFORMING TO CONSENT

New York, June 2.—Adjustment of its operations to conform with the provisions of the government's consent decree has been completed by American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, three months after acceptance of the instrument by the Society. New by-laws, providing, among other things, for election of its board of directors by vote of the general membership, were ratified at a membership meeting at Hotel Astor. At close of the session

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

PASCAL WILL FILM AMERICA YARN IN CANADA

New York, June 2.—Gabriel Pascal's next picture will not be a Bernard Shaw story, but from a published yarn by a well known American short story writer, the producer has disclosed. Scene is laid in Canada and will be shot at the National Screen Association studios in Mon-

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Reeves Espy Talks Indie Production Setup

New York, June 2.—Reeves Espy, Sam Goldwyn corporation vice president and general manager, is here on an independent production deal of his own. Espy some time ago talked with Murray Silverstone regarding a United Artists deal to become effective upon expiration of his contract with Goldwyn. Ticket has until August to run.

Hampden at Par

Walter Hampden came in yesterday from New York to start his role in 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Get Good**
Preview Actor
Night Raider
2d RACE—**High Lark**
Musical Jack
Commendable
3d RACE—**Gallant One**
Fly the Coop
Neddie Boy
4th RACE—**Picket Line**
Hubbub
Sir War
5th RACE—**Ships Bells**
Winnemucca
Vain Star
6th RACE—**My Porter**
Battle Call
Xenomay
7th RACE—**WILTON**
Emerald Bay
Brown China
8th RACE—**Triplane**
Allergic
Orenco
CHANCE BET—**Wise Greenock**
(2)
Selections consensus, page 10.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Harry Black is back in Hal Roach studio wardrobe.

Myron Selznick gets back from New York this week.

William K. Howard back after a sojourn in New York.

Al O'Keefe pulled out for San Francisco and the Northwest.

Carlton Seick checked out of KHJ to fly for the Navy at Pensacola.

Norman MacDonnell, CBS contact on 'Big Town', called to the colors.

John P. Filbert Equipment Co. moved into its new building on Film Row.

Eddie Norris motored in yesterday from a two weeks' personal appearance in NY.

Eddie Montagne will assist Director Gordon Douglas on Hal Roach's 'Niagara Falls'.

Ward Morehouse, New York critic, sails for a two-week vacation in Honolulu Thursday.

Virginia Gilmore planed to New York yesterday for personals in connection with Greek War Relief.

Voskovec and Werich, European comedy team, here, aiming at pictures, through the Paul Kohner agency.

Jeanne Kelly, Universal actress, was married Sunday to Richard Brooks, radio writer, at the Encino ranch of Vic Dalton.

Earl MacQuarrie, agent, was married here to Virginia Rieke last Thursday night. Bride is with the Dolan & Doane agency.

Patsy Shaw, warbler, has been signed for the revue at Slapsy Maxie's. Al Barr's ork has been extended for another four week stanza.

First appearance for Shirley Ross since she became a mother will be (5) as guest soloist with Felix Mills on NBC Blue on occasion of National Music Week convention.

RKO has received the first half of the new untitled I. A. R. Wylie novel which it purchased from a story idea six months ago. Studio is tentatively scheduling property for Cary Grant.

Two latest pictures that Harry Holman has appeared in are 'The Bride Came C.O.D.' and 'Manpower'. He also is working in the Philharmonic operettas. Played in 'Naughty Marietta' last week.

Benny the Gouge sez—Maybe I ain't got no eye for art, but any time I see a bevy of drum-majorettes I think of the old walk-up flats in the Bronx.

Hollywood Inside

CONSIDERABLE apprehension is felt in network and agency circles over the future of commercial radio, come fall, what with the country on an emergency footing. Air-advertised commodities, dependent on material placed under priority by the Government for defense orders, are expected to feel the brunt of the crackdown and many sponsors are holding off time commitments for the fall until they are assured of sufficient output to warrant the radio expenditure. American Can Co. (Keglined) has already put in a cancellation of its time for 'The Amazing Mr. Smith' due to an inability to obtain sufficient quantities of tin. Oil companies are particularly jittery on the assumption that petrol purchases may be limited with the appointment of Secretary Ickes as czar of the industry. Understood that Screen Guild Theatre's renewal is being held up pending some assuring word from the Government. International Silver may forego its Silver Theatre series unless the Government grip on all available metal is relaxed. Soap companies are said to feel none too secure due to the consuming need of glycerine for defense material.

☆ ☆ ☆

FILM reviewers are in for a heavy schedule this month according to previews already set and others that will be given dates during June. Columbia leads the list with seven, including 'Hands Across the Rockies' shown yesterday afternoon. Paramount and Metro have three each and Universal and 20th-Fox one each. With few exceptions previews will be held at the studios, in most cases with an afternoon and evening screening for the critics. Lineup and dates are: Columbia, 'The Richest Man in Town', (4); Paramount, 'West Point Widow', (5); Universal, 'Tight Shoes', (6); 20th-Fox, 'Manhunt', (9), with morning, afternoon and evening studio showings; Metro, 'The Getaway', (10); Columbia, 'Sweetheart of the Campus', (11); Metro, 'The Big Store', (12); Paramount, 'Shepherd of the Hills', (14); Paramount, 'Parson of Panamint', (16); Metro, 'Blossoms in the Dust', (17); Columbia, 'Medico of Painted Springs', (18); 'I Was a Prisoner on Devil's Island', (19); 'Two in a Taxi', (23), and 'Blondie in Society', (25).

☆ ☆ ☆

TWENTIETH-FOX is considerably ahead this season on number of Technicolor features it turns out annually. Against the six it has consistently produced during the past few years, three have been completed this year and one other is nearly finished. Trio of tinters completed are 'That Night in Rio', 'Blood and Sand' and 'Moon Over Miami.' 'Belle Starr' is in final stage of production, and a fifth Technicolor, 'Week-End in Havana', starts (16). Tentative schedule calls for three more to be made during last half of year, two of them being 'My Gal Sal' and 'Sioux City.' 20th and Paramount tied last year in number of prismatics, putting out six each.

☆ ☆ ☆

JOAN BLONDELL has given Columbia an extension on her contract to permit studio to do further story work on 'Three Girls About Town.' Under actress' pact she was supposed to start work May 29 but production has had several postponements and is now scheduled to roll June 15. Producer Sam Bischoff and Leigh Jason, who will direct, figure writers Richard Carroll and P. J. Wolfson will have completed script revisions so that picture will be able to get away on that date without further delay. Feature is the last for Miss Blondell on a three-picture contract with Columbia.

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JOHN SARGENT, business representative of the Culinary Workers Union, has started a drive against non-union studio eateries. At a recent meeting of representatives from practically all studio unions and guilds, Sargent asked that all union members be requested not to patronize non-union restaurants on the film lots. All of the crafts promised to cooperate, several leaders pointing out that the situation was absurd where all employes on a lot were union and yet ate in a restaurant that employed non-union help.

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PRODUCTION of 20th-Fox scenes for 'A Yank In the R.A.F.' at Lockheed airplane factory yesterday under direction of Henry King was subjected to the most rigid protective routine, with 60 police officers from six different enforcement agencies hovering near every moment. Tyrone Power, Betty Grable and other players were stopped three times on way to set, and Power, challenged by sentry, had to go home and get his special pass before he was admitted, although sentry and others at gate knew his identity.

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CANADIAN press syndicate utilized the personal columns of a Los Angeles newspaper in an effort to line up out-of-town correspondents for its service. Catch is that prospective clients must send $5, ostensibly a registration fee, to insure press association of applicant's responsibility and serious intentions. Any news matter or photographs sent to the Canadian office will be distributed to different newspapers, magazines and reviews 'in all parts of the world.'

☆ ☆ ☆

FOLLOWING washup of her contract at 20th-Fox with completion of 'Sun Valley Serenade', Sonja Henie may decide to take no more screen contracts in the immediate future, it is understood, but may confine her professional activities to skating tours. Most recent tour, completed just before she went into 'Sun Valley', grossed considerably over $1,000,000, with skating star netting around 25%. Several tentative proffers have been made by studios but nothing approaching concrete stage.

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PERMANENT metallic record of contributing features by Tyrone Power, Shirley Temple and Claudette Colbert to China Relief broadcast here last week yesterday was Clippered to Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, wife of China's generalissimo, at Chunking.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

How sad is the lot of the picture producer presenting the Latin-American scene
And trying to satisfy all the constituents willing to pay for a show on the screen.
His Latin-American pictures are wows to the customers up in Wisconsin and Maine,
But startled Brazilians, Chileans and Cubans observe the strange art with a feeling of pain.

★ ★ ★

Newest center of culture in our town is the Copacabana, where Killer Grey talks the Cubian lingo poifect.

★ ★ ★

Linguistic scouts report that Ruth Hussey can speak faster than anyone else in the picture industry, including Cliff Nazarro and his two-cylinder tonsils.

Leave it to Sam Goldwyn to adopt the most comprehensive of all film titles, 'A to Z', which covers everything from Alpha to Omega.

There are actors in Hollywood who don't know when the next meal will pop up. Then there is Francis Lederer, developing a fine case of indigestion at Republic and wishing he had a flock of eat-ins. His script in 'Puddin' Head' calls for 62 eats.

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After all those tropical adventures, how about casting Bing Crosby as an Arctic explorer? With Dotty in a parka.

★ ★ ★

The happy ending had its day
With lovers sweetly blending,
But now it's hard to find a play
Without a screwball ending.

★ ★ ★

Sherlock Holmes will throw a fit when he hears about 'International Lady' and learns that Basil Rathbone has gone over to Scotland Yard.

★ ★ ★

'Million Dollar Baby' proves beyond a doubt that money isn't everything—on the screen.

Another Hollywood miracle is 'Reaching For the Sun', which makes a Romeo out of a clam digger.

Imagine a crowd at the Santa Anita track and nobody at the $2 windows. It happened at the air show.

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It's fine for the nation
To seek information
On any old problem there is,
But ah, what a trial
To turn on the dial
And find every program a quiz.

★ ★ ★

Ideal spot for the premiere of 'We Go Fast' would be the Indianapolis Speedway.

P.S.—Or any roadway in California, if you can believe the vital statistics.

★ ★ ★

In Hollywood the moppets bloom and fade
Swift as the flowers in a springtime glade,
And many a long-forgotten picture star
Is young enough to ride a kiddie car.

Preview

★

Hands Across the Rockies

(Western)

Columbia production and release. Stars Bill Elliott. Supporting cast: Mary Daily, Dub Taylor, Kenneth MacDonald, Frank LaRue, Donald Curtis, Tom Moray, Stanley Brown, Slim Whitaker, Harrison Greene, Art Mix, Eddy Waller, Hugh Prosser. Director, Lambert Hillyer. Producer, Leon Barsha. Screenplay, Paul Franklin. Story by Norbert Davis. Film editor, Mel Thorsen. Photography, Benjamin Kline. Assistant director, Milton Carter. Previewed June 2. Running time: 57 mins.

First rate western, even though it carries less riding and shooting footage than the average cowboy opera. There's a corking comedy courtroom scene which is carried off with topflight honors by Eddy Waller, Bill Elliott, Dub Taylor and a miscellaneous aggregation of primitive-looking jurors. Eddy Waller's impersonation of the rough-and-ready circuit judge who holds court with a double-barreled musket on the bench is a hilarious burlesque from beginning to end. It lifts a yarn that for a time threatens to trail off conventionally, into high gear.

Starting off at a slow pace this Wild Bill Hickok adventure develops into a galloping meller revolving about a murder intrigue. Bill Elliott briefly but ably essays a new characterization as a lawyer for the defense, freeing a young man held on an obviously trumped-up kidnaping charge.

Story is about a tyrannical uncle, with a Simon Legree mustache and whip, who tries to sell his niece into matrimony so that she will not be able to testify against her future husband in a killing. Bill Elliott comes to the rescue, weaving a tight noose of incontrovertible evidence around the evildoers and thereby leaving the girl free to marry the man of her choice.

Production carries a few well-staged gunfight sequences and should prove a winner in the western market. The deftly handled comedy interludes further distinguish this episode from the run-of-the-mill sagebrush thrillers. Bill Elliott turns in a satisfactory performance, maintaining prestige with his established following. Stanley Brown, juve romantic lead, is photogenically acceptable.

Rowland Brown Buys Yarn to Produce

Rowland Brown has purchased 'Beau Beautiful', story of an actor who becomes enmeshed with the French Foreign Legion, from Everett Kovler, former New Orleans Picayune reporter. Brown will film the yarn under his own production banner, New World Productions, owned by Joel McCrea and himself.

Pittack Lenses 'Falls'

Robert Pittack will wield camera on Hal Roach's 'Niagara Falls.'

PCC ARRANGES PROGRAM DEVOTED TO EXHIBITORS

Second annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, to be held here simultaneously with the annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, has mapped out a four-day program that will be devoted almost entirely to exhibitor problems. No speakers have been assigned places on the program, and the only outsider participating will be Mary Pickford, who has agreed to open the convention, and also will serve as host at various social gatherings during the theatre meet.

Sunday will be devoted entirely to registering the various theatre owners and operators, with the first PCC business session starting at 10 o'clock on Monday. Similar sessions will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, with the afternoons devoted to the MPTOA sessions.

Monday's PCC meetings will be given over to reports, with an exhibitor open forum scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and the Thursday morning session given over to the introduction of resolutions.

Social events call for trips to various studios on Monday. Tuesday night there will be a studio party with dinner-dance labeled 'A Night In Hollywood'. On Wednesday Miss Pickford and stars from the various lots will stage a personality parade and fashion show, affair being limited to ladies of the convention only.

Final social event will be a joint banquet at the Earl Carroll Hollywood restaurant.

Ed Kuykendall, prexy of MPTOA, is due here Friday to arrange last minute details of the national exhibitor convention, the first business session of which convenes Tuesday afternoon. Among speakers already lined up by Kuykendall are Will Hays, J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI; John H. Harris, chief barker of the Variety Clubs; U. S. District Court Judge J. F. T. O'Connor of Los Angeles; J. Nobel Braden, executive secretary of the American Arbitration Association; Walter Wanger, Y. Frank Freeman, Edward Arnold and Nathan Golden, head of the motion picture division of the Department of Commerce.

Heading East

- Norma Shearer (AA)
- Les Peterson (AA)
- Meredith Willson (TWA)
- Ruth Bradt (TWA)
- Dennis Day (TWA)
- Bob Longnecker (TWA)
- Virginia Gilmore (UA)
- Luise Rainer (TWA)
- Anne Nagel
- Harlan Hobbs
- K. T. Stevens

Play Review

THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER

'The Chocolate Soldier', which opened at the Philharmonic Auditorium last night, was somewhat better than a first class second rate production of the Straus operetta, and a good deal better than the past two offerings of the Los Angeles Civic Light Opera Association have been.

John Charles Thomas, in the dashing uniform of a Swiss soldier, looked a little like Jack Oakie in 'The Great Dictator', but he sang well and acted with easy grace. Billy Gilbert, as Colonel Popoff, and Irra Petina, as the flirtatious Mascha, brightened the show considerably with their acting. Miss Petina also sang well. Gilbert, as a vocalist, was completely lost.

Hope Manning was little more than an adequate Nadina, and Mary Hopple was about the same calibre, as Aurelia. Eric Mattson, as Alexius, and Douglas Beattie, as Massakroff, had scant contributions to make in their respective roles. Ladies and gentlemen of the choral ensemble were uniformly bad, as they have been in the two preceding productions. Aida Broadbent's ballet girls were okay.

Oscar Straus, the venerable composer of the piece, was on hand to conduct some of the numbers. He received a good hand from the first-night audience. Addition of a few new songs by Straus and Ann Ronell only served to lengthen the production, already longer than a double feature.

Ken Howard's Chore

Kenneth Howard, former business representative of the Los Angeles Local of the American Guild of Variety Artists, is now an American Federation of Labor organizer with the Downtown Retail Clerks.

In from the East

- William K. Howard
- Cesar Romero
- Earle G. Hines
- Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Murray (AA)
- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boyer
- Robert Benchley
- Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Colman
- Elia Kazan
- J. Robert Bren
- Gladys Atwater
- Murphy McHenry
- Eddie Norris
- Joan Crawford
- Walter Hampden

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

TAKEN so completely by surprise that she was stunned into silence, Hedda Hopper yesterday was greeted en masse by more than a hundred well wishers from pictures and radio who observed her 51st birthday by barging into her studio at CBS and topping off her Sunkist broadcast with a roaring sendoff. It marked the first time that a columnist was so thunderously acclaimed on the air. Cued just one minute off her signoff, the crowd surged into the studio and let go with 'happy birthdays' that echoed the length of Columbia Square for a full five minutes. . . . John Barrymore proved the first surprise when he sneaked up to her microphone and intoned 'happy birthday, Hedda; hope you live to be a million so you can co-star with me some time.' Among those who 'raised the roof' for Hedda were Kay Kyser, Ginny Simms, Gene Tierney (and her new hubby), Cobina Wright, Jr. and Sr., Nan Gray, Lum and Abner, Ann Rutherford, Jean Parker, Jane Russell, Robert Stack, Ida Koverman, Charlotte Greenwood, Martin Broones, Michael Whalen, Anita Louise, Martha O'Driscoll, Freddie Bartholomew, Nancy Marlowe, John Beal, Donald Wood, Jerry Colonna, Arthur Lake, Penny Singleton, Bill Goodwin and Dema Harshbarger . . . Congratulatory wires and gifts filled one corner of the studio and spilled over on the piano. Hedda showed, too, that she can take a rib gracefully when she laughed off several gag presents and messages. After greetings were exchanged, the gang moved over to Brittingham's for refreshments. Charlotte Greenwood served Sunkist orange juice from a huge bowl.

Couple of projection machines were installed yesterday noon in Biltmore Bowl for the Hearst Round Table Luncheon with pic players as chief guests. A wag inquired whether they were going to show 'Citizen Kane'. 'Gad No', a Hearstling said, 'they're going to show some Harriet Parsons shorts.'

TITLE of 'Outstanding Father of 1941' will be conferred today on Jim Jordan ('Fibber McGee') on his program today at NBC. Plaque will be presented by a rep of National Father's Day Committee. . . . Bob Kessner, who temporarily gave up his exploitation chores with Fox-West Coast Theatres to spend a year in the Army, has blossomed out at Camp Roberts as a lieutenant and is handling the exploitation for that Army encampment. His title is director of public relations. . . . Vic McLeod, writer at Universal, eloped Sunday to Nevada with Mary Macquire. Couple will honeymoon at Lake Tahoe and Yosemite for a week.

WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, Inc.
WMA
Represents . . .
REGINALD OWEN
"A Woman's Face"
"Lady Be Good"
Under contract M-G-M

Trial of Louis Ullman 'Smith,' Col Suit Opening Today

Long-pending plagiarism suit of Louis Ullman against Columbia Pictures Corp., growing out of the film production, 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington', will be started before U. S. District Court Judge Ralph E. Jenney this morning. The plaintiff charges that his copyrighted story, 'Angel of Hell Hollow', was infringed upon by Columbia in its film, produced and directed by Frank Capra. Latter, however, has not been made a party to the suit.

Ullman will be the first witness called today by Attorney Herbert A. Huebner, who is handling the action for the plaintiff, and several other witnesses likely will be called at the morning session. In the afternoon Hedda Hopper is slated to take the stand.

Another witness subpoenaed by the plaintiff is Joe Breen. Trial of case will likely consume most of this week. Plaintiff asks an injunction, accounting of profits and damages. No fixed sum has been set.

Par 'Goodbye' Tunes Airing on Mutual

Musical score of Paramount's 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', all Ascap tunes, will be presented tonight over the Mutual network, emanating at radio station WOR in New York with Morton Gould and his orchestra playing and Jimmy Shields singing the five numbers: 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', 'Sand In My Shoes', 'I'll Never Let a Day Pass By', 'Find Yourself a Melody' and 'That's How I Got My Start', written by Victor Schertzinger and Frank Loesser.

Bette Davis Reports For 'Little Foxes'

Personal differences, which, in addition to ill health, were understood to have been keeping Bette Davis from the cast of 'The Little Foxes', were cleared up over the weekend and she'll probably return to the cameras later this week.

Joan Crawford Returns

Joan Crawford returns to Metro tomorrow. She has been on vacation for several weeks.

Frisco Chatter

Gypsy Rose Lee opens June 11 at Stairway To the Stars nitery, where Nick Lucas is current.

Francis Lederer in 'No Time For Comedy' expected to follow Billie Burke's 'Vinegar Tree' into Henry Duffy's Alcazar.

'Citizen Kane' will wind up its first roadshow week at the Geary with around $9,000. Opening night gross was $1,060.

With departure of Terry Turner and Charles Huy of RKO exploitation staff, Fred Kisslingberry will handle 'Kane' publicity.

Lincoln Dellar, KSFO manager, has named Austin Fenger to handle trade press publicity. Marie Houlahan continues handling all other publicity.

Hal Neides has been named division manager in charge of 16 Golden State circuit theatres in this area. Roy Cooper is now chief film buyer for the Bob McNeil houses.

U. S. CONCILIATOR MEETS DISNEY STRIKE LEADERS

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

Washington. The situation was called to the attention of the Department when a Disney employe telephoned Washington and requested that a labor conciliator be sent here.

Sisely is said to feel from his preliminary investigation of the situation that it is a National Labor Relations Board case since Disney refuses to recognize the union, rather than one for the conciliation department. Washington officials had expressed that view, but requested that Sisely check the situation and advise the Department.

In the meantime, Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165 issued instructions to 12 projectionists employed at Technicolor not to screen any Disney products after 6 p.m. today. It is understood that Local 165 was anxious to cooperate with the Screen Cartoonists Guild, since the union also has been trying for months to negotiate with the Disney company. It also was intimated that Projectionists District Council No. 2, with which Local 165 is affiliated, might be asked to cooperate by instructing its members not to screen Disney pictures in the theatres where they are employed. Council No. 2 embraces all projectionists from Los Angeles to San Diego with the exception of Local 150. John Swartz is business representative of Local 165, and Jack Payne is secretary.

Strike leaders stated their conference with RKO officials scheduled for yesterday was deferred until today because of the failure of George Schaefer to arrive on the Coast. They said J. R. McDonough would be paged this morning for an appointment. RKO will be asked to cease distributing Disney pictures for the duration of the strike.

Union tops conferred yesterday with Charles P. Skouras, head of Fox West Coast theatres, on showing of Disney pictures. Skouras is said to have taken the position that he had a contract for certain Disney products and would have to live up to it.

PREVIEW DELAYED

RKO, however, has dropped plans to preview Disney's 'The Reluctant Dragon' at the Four Star theatre Wednesday (4). After clearing the preview through the Hays office when Disney called off his studio preview, RKO decided not to screen the picture. It will be available for bookings Friday (6).

The Society of Motion Picture Film Editors meets tonight at the Woman's Club of Hollywood to take a strike vote at Disney. Most of the editors, however, are reported to be already refusing to cross the SCG picket lines. The SCG also claimed that most of the Disney cameramen, carpenters, sound technicians and other workers are refusing to cross the picket line.

A group of extras affiliated with the Extras Advisory Council marched in the Disney picket line yesterday, including the Council chairman, Harry Mayo. The SCG continued to picket the Disney plant yesterday, and group picket lines also were thrown around theatres showing Disney films, including El Capitan and Pantages. Leaders expressed satisfaction with the progress of the strike, insisting that production inside the plant is at a standstill. The company, however, claims that production has increased since the walkout was ordered.

SWG HEARS REPORT ON DISNEY STRIKE

A report on working conditions leading up to the Screen Cartoonists Guild strike at the Walt Disney studio was made to the Screen Writers Guild board last night by a SCG representative, who asked for moral and financial support of the scriveners. The board adopted the following resolution, and referred to the next general Guild meeting the question of a possible boycott in support of the Cartoonists:

'Resolved, that the executive board of the Screen Writers Guild, reaffirming its deep sympathy with the Screen Cartoonists Guild, will at its next membership meeting present to the SWG membership the true conditions existing at the Disney plant and will recommend for decision by the membership a policy of moral and financial support for the Screen Cartoonists Guild strike.'

Shop committees also will be instructed to advise writers of the situation, so that any who desire can make individual contributions to the strike fund.

Kent Held in NY

Sidney R. Kent again has been detained in New York, and for third time has deferred trip to Coast which was to have landed him at 20th-Fox studio yesterday.

Story Buys

Paramount has purchased 'Of Fire By Night', unpublished magazine serial by Thelma Strubel, and will combine it with material from 'Forest Service', story which studio has owned for some time, under the title of 'The Forest Rangers'. 'Rangers' is slated to be produced in Technicolor as one of the studio's outdoor specials for next season.

FCC Hearings on Radio, Newspapers June 25

Washington, June 2. — Public hearings on Federal Communication Commission's inquiry into joint control of newspapers and radio stations will begin June 25. Data assembled by the investigation is for the purpose of adopting a general policy applicable to newspaper-owned stations now seeking licenses for Frequency Modulation.

Lloyd's 'Lewis' Quits Catalina for Jump To Lake Tahoe

Frank Lloyd and his 'I, James Lewis' troupe of 125 checked back onto the Universal lot yesterday after two weeks' shooting at Catalina and prepared to take off again next Sunday for location at Lake Tahoe.

Company going to Tahoe for both water and land scenes will be headed by Lloyd, Jack Skirball, Franchot Tone, John Carroll, Walter Brennan, Carol Bruce and Nigel Bruce. Universal will also have 100 Indians from the Washoe tribe at Carson City, Nevada, sent to Tahoe for the scenes there.

O'CONNOR, MEYERS UP FOR U POSTS

■ Continued from page 1 ■

today with Nate Blumberg, J. Cheever Cowdin, Charles D. Prutzman and other Universal officials regarding the positions they would occupy in the company.

According to the lineup, Meyers would become assistant to William Scully, general sales manager, and O'Connor would become executive assistant to Prexy Nate Blumberg. Matty Fox, who holds the latter spot and got into New York today from Hollywood, now is expected to get a call from his draft board for induction into the Army within the next 60 to 90 days. Fox is the first of important studio executives to come under the draft call. He was offered, it is said, a commission in the Signal Corps, but refused it to take his chances as a draftee.

Sub for C & S During Summer Assigned

Standard Brands will utilize the summer time of Chase & Sanborn on NBC for a substitute program to advertise another of its products, Royal Gelatine. Program, 'What's My Name?' will be handled by Sherman K. Ellis agency, taking over during July and August after Edgar Bergen's troupe calls it a season (29).

Air for China Relief

Lionel Barrymore, Ronald Colman and other film names participate Friday in a half hour program over NBC in the interest of United China Relief to air nationally from Radio City here at 6:30 p.m.

WB Holds 'Dollar Baby'

Warners will hold its Million Dollar Baby' at the Downtown and Hollywood theatres for a second week. Musical will be dualed with 'Devil Dogs' which company has reissued.

Marie Wilson Set

Marie Wilson guests on the Rudy Vallee radio show June 11. Deal handled by Harry Tatelman.

Signal at Riverside

Signal Carnival airs from March Field, Riverside, over NBC coast red network Sunday.

VACATION TIME IS HERE!
For an ideal summer vacation—fishing, boating, swimming and horse back riding.
MOWITZA LODGE Greenough, Montana
Owned and operated by THELMA WERTHEIMER of the COLONIAL HOUSE, Palm Springs, Calif.
For Reservations call HI 0600

'Fantasia' Held Two More Carthay Weeks Despite Picketing

'Fantasia', Walt Disney cartoon feature, will hold for two additional weeks at the Carthay Circle, where it is now winding up its 18th week. On the strength of 'last days' advertising late last week opus showed strength over the weekend, and will wind up the current stanza with around $8,700, a gain of about $2,200 over the 17th week.

Carthay is being picketed by striking Disney workers, with the lines increased materially during the past few days. Pickets now range from 60 to 100, whereas during the early days of the strike half a dozen or so comprised the walking personnel.

Picture yesterday tied the run-record hung up in 1938 by Disney's 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs', which ran for a total of 17 weeks and six days at the house. Only screen attraction to exceed this run at the Carthay was 'Gone With the Wind', which stayed for total of 24 weeks on its initial run there.

GILLHAM AT PAR; MAY LEAVE TONITE

Robert Gillham, advertising and publicity chief for Paramount in New York, arrived yesterday at the studio for confabs with George Brown, Coast head of publicity and advertising. Gillham may leave tonight for Seattle and Portland to continue his swing around the country, visiting the various company branches, if studio business matters are completed.

Neil Agnew, company sales head, who also was due in yesterday, has delayed his visit for two weeks due to business matters elsewhere, and Stanton Griffis and John Balaban are not expected to get here until after the stockholders' meeting later this month.

Report $10 Extras

The Screen Actors Guild was advised by the Producers yesterday that an answer would be given today to the Guild's request for reclassification of the extra brackets. It is reported the company executives have agreed to an establishment of a $10 call to replace the $8.25 and $11 rates, and that a limitation will be placed on the use of $5.50 extras.

Barbier, Albright Set

George Barbier and Hardie Albright get featured roles in 20th-Fox's 'Marry the Boss's Daughter', which goes into production today under direction of Thornton Freeland, from screenplay by Jack Andrews.

K. T. Stevens Legiter

K. T. Stevens, daughter of Sam Wood, leaves for Chicago today to do the title role in 'My Sister Eileen.'

Ill in Pix

BRENDA MARSHALL collapsed yesterday on the set of Warners 'Smiling Ghost' and was rushed to the Hollywood hospital. She was stricken with appendicitis. At the hospital her physician, Dr. Robert Meals, consulted other doctors before deciding to operate.

ASCAP SETS UP HOUSE CONFORMING TO CONSENT

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

the members unanimously passed a vote of thanks to the present directors and Gene Buck, Ascap prexy.

Members soon will be asked to vote for 11 new directors and under the adopted system of vote weighing, writer will be entitled to one vote for every $20 collected from Ascap royalties the previous year. Publisher will have one vote for every $500. It will make the first time that the board was elected from Ascap rank and file.

Returning today from Florida, John G. Paine, general manager of the Society, reported that after conferring with state officials he was asked to continue Ascap's operations, as is, for 30 days, during which time the Society and state officials will devise means whereby Floridans desiring blanket licenses for the use of Ascap music may obtain them legally under the new state law.

PASCAL WILL FILM AMERICA YARN IN CANADA

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

treal. About 50% will be filmed on location, Pascal said, and he is taking special portable equipment with him to Canada for that purpose. Production will start in eight weeks and picture will be ready for October release.

Pascal will fly to England at the end of June for a short confab with Shaw, whose stories he has the exclusive right to film. Second picture by Pascal will be a Shaw story, most likely 'The Millionairess', Pascal stated. After that he will alternate between Shaw and an outside story. He will deliver two films to United Artists the coming season, and three per year after that, continuing to work in Canada. British producer is bringing Robert Newton, 'Major Barbara' player, to America for the next picture.

Three Requests at WB For 'York' Premiere

Executive board of the American Legion has asked Warners to stage the premiere of 'Sergeant York' at their national convention this fall. Veterans of Foreign Wars has also asked the studio for the same privilege. City of Nashville, because Alvin York was born in Tennessee, has made a similar request.

Donlevy on Vacash

Brian Donlevy, accompanied by his wife, takes first vacation he has had in six years, going to New York by train and from there motoring through New England, to be gone about a month. Actor is due back June 30 to prepare for role in Paramount's 'The Remarkable Andrew'.

Griffith Moves Troupe

Edward H. Griffith, producing and directing 'Bahama Passage' for Paramount, is moving his troupe, headed by Madeleine Carroll and Stirling Hayden, from location at Salt Cay to Nassau and Harbor Island for around two weeks more of filming.

'Lady' for Carroll

Medeleine Carroll will star in Paramount's 'The Lady Has Plans', comedy from an original by Leo Birinski. Harry Tugend is doing the screen play.

Lorre in 'Falcon'

Peter Lorre has been signed by Warners for one of the character roles in 'The Maltese Falcon', which starts tomorrow under John Huston's direction.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

'Billy the Kid In Santa Fe'
Dir.: Sherman Scott
Asst.: Melville DeLay

Meyer Lewis Due in For Mayo Confabs

Meyer Lewis, western director of the American Federation of Labor, is due here today from San Francisco. Lewis is expected to confer with Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, on his report to William Green, AFofL prexy, on the extras setup in the Screen Actors Guild.

Frankovich at Rep

Mike Frankovich, radio sports announcer, has joined the production department at Republic.

USC Offers 2 Courses In Film Defense Training

Two courses in motion picture defense training are being offered by the Cinema Department of the University of Southern California, under the direction of the United States Office of Education, it was announced by Warren Scott, director. These courses will be Basic Engineering Photography and Motion Picture Processes. They are intended for the training of still photographers and picture cameramen who are called to the colors. Both courses will offer actual camera work, and the course in Motion Picture Processes will also include editing and sound recording.

The advisory committee set up for the courses comprises Col. Jason S. Joy, Sol Lesser, John Considine, Kenneth Macgowan, Kenneth McKenna, Harry A. Warner, Walter Wanger and Cecil B. DeMille.

Injunction Ruling

The California Supreme court, in session here yesterday, ruled that permanent injunctions against labor picketing are not necessarily 'permanent'. It was held that labor unions have a right to move for dismissal of a permanent injunction restraining them from picketing. The opinion denied a claim of Sontag Chain Stores Co. that a lower court could not consider a motion to set aside an anti-picketing injunction secured by the company.

ANGELS WITH BROKEN WINGS
BINNIE BARNES • GILBERT ROLAND
MARY LEE
BILLY GILBERT · JANE FRAZEE · EDWARD NORRIS
KATHARINE ALEXANDER · LEO GORCEY · LOIS
RANSON · LENI LYNN · MARILYN HARE
BERNARD VORHAUS, Director • Screen play by George Carlton Brown and Bradford Ropes • Original story by George Carlton Brown
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
MARY LEE
She's an angel . . .

DIRECTED BY

ARTHUR
LUBIN

ALEX
GOTTLIEB

ASSOCIATE
PRODUCER

MUSIC
CORPORATION
OF AMERICA

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, INC.

BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO DICK POWELL

IN THE NAVY

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

LOU
COSTELLO

BUD
ABBOTT

OUR COMEDY MATERIAL
by JOHN GRANT
OUR SPECIAL WRITER

Our Pal and Manager
EDWARD SHERMAN

Completed
"OH CHARLIE"
Directed by
ARTHUR LUBIN
For Universal
Our Representatives
WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY

BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO DICK POWELL

IN THE NAVY

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE—DIRECTED BY ARTHUR LUBIN

Arthur Lubin Readies 'Cowboy' at Universal For (15th) Start

Arthur Lubin returned to Universal yesterday after vacationing in Carmel. Director started preparations on his fourth Abbott & Costello picture, 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'. Picture will roll about June 15.

Ed Hartman and John Grant will finish up their script for the film some time this week. Abbott and Costello will take off for the east next Sunday night for two days before returning for wardrobe and other tests for the picture. They started for New York Sunday night by air, but their transport plane had to turn back because of engine trouble. Abbott will place his Long Island home on the market and Costello will visit his mother in Paterson, N. J.

The Merry Macs probably will replace the Andrews Sisters in 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'. Girl singers have been in three Abbott and Costello pictures.

Arnold Assumes Role In RKO's 'Flesh'

Shooting on 'Flesh and Gold', new title for 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', was resumed at RKO yesterday with Edward Arnold portraying the Webster character played by Thomas Mitchell before his accident several weeks ago. About 10 days' shooting will be necessary to re-do the Mitchell sequences before picture can be finally completed.

Arizona Bound

Buck Jones, Tim McCoy, leads in Monogram's 'Arizona Bound'; Director Spencer G. Bennett and others of the cast and crew, leave for Prescott, Ariz., Friday. Picture goes before the caremas Monday and is the first of eight 'Rough Riders' outdoor features that Scott R. Dunlap will produce.

Obituary

JENNY DOLLY RITES

Funeral services for Jenny Dolly, 47, of the Dolly Sisters, will be held at 1:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, Forest Lawn. Cremation follows. Pierce Brothers Hollywood Mortuary is in charge. Miss Dolly was found dead in her Hollywood apartment Sunday.

JOSEPH H. PHILLIPS

Joseph H. Phillips, 40, film sound engineer, died at the Hollywood hospital Thursday (29). Services will be held tomorrow (4) in Pittsburgh, Pa. Surviving are his widow, a daughter, and his mother, Mrs. Elen Brown Phillips, of Pittsburgh.

MRS. JAMES P. MULLIN

Mrs. James P. Mullin, mother of Martin Mullin of the M&P Theatres, Boston, died Sunday night at her home in Jersey City, N. J. She is survived by her husband, the son and three daughters.

W. L. BRADLEY

W. L. Bradley, 61, father of R. H. 'Doc' Bradley of the Fox West Coast home office staff, died Saturday (31) at Escondido, Calif., following a long illness.

IA REPS CALL TWO HURRIED MEETINGS IN PROD. FIGHT

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

yesterday of the letter from Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, stating that the negotiations were being turned over to Pat Casey and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contacts. Several of the business representatives and committee members took the position that the Producers would have to designate somebody with authority to set a deal, as the unions did not intend to be stalled around until September when a lull in production could be expected.

The consensus of opinion among the local representatives was that the unions should press for immediate action on their demands for contract revisions covering wages and conditions. The negotiating committees at their meeting tomorrow night will map out a plan of procedure and will draft a schedule of conditions that apply to all the unions. These include a minimum six-hour call, etc.

Casey is now en route to the Coast from New York, being scheduled to arrive Thursday (5). It was reported that he would stop off in Chicago for a brief huddle with union heads there before continuing to Hollywood.

Aubrey Blair, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, addressed the IATSE representatives yesterday, urging that they all stick together and arrange contacts with other AFofL unions in order to have the undivided support of all studio crafts. The representation of each local has been expanded to include three rank and file members in addition to the business representative of each group. Harold V. Smith is chairman of the business representatives committee, and suggested the alliance of all locals to handle their own negotiations.

FREEMAN'S LETTER

The following letter was sent by Y. Frank Freeman to the business representatives of IATSE locals which demanded immediate opening of negotiations:

'This will acknowledge receipt of the letter of May 26, 1941, to which you are a signatory.

'I have no knowledge of the conspiracy referred to in your letter. I have, of course, seen references in the daily press to charges involving certain IATSE international officers. Other than the newspaper statements I have no knowledge of the facts involved.

'Under date of Nov. 20, 1940, the Producers designated Messrs. Casey and Pelton to negotiate with your local in response to your letter of Nov. 15, 1940. They have informed us that various negotiating meetings have been held with your local for modifications in your wage agreement. From these proposals studies and surveys have been made with the idea of making as many working conditions as possible standard for all crafts.

'The question of exemption or non-exemption for certain members of your local under the "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938" has been an important issue in these negotiations. The fact that determinations had not yet been made by the Wage and Hour Division was a source of delay. A hearing was held on this subject on March 25, 1941, but to date no final determinations have been received from Washington. However, I understand that these decisions will be forthcoming during the first week in June.

"PRACTICAL MATTER"

'As a practical matter we have designated Mr. Casey and Mr. Pelton to negotiate on behalf of the studios. They keep us informed of the progress of all negotiations. The only reason that I and my fellow executives cannot sit with you during negotiations is not due to any lack of inclination on our part or failure to recognize the importance of these negotiations, but is due to the fact that we have our studios to operate and cannot give the time that is necessary to attend personally to all of the many negotiating meetings that must be held with the various unions, societies and guilds in the motion picture industry. We feel certain that you must appreciate our position and realize that we should be unable to conduct our businesses unless certain of these negotiations were delegated to responsible representatives.

'Mr. Casey, who has been east, expects to return to Los Angeles during the first week of June. Immediately upon his return from New York city, he and Mr. Pelton will arrange meetings with you and continue negotiations with your local.

'We trust this arrangement is satisfactory to you and that the negotiations may be carried on and concluded to our mutual satisfaction.'

The locals in their demand for a meeting to talk contract revisions had made it plain that the negotiations would be handled by the locals themselves without any aid or interference from the IATSE international.

Frisco 'Sunny' Holdover

'Sunny', Herbert Wilcox production for RKO, is being held for a second week at the Golden Gate, San Francisco, and Ray Bolger, who appears in the film with Anna Neagle, also continues his personal booking at the theatre for an extra week.

Schaefer Stays East

New York, June 2. — George Schaefer, RKO prexy who arrived in the east last Thursday, came to his office today for confabs with sales and theatre executives. Schaefer went directly to his home for the holidays on his arrival from the Coast.

WB 'Tanks' Rolling

'The Tanks Are Coming', Warners Technicolor short, starts today on location at Fort Knox, Ky. Breezy Eason is directing and Bert Glennon is handling the camera. Cast includes George Tobias, Frank Wilcox, Byron Barr and William Justice.

Producers Map Plans For Entertainment Of MPTOA Visitors

The Producers spent several hours in session yesterday discussing general studio labor matters and mapping plans to entertain visitors to the MPTOA convention here June 9-12. Visits to the studios will be arranged, a general industry dinner, and an affair for wives of visiting delegates.

It was stated proposals of the Screen Writers Guild were presented to the individual producers for their consideration and study. It was indicated that another meeting with the scriveners will be arranged as soon as the executives have had an opportunity to digest the demands.

Cooperation also was voted for a new Treasury Department program in connection with the sale of Defense Bonds. The program was presented by Howard Dietz, acting for the secretary of the treasurv.

Seek Removal of Bioff, Browne Retinue

★ Continued from page 1 ★

to nomination of candidates for officers.

Charles Ferguson declined to stand for re-election as business representative. Nominees for the business office post are James Tate, Mike Ellison, Jack McElvoy, Carl Koontz and Mickey Moran. Tate, a veteran employe of Paramount is said to have the backing of the majority group. Charles Alexander and Speed Hostetter were nominated for president. Guy Rushing is the only nominee for secretary. Other nominations will be received at the first meeting of the local in July.

Hines Directs 'Husband'

John Hines will direct 'How to Hold Your Husband', next Pete Smith Specialty at Metro. Smith is now editing his 'Football Thrills', showing highlights of last season's gridiron sessions, having scissored footage down from 10,250 feet to 3,000, with 2,000 more to go before he starts the commentation.

McHenry Returning

Murphy McHenry returns today from New York where he went last Thursday to discuss campaign plans on Paramount's 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye' with company's eastern exploiteers.

McHugh's Father Dies

Jimmy McHugh, songwriter, planed out to Boston, Mass. last night following a telephone call informing him of the death of his father, James McHugh, 75.

Hanline, Lasky, Jr. Team

Maurice Hanline is collaborating with Jesse Lasky, Jr., on screen play of 'High Towers', bridge construction tale, at Warners.

Rep 'Eyes' to Schaefer

Republic's 'Navy Blue Eyes' has been assigned to Armand Schaefer for production.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SAN FRANCISCO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Republic Assigns Two Writers as Trio End Studio Chores

Two new writing assignments were made at Republic yesterday as three scriveners finished up their jobs and checked off the lot.

Albert De Mond was signed to write 'Three Texas Rangers' for the Three Mesquiteers, and Karl Brown was given the screenplay to do on 'Gabriel Blows His Horn'.

Sidney Sheldon and Ben Roberts, who did 'Mr. District Attorney No. 2', and Richard Murphy, who wrote 'West of the Range', a western for Don Barry, are those who left.

Robt. Edmunds Finishes First for Harman

Robert Edmunds, British writer, is finishing up the screen play for the first Hugh Harman feature cartoon in color, untitled, and will also supervise for the newly formed Hugh Harman Productions, Inc.

Jack Young Back

Cameraman Jack Young just returned from Prescott, Arizona, where he photographed the second of the series of Tom Keene westerns being produced by Prescott Pictures for Monogram release.

Births

SON, weighing seven pounds, to Mrs. Ernest Fortenberry (2), at Wilshire hospital. Father is in Metro still camera laboratory.

Anti-Aircraft Training Film Made at Universal

Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has announced the start of another War Department training film. The film, on the subject of anti-aircraft searchlight equipment, will be made at Universal. Harold Young will direct.

Edward Taylor has been assigned as assistant director, with William Sichner as director of photography, assisted by William Dodds and Carl Webster. Bill Nunally will handle props, Russell Franks grips, and Irving Smith will be gaffer. Major Charles S. Stodter will act as War Department liaison officer, assisted by Major A. M. Wilson and Captain George W. Croker as technical advisers.

Bill Foy's Family in London Air Raid

Bill Foy of the Fox-West Coast purchasing department was advised yesterday that his father, mother and a sister are in a London hospital, suffering from injuries sustained when their home, in the outskirts of the British metropolis, was bombed by the Nazis. Trio were dug out of a shelter, but the nature of their injuries has not been received.

New 'Mile' Version

Lew Goldstone, of Majestic Distributing Co., has dug up new version of 'The Last Mile', prison meller, and will start booking the opus immediately. Opus features Preston Foster, Noel Madison and George Stone.

Heavy Credits

Four cameramen get main title credit on Warners 'Dive Bomber'—Bert Glennon, director of photography; Winton C. Hoch, for Technicolor Corporation, Elmer Dyer and Charles Marshall on the aerial photography.

Cameron to Hear Arguments Today

All distributor defendants in action brought before the American Arbitration Association by O. W. Lewis, operator of the Mission Playhouse in San Gabriel, will argue motions before Arbitrator Herbert Cameron today asking for dismissal on the ground the AAA has no jurisdiction in the clearance setup. Also joining in the dismissal plea will be Atty. John Bertero, representing Fox-West Coast and the Alhambra Amusement Co., dissenters to the Lewis action. In the event case is not discontinued by Cameron, defendant companies will proceed with the introduction of testimony, with the issue likely being ended late this week.

Abbott, Costello Lent Metro for One Pic; 3-Year Deal Up

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello go to Metro on loan from Universal to make one picture this fall, with possibility that the deal may include arrangement to make one a year for next three years at Metro. Vehicle at Culver City plant probably will be a remake of the musical, 'Rio Rita', but Abbott and Costello first will have to make 'Ride 'Em Cowboy' at Universal, set to start around (16).

Universal grabbed comic pair from 'Streets of Paris' on Broadway, tagging them for exclusive contract to make four annually for next three years. Metro was after them at the same time.

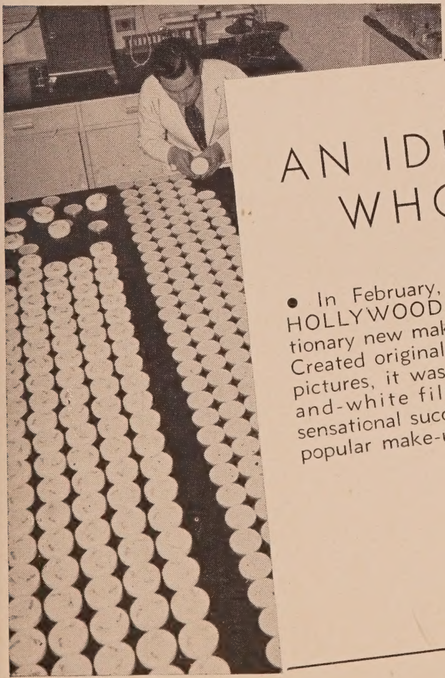
Story properties also are said to have figured in the loanout.

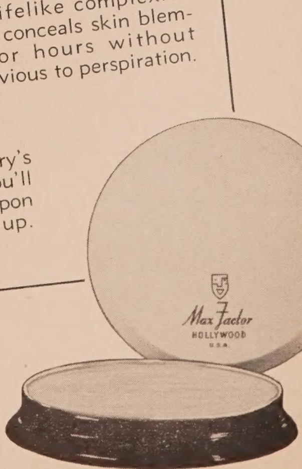
Earle G. Hines Arrives From NY on Biz

Earle G. Hines, president of General Theatres Equipment Corp., and the International Projector Corp., arrived here yesterday from New York. He left in the afternoon for San Diego to attend a board meeting of Consolidated Aircraft Corp., of which he is a director, and then returns here to remain over for the exhibitor convention next week.

Berle Tops Army Show

Milton Berle will headline a show organized by Billy Rose for tour of army camps. Berle opens the series at Camp Dix today. Tour will take one month.





AN IDEA THAT CHANGED THE WHOLE ART OF MAKE-UP!

- In February, 1938, MAX FACTOR HOLLYWOOD introduced a revolutionary new make-up called PAN-CAKE. Created originally for use in Technicolor pictures, it was soon adapted for black-and-white films, and since then its sensational success has made it the most popular make-up in screen history.
- Quick and easy to use, PAN-CAKE for black-and-white and Technicolor, in tested colors for men and women, is an unprecedented "find" as a time-saver. It insures uniformly lifelike complexion tones on the screen, conceals skin blemishes, stays on for hours without re-touching, is impervious to perspiration.
- Recommended and endorsed by the industry's leading A.S.C. Directors of Photography, you'll find it the perfect make-up for you. Insist upon PAN-CAKE for your next screen make-up.

MAX FACTOR MAKE-UP STUDIO
1666 NORTH HIGHLAND • HOLLYWOOD 3922

MARY PICKFORD TO PRODUCE ON HER OWN AGAIN

● Continued from page 1 ●

an advisory and financial interest in the Silverstone setup, but hopes to produce 'Coquette' herself first, providing she can find a star for it. It was her first all-talking picture made in 1929.

She said appointment of Arthur Kelly as company topper is only intended until a choice of a permanent chief is made, with no one in mind currently. However, it is likely she will confer with James Mulvey, Sam Goldwyn eastern representative and corporation vice-prexy, who refused the post recently, to reconsider.

Miss Pickford stated that the stock of the Douglas Fairbanks estate is to be bought by United Artists around middle of this month at around $400,000, and with the stock taken over from Sam Goldwyn when he withdrew from UA will be available to men who can show production as well as financial ability. It will be sold on the same basis as was that to Alexander Korda, with the producer paying for it out of his dividend earnings and not getting it until it has been earned.

Understood that is proposition which was made recently both to David O. Selznick and Frank Capra to join the member owners of United Artists. Report is that deals are on with both these producers and announcement of their conclusion may be made at the United Artists sales conventions that will be held this month.

Miss Pickford emphasized the fact that the company is returning to its policy of 22 years ago, with exclusive quality pictures and fewer of them.

Last producing venture of Miss Pickford was in partnership with Jesse L. Lasky when they made two productions for UA release about six years ago.

Bren, Atwater Bringing Facts on Dix Pic

J. Robert Bren and Gladys Atwater arrive today from Texas, where they have been doing research for the script of 'American Empire', next Harry Sherman special production for Paramount. Picture is scheduled to start in July with Richard Dix in one of the leads.

'Soldier' Recordings

Nelson Eddy and Rise Stevens have started recordings for Metro's 'Chocolate Soldier', in which Miss Stevens, Metropolitan Opera star, maker her film bow. Herbert Stothart directs the orchestra, augmented by 40 voices.

Shoots 'Wife' at Night

John M. Stahl has started night shooting on 'Our Wife' at the Columbia ranch, using 219 atmosphere players with principals Melvyn Douglas and Ruth Hussey on a streets of Cristobal set.

Now in 7th Week
"HERE TODAY"
A Riotous Comedy of Bad Manners
by George Oppenheimer
with MIRIAM JAY and JOHN BARRY
HOLLYTOWN THEATRE
1743 N. New Hampshire
Phone NO. 9465—Daily Except Sunday

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Get Good Appretery Nogales	1—Top Chance Preview Actor Peto Gino	1—Get Good Night Raider Preview Actor	1—Get Good Preview Actor Top Chance	1—Nogales Top Chance Get Good	1—Appretery Preview Actor Get Good
2—High Lark Musical Jack Commendable	2—High Lark Commendable Gold Trophy	2—High Lark Commendable Diavolo Cliff	2—High Lark Musical Jack Commendable	2—High Lark Diavolo Cliff Commendable	2—High Lark Commendable Heelplates
3—Fly the Coop Valdina Sun Neddie Boy	3—Neddie Boy Fly the Coop Soul of Wit	3—Fly the Coop Neddie Boy Rivagold	3—Gallant One Neddie Boy Fly the Coop	3—Fly the Coop Neddie Boy Rivagold	3—Neddie Boy Fly the Coop Which Wins
4—Picket Line Hubbub Spread Eagle	4—Picket Line Sir War Hubbub	4—Sir War Picket Line Hubbub	4—Picket Line Hubbub Sir War	4—Sir War Hubbub Picket Line	4—Picket Line Sir War Hubbub
5—Winnemucca Subdeb Ships Bells	5—Ships Bells Vain Star Subdeb	5—Winnemucca Ships Bells Subdeb	5—Winnemucca Subdeb Vain Star	5—Ships Bells Winnemucca Subdeb	5—Ships Bells Subdeb Vain Star
6—Balmy Spring Battle Call Billie Bane	6—Kay-Diane Xenomay Merry Marine	6—Battle Call Merry Marine Chanceview	6—Kay-Diane Battle Call My Porter	6—Balmy Spring Billie Bane Xenomay	6—Balmy Spring Xenomay Billie Bane
7—Wilton Emerald Bay Brown China	7—Emerald Bay Wilton Brown China	7—Emerald Bay Wilton Brown China	7—Wilton The Shaugr'n Gold Bubble	7—Emerald Bay Brown China Ira Pan	7—Wilton Gold Bubble Brown China
8—Triplane Allergic Orenco	8—Orenco Allergic Triplane	8—Triplane Allergic Best Beau	8—Orenco Best Beau Triplane	8—Triplane Allergic Orenco	8—Triplane Allergic Conscription

a.m. Dailies

Lillian Harvey Injured—

Lillian Harvey, film actress, went into a hospital at Lisbon, Portugal, yesterday for treatment of a foot fracture. She planed in from Switzerland en route to the United States and South America.

Charles Ray to Marry—

Charles Ray, film actor, and Yvonne Guerin obtained a permit at the marriage license bureau yesterday for wedding, scheduled to take place tomorrow.

Eleanor Lewis Weds—

Eleanor Lewis, secretary at Universal, was married Sunday to Tillman M. Marcom, Navy officer, at Las Vegas.

RKO Dusts Off 'Dover' For Rewriting

RKO has taken 'The Dover Road' off the shelf and is sending it back for a complete change of locale for possible production on its 1941-42 program. Background of the A. A. Milne play will be switched from the Dover Road in England to a Maryland locale with the title highway concerning one between Baltimore and Washington. John Humphrey and Ardell Wray will do the rewrite as their first assignment after being upped from the studio reading department.

'Starr' Resumes Today

Director Irving Cummings resumes production today on 'Belle Starr' at 20th-Fox, after several days layoff waiting for Olin Howland, one of principals, to get back from his Connecticut farm. Washup of picture is expected end of this week.

Tunes for 'Caballero'

Milton Rosen and Everett Carter have written four songs for Universal's 'The Masked Caballero', which started yesterday. The Jose Cansino singing and dancing troupe has been signed for the Johnny Mack Brown picture.

Emmett Duets Duo

Robert Emmett has started writing chore on the next two Tom Keene westerns to be released by Monogram.

Fisher Glints 'Shine'

Steve Fisher is polishing 'Rise and Shine' at 20th-Fox, having completed script on his own 'Delayed Action.'

Bioff Skeded for Thurs. Hearing on NY Order

Willie Bioff is scheduled to appear before U. S. Commissioner David B. Head Thursday (5) for a hearing on a removal order to New York in connection with his indictment on an extortion charge. Willie is expected to waive examination and ask that his $25,000 bond be continued pending his appearance in Federal court in New York. George E. Browne, who was jointly indicted with Bioff on charges of extorting $550,000 from four picture companies, waived hearing yesterday in Chicago, and was ordered to appear in New York Friday (20). His bail of $20,000 was continued.

Par Starts Legit Policy In Little Theatre

Paramount opens a three-day presentation of 'The Immortal Mr. Thackeray', from the Barre Lyndon play, 'The Man in Half Moon Street', at its new Little theatre on Monitor stage 12 tomorrow under a new policy by which it plans to stage newly acquired properties for producers, directors and writers in advance of screening for suggestions and ideas as to their best development for pictures. Gordon Hayes has the lead in 'Mr. Thackeray' and rest of the cast is being filled by talent on the lot. Gerald Davidson directed the play.

Technicians Assigned To Par 'Glamour Boy'

Technical assignments on 'Glamour Boy' at Paramount include Fred Spencer, assistant director; Roland Asher, business manager; Gene Merritt, sound mixer; Hans Dreier and Haldane Douglas, art directors, and Dan Fapp, cameraman. Director Ted Tetzlaff puts picture into work (16) with Jackie Cooper, Susanna Foster and Walter Abel in the leads.

Nugent at WB Soon

Elliott Nugent reports at Warners in three weeks to direct 'The Male Animal', and is now finishing a new play to be staged on Broadway this fall, before checking in on the valley assignment.

Goff Stays at Rep

Ivan Goff, who completed script on 'Under Fiesta Stars' at Republic as Gene Autry starrer, has been retained to work on screen treatment of an untitled yarn. Paul Kohner agented.

Planted

20th-Fox

Bobbie Hale, John Meredith, Forrester Harvey, Howard Davies, Harry Allen, Guy Kingsford, Anthony Marsh, Gerard Cavin, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Iris Adrian, Robert Emmett Keene, Joe Bernard, 'Wild Geese Calling'.

Warners

Creighton Hale, 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'.

Lane Allen, Paul Parry, 'Navy Blues'.

Metro

Anthony Warde, 'Young Americans'.

Chill Wills, 'Honky Tonk'.

Monogram

Gene O'Donnell, John Holland, Maxine Leslie, Tristram Coffin, J. Arthur Young, 'City Limits'.

Columbia

Pamela Randall, 'Tonight Belongs to Us'.

Final PRC Bob Steele Rolling Today

'Billy the Kid in Santa Fe', sixth of Producers Releasing Corp. westerns on this season's schedule, and last with Bob Steele in the title role, goes into work today under the direction of Sherman Scott. Marin Fais has the femme lead and Al St. John and Rex Lease have feature spots. Sigmund Neufeld is producing. Following completion of this oater Buster Crabbe takes over the title character in the PRC series.

Upp Margaret Donovan

Replacing Joanne St. Oegger, Margaret Donovan yesterday was named assistant to Perc Westmore in the Warners hairdressing department. Miss Donovan has been hairdresser to Bette Davis for the past seven years. Miss St. Oegger retired from her job following 15 years of service.

Arnt for 'Daughter'

20th-Fox has handed Charles Arnt a featured role in 'Marry the Boss' Daughter.'

BILL JORDAN'S
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HOLLYWOOD • MIAMI BEACH
Starring
BILL JORDAN & GEORGE KENT
at the two Steinways
7351 Beverly Blvd. WE. 7811

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS O
D
Vol. 31 No. 65 43 Hollywood, California, Wednesday, June 4, 1941 5 Cents

M G M Studios
Attn: Kenneth MacKenna
Culver City, Calif
Bldg Offi

FCC REPRIEVE FOR NETWORKS

NATIONWIDE BOYCOTT OF DISNEY SEEN

A nationwide labor boycott of Walt Disney pictures will be ordered if the studio is placed on the unfair list by the Central Labor Council, it was announced last night by Screen Cartoonists Guild strike leaders. The committee, composed of Harry Sherman, Lew C. G. Blix and J. W. Buzzell, was appointed to advise Disney that such action is planned, and to explain to him the difficulty of get-

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

Silverstone Arranges Finances for Prod.

New York, June 3.—Murray Silverstone, here arranging financing for his new production unit, will use most of his own money, a portion from personal contacts and banks and some from Mary Pickford. Unit setup will somewhat resemble that of Jules Levy's Mayfair Productions, which release through Universal. Like Levy, Silverstone, whose major experience has been in releasing, will concentrate on sales and bookings.

Mono Sets 100G Loan To Pick Up Stock

New York, June 3.—With a $100,000 loan virtually set, Monogram Pictures is expected to pick up more than 66,000 shares of stock formerly held by Pathe Film Corp., according to reports. The new money is understood coming from another laboratory, reputedly Consolidated Films. This would seem to indicate that Monogram will switch its printing business away from the Pathe labs, a subsidiary of Pathe Films.

Cagney In June 15

James Cagney is due back here around (15) to prepare for 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' at Warners. He has been in New York discussing the story with George M. Cohan, whose life forms basis for the screen play.

PREVIEWED

PAPER BULLETS
(Producers Releasing Corp.)

(Preview on page 3)

Wage-Hour Decish At 4 p.m. Today

An official decision on disputed film classifications will be handed down today by the Wage-Hour Division. Merle D. Vincent, chief of the Wage-Hour hearings branch, was reported flying here to release the decision at 4 p.m. Only minor modifications are being made in the original recommendations of Eldred M. Cocking, Wage-Hour survey analyst.

Kalmus to Manhattan

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus has left for New York to attend the annual Technicolor board meeting (10).

GO TO COURT AND SUE, BLASTS FLY AT HEARING

Washington, June 3.—More time will be allowed National Broadcasting Co. to unload the Blue web and the whole industry can get the hard-boiled reform rules deferred by the proper maneuvers. Senate Interstate Commerce Committee today was told by James L. Fly, chairman of Federal Communications Commission, that there is no desire to 'wreck the industry'. The reforms ordered as a result of the 1938-39 hearing are for the good of the broadcasters, as well as the listeners, he protested.

Chief points made at second day's hearing on resolutions dealing with

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Variety Critics' Poll

Weekly VARIETY features this week a story that Paul Lukas wins the poll of drama critics for the best performance on Broadway this season. It also carries the critics box score. Edition will be on sale on the Coast on Saturday of this week.

SKOURAS URGES INDUSTRY FITE FOR MORE BUSINESS

New York, June 3.—An aroused and fighting film industry, awakened to do a showmanship battle for the revival of enthusiastic public patronage, is the substance of a suggestion tossed into the laps of affiliated and major indie circuit operators at a closed meeting of exhibitor execs here Monday. Sponsoring the idea, which is still in embryonic form, is Spyros Skouras, head of National Theatres Corp., who has volunteered to act as a liaison between the exhibition and production branches.

Stung to action by a week-to-week

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Bette Davis Works

Bette Davis returned to work yesterday in 'The Little Foxes.'

EXTRA EARNINGS DIVE IN MAY

Extra earnings did a nosedive in May, it was disclosed yesterday in a preliminary recapitulation of daily calls made by Central Casting Corp. The total job placements for the month will be approximately 16,000,

◆ Continued on page 6 ◆

NY LEGIT OPENING

SNOOKIE

New York, June 3.—'Snookie', a comedy by Thomas Johnstone, which opened tonight at the John Golden theatre as the first production of the 1941-42 season, is one of the feeblest laugh efforts of any season. Ole Olsen and Chick Johnson, who coined a fortune with 'Hellzapoppin', are the presenters, but this is so bad that neither they nor anyone else takes producer billing.

The piece, about a comic strip, is localed in a newspaper office and holds several song and dance numbers by William B. Friedlander and author Johnstone. It's a clumsy directorial effort by Friedlander, with the cast trying hard but getting nowhere. The only notable feature of the show is that J. C. Nugent was somehow persuaded to play a part in it.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	147
Major Studio Calls	395
FK Studio Service	51
Tinsman Casting Agency	43
Total	636

O'CONNOR, MEYERS JOIN UNIVERSAL; UP HEINEMAN

New York, June 3.—John J. O'Connor, former general manager of RKO theatres, and Fred Meyers, former RKO chief booker, joined Universal Pictures today in executive

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Agnew Due Monday

Neil Agnew, Paramount vice-prexy in charge of distribution, arrives Monday from New York for studio confabs and to set up details for company's annual selling shortly to get under way.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Winsome Lady**
Cool Off
Vain Beauty
2d RACE—**Agnes S.**
Ocean Bound
Clipper II
3d RACE—**With Us**
Aqua Bubble
Hi Beautiful
4th RACE—**Tory Tom**
Vegas Justice
Penwipe
5th RACE—**Curious Roman**
Zaca Rosa
Pan Time
6th RACE—**Spanish Main**
Good Taste
Xenoras Fox
7th RACE—**SHIP BISCUIT**
Royal Crusader
Vain Bo
8th RACE—**Like Greenock**
Count Us
Torch Lee
CHANCE BET—**Rockaway Boy**
(8)
Selections consensus, page 6.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

George Jessel is due in from the east tomorrow.

Amory Eckley flies to Tulsa today on CBS business.

Red Skelton joins cast of 'Dr. Kildare' at Metro.

Greer Garson is back from week's rest at Del Monte.

Bud Abbott and the missus at Catalina for a week's holiday.

Adolph Deutsch writing music score for Warners 'Manpower'.

Joseph Moskowitz heads east Friday after stay at 20th-Fox studio.

Maury Webster, KNX announcer, called to active duty in the Naval Reserve.

Robin Walker, singer, is at Charlie Foy's 'Supper Club' for an indefinite stay.

Howard Koch scripting Warners 'In This Our Life' from Ellen Glasgow novel.

Jess Smith has left the Jaffe agency after five and one-half years' association.

Steve Fisher has sold his novel, 'Destroyers', to Appleton-Century for July release.

Dan Cathcart will be unit art director on the new Greta Garbo vehicle at Metro.

Paul Nicholson, manager of the Kansas City Bureau for Associated Press, is in town.

Julie Bishop, Warners newcomer, and David Bruce a duet at Bill Jordan's Bar of Music.

Warners holds press preview of 'Out of the Fog' at Warners Beverly tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Lionel Barrymore entertaining Artist Ernest L. Blumenschein on the set of 'Dr. Kildare' at Metro.

Olive Cooper is scripting 'Ice Capades' at Republic in collaboration with Jack Townley and Robert Harari.

Rouben Mamoulian has reported back at 20th-Fox after 10 days' vacation, to talk his next director assignment with Darryl F. Zanuck.

Paul Gale, traffic manager for NBC western division, has left for a swing around the midwest. Norman Noyes has returned from Mexico City.

Ronald Colman and his wife, Benita Hume, accompanied by Joseph Steele, of the RKO flackery, returned yesterday from New York after a two-week vacation.

Benny the Gouge sez—That clatter of hoofs in the offing is not a delusion of the sound track. It's Old Doc Baker booting the winners home at Hollywood Park.

Hollywood Inside

LAST WEEK, one of the bright and promising young actresses of a major studio appeared in court to have her contract ratified. Trouble developed when the actress walked into the courtroom and found no photographers present to shoot her picture. She had seen other youngsters getting good publicity breaks when they went to court and she squawked, as actresses will, when her big day went unheralded. One of the studio's flacks, a former newspaper man who knew his way around downtown, immediately called the clerk of the court involved and had the whole business repeated the next day. Flackery hadn't been notified by the studio's lawyers that the young actress was to go to court. But, on the second try, in which the judge gave the best of cooperation, the girl knocked over plenty of newspaper space.

☆ ☆ ☆

QUESTION of whether a studio has the right to release a producer or director under contract if he is thought to be too ill to continue with his work will probably be decided in the courts in connection with the present difficulties between RKO and Erich Pommer. Pommer's contract will not expire until the beginning of 1942. However, for the past several months he has been unable to come to the studio as a result of a heart attack. Tay Garnett has assumed his producer assignments. It is understood that RKO, while not making any announcement, is dickering with Pommer to end their pact. Pommer, on the other hand, is reported unwilling to settle and the matter may have to go to court before it is determined what rights each may have.

☆ ☆ ☆

COST of 'mugging' in the Daily News has been upped for radio stars sponsoring entrants in the sheet's sponsored Soap Box Derby. Heretofore air names have been solicited by the sheet to donate $7.50 to pay for wheels for the kid racers. Price has been tilted to $25 for the runners, the News promotion department figuring it should be worth that to the donors to have their names on the side of the boxes and their phizzes in the sheet's art layouts. Most of the players who have sponsored chariots are passing up this year's event due to the unwarranted hike in wheel fees. Chevrolet sponsors the event nationally, with local sheets pitching in to help their auto advertiser.

☆ ☆ ☆

PAUL JARRICO will go down in the saga of Hollywood scribes as the man who fired himself. He was working on 'Tom, Dick and Harry' at RKO and was on the set during the entire shooting schedule. In the meantime, Robert Sisk, producer of 'Tom, Dick and Harry', had checked off the lot to go to Paramount. After picture was completed, Joe Nolan sent a message to Garson Kanin asking about Jarrico's status. Kanin turned the note over to the writer and forgot about it. After a few days' deliberation, Jarrico telephoned in to RKO front office and fired himself.

☆ ☆ ☆

PROTESTS are being framed by talent and technical groups in radio against Federal Communications commission's anti-monopoly ruling, which, if enforced against the networks, would seriously impair their earning capacity. Musicians union, American Federation of Radio Artists and studio craftsmen claim the new regulations would force advertisers to forego live broadcasts for spot transcriptions. Strongly-worded representations will be made to the FCC by the affected groups unless the rulings are tempered so as not to interfere with network operations.

☆ ☆ ☆

THROUGH a tieup with Wrigley, RKO's 'Scattergood Pulls the Strings' will be premiered in Chicago and will have a guarantee of audience-interest from the beginning. Total of 37,500 tickets will be distributed free to fans throughout Cook County. RKO will be paid for the tickets by Wrigley and gum distributors in the territory will pass them out to customers. Wrigley executives figure the stunt will needle interest in their 'Scattergood' air programs and, finally, in their products.

☆ ☆ ☆

WITHOUT fanfare or advance info, KECA last Friday jumped its night power from 1,000 to 5,000 watts after many weeks of testing and is now operating day and night on the five kilowatt juice line. Station is using a directional antenna to expand its coverage along the Coast.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 11; San Francisco, 5.
Los Angeles, 7; Oakland, 4.
Sacramento, 7; Seattle, 2.
Portland, 4; San Diego, 2.

Swanson Trains East

Gloria Swanson trained for New York last night to attend the annual board meeting and election of officers of Multiprises, Inc., of which she is president.

'Ghost' Re-Routed

Director Lew Seiler has altered schedule on Warners 'The Smiling Ghost' to shoot around Brenda Marshall who is in Hollywood hospital.

RKO Plans Another Pic For Lum and Abner

RKO will make a second picture with Lum and Abner with shooting to commence early in July. 'Dreaming Out Loud', the first film venture of the air comics, grossed well enough for Chester Lauck and Norris Goff to return to RKO. Production will be made at the Pathe lot.

MG Signs Quine

New York, June 3.—Richard Quine, currently in 'Sister Eileen' legit show, has been signed to a term contract at Metro and leaves for the Coast (14) to start work under pact.

'Nocturne' Castings

Priscilla Lane and Billy Halop have been added to cast of 'Hot Nocturne' at Warners, almost completing top bracket. Anatole Litvak directs.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Stoutest of troupers on the baseball stage,
The Iron Man of this or any age,
He battled grimly to the final frame.
Still swinging manfully, he played the game—
LOU GEHRIG.

★ ★ ★

For some reason or other, there has never been an outstanding baseball film. Some day somebody may write a screenplay about Lou Gehrig, an undramatic lad who lived a dramatic life.

★ ★ ★

Life travels so fast nowadays that a motion picture starts at the finish and flashes back the hero's youth as an aftermath.

Boris Morros passed the office wearing a shirt of subdued color. He was practically incognito.

Madeleine Carroll, Salt Cay, Bahama Islands:—Dead Mad: Received your wish - you - were - here postcard and in return would say: 'wish YOU were HERE.'

GEORGIE.

★ ★ ★

Our Boyle Heights scout reports that Wee Bonnie Bernstein has a rival attraction—Malibou Fink and Orchestra.

Milton Berle sends word that he is going to Boston to emcee a convention of shoemakers who never heard of him when he was wearing out his shoes on Broadway.

Once upon a time a big star was content with a big car. Now he has a big mansion, a big swimming pool, a big income tax and a big headache.

★ ★ ★

We still have old fashioned folks in Hollywood. Gene Raymond and Jeanette MacDonald are about to celebrate their fourth wedding anniversary.

★ ★ ★

Johnny Weissmuller, the busiest actor in Hollywood, is trying to persuade Metro to build a jungle on Catalina Island to save time in the production of Tarzan pictures, which follow each other with amazing rapidity, about two years apart. Figuring on the ratio between Johnny's aquatic and dramatic speed, statisticians declare that he can swim around the world between takes.

If you happen to get an autograph by Maureen O'Hara, don't think it is Cleopatra signing an Egyptian hieroglyph. Maureen writes in Gaelic.

Sign of prosperity in Hollywood—Cliff Nazarro claims an actor paid him a two-buck debt.

★ ★ ★

Texas cowboys have galloped nobly in the film industry but none of them has anything on the Old Ranger from the Bronx — Harry Carey.

★ ★ ★

Since early days
When picture plays
In corny ways were born
The public still
Derives a thrill
From old dramatic corn.

Preview

★

Paper Bullets

(*Drama*)

Producers Releasing Corporation release of a K-B production. Cast: Joan Woodbury, Jack LaRue, Linda Ware, John Archer, Vince Barnett, Allan Ladd, Gavin Gordon, Philip Trent, William Halligan, George Pembroke, Selmer Jackson, Kenneth Harlan, Bryant Washburn, Alden Chase, Robert Strange, Alex Callam, Harry Depp. Producer, Maurice Kozinsky. Associate producer, Franklin Kozinsky. Director, Phil Rosen. Original story and screenplay, Martin Mooney. Music direction, Johnny Lange and Lew Porter. Photography, Arthur Martinelli. Art director, Frank Dexter, Sr. Film editor, Martin G. Cole. Production manager, Mack V. Wright. Songs by Vic Knight, Johnny Lange and Lew Porter; Maurice Kozinsky, Johnny Lange and Lew Porter. Previewed June 3. Running time: 69 mins.

This is in many respects a remarkable picture. Remarkable in that it presents a maximum of audience entertainment on a minimum of shrewd expenditure. As a showcasing of quality economically achieved, it should provide an interesting hour for many producers who have no limit upon their budgets. For general audiences it would seem to lack nothing that a story of this nature should have to create intense interest and to give satisfaction in its narration and its outcome. 'Paper Bullets', from every angle as a program offering, does credit to its producers, Maurice and Franklin Kozinsky.

Given superior direction by Phil Rosen, credible performances by a troupe which shows unusual interest in its chores, a sound and honestly told tale of political chicanery and underworld drama, and technical contributions of merit, the picture needs no handicap.

Three kids are conditioned for a various destiny in an orphanage in the Martin Mooney screenplay. They grow up as Joan Woodbury, daughter of a convict, and herself imprisoned for a time; Jack LaRue, who boasts even as a boy that he will know all the answers and who becomes an underworld graft collector, and John Archer who turns out to be an engineer. Linda Ware, a young singer, is Joan's friend, and sweetheart of Allan Ladd, working with the police. Philip Trent is the son of a politically ambitious man and a thorough heel who lets the convict's daughter take a rap for him in a drunken driving accident. William Halligan is police chief; George Pembroke, the politician; Selmer Jackson, the district attorney; Gavin Gordon, the attorney for the conspiring crooks; Alden Chase, the attorney for the conspirators when they face trial; Vince Barnett, a stoolie. Each of these characters is skillfully portrayed by a trouping cast and kept persuasive and thoroughly human and legitimate by the intelligent direction of Phil Rosen. Kenneth Harlan, Bryant Washburn, Robert Strange, Alex Callam and Harry Depp ably round out the company.

Story is told swiftly and consistently. The consequences of crime and mistakes, the reward of such meagre virtue as the drama assays, fall where they should. Much genuine excitement is created.

Linda Ware sings her two songs effectively. Johnny Lange and Lew Porter attend ably to the music direction. The camera work of Arthur Martinelli is commendable.

Altogether, this important little picture comes to market with every prospect of accounting very profitably for itself and of encouraging the producers to further efforts of the same calibre.

HEDDA HOPPER WISECRAX HI-LITE COURT HEARING

Hedda Hopper provoked plenty of hilarity in U. S. District Court Judge Ralph E. Jenny's tribunal yesterday afternoon, when summoned to the witness chair by Attorney Herbert A. Huebner, representing Louis Ullman in his plagiarism suit against Columbia Pictures. Columnist was subpoenaed by the plaintiff in an attempt to show that Lew Golder, agent, had spoken to her to consider the Ullman story, 'Angel of Hell Hollow', and first question put to her was:

'Are you an actress?'

'Well, if I'm not,' Miss Hopper replied, 'I've been fooling the public for a long time.'

This type of banter continued throughout Miss Hopper's entire interrogation, in which she denied having read the Ullman story or of remembering anything about it.

'It was my first experience in a court room', Miss Hopper said later, 'and the judge was perfectly charming. He greeted me with the announcement that Hedda Hopper needs no introduction, whereupon I bowed gracefully to him and he returned the compliment. At the close of my sojourn on the stand I thanked the judge, telling him it was my first court experience and that if ever I came up again I hoped it would be before him.'

Dema Harshbarger, business manager for Miss Hopper, was also called to the witness stand by Huebner, but she, too, told the court she could not remember any of the instances sought by the plaintiff's attorney to bring out.

Trial of the Ullman suit was started yesterday and Ullman was still on the witness stand when adjournment was taken until this morning. Various witnesses summoned yesterday included Katherine Simpson, a teacher of short story writing at the Los Angeles high school, to whom Ullman submitted his original story; Harry Sauber, former assistant to Irving Briskin at the Columbia studios at the time of the filming of 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington', which Ullman alleges infringed upon his yarn; and several others.

Sitting in on the proceedings was Attorney Morton Garbus, counsel for Norman Houston, who also has a $1,000,000 suit pending against Columbia, alleging a similarity between his story, 'Clowning In Congress', and 'Mr. Smith'. Decision was previously reached to try the two cases simultaneously, but at the last minute it was decided to hold up the Houston case until such time as any evidence introduced in the Ullman action related to the Houston claim.

Ullman's testimony was temporarily halted near the close of yesterday afternoon's session when a controversy arose over whether or not he should be allowed to testify on similarity between his yarn and the film version of 'Mr. Smith'.

NY Reports AGVA In Good Coin Situash

New York, June 3.—The American Guild of Variety Artists finances are in the best shape since the organization was started by the Associated Actors and Artistes of America as a replacement for the disfranchised American Federation of Actors, it was reported at the first meeting of the newly elected national board Monday. The union now has over $7,000 in the bank, and looks set to continue to prosper with the election by the board of Morton Downey as president, Henry Dunn as treasurer, and Gerald Griffin, who had been acting as administrator pro tem, as permanent national executive secretary.

The three officers are recognized performers, unlike the layman Hoyt Haddock, recently dismissed as executive secretary.

Test Dorothy McGuire For 'Claudia' Pic

New York, June 3.—Dorothy McGuire, currently playing the title part in 'Claudia' on Broadway, is understood to be virtually set to repeat the role in David Selznick's film version, due for production in the summer of 1942. Robert Rosson came east to make the test. Radio version, with Patricia Ryan in the same part, starts Friday as part of the Kate Smith hour but goes to the full half hour for General Foods four weeks later.

Waxman on 'Tonk'

Musical assignments at Metro have Franz Waxman to do the score for 'Honky-Tonk', David Snell on 'Young Americans' and Bronislau Kaper on the current untitled 'Dr. Kildare' feature.

In from the East

Walter Pidgeon
Rhys Williams
Raymond Massey
C. P. Brinner
Benita Hume
Joseph Steele
Elizabeth Arden
Marty Gosch
Howard Harris
Jules White

Heading East

Robert Stack (AA)
'Lasses White
Gloria Swanson (UP)
Arthur Kelly (TWA)
Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus
Patricia Lee (TWA)
Mary Daniels (TWA)
Virginia van Upp (TWA)
Eda Warren (TWA)
Jackie Walker (TWA)
Dick Condon (TWA)
Lou Levy (TWA)
Sam Spewack (TWA)
Anna Sten (TWA)
Helen Vinson

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

PARAMOUNT was unable to obtain a print of 'Bill Sharkey's Last Game', first picture in which Harry Carey appeared back in 1908 at South Beach, Staten Island, for National Film Distributing Co., but one and two-reelers dating from 1910 on have been collected. Oldtime films will be shown at the party celebrating Carey's 33rd anniversary in the picture business at his ranch Saturday (14). . . . Buddy Rogers planes for Lawrence, Kansas (11) to attend the 75th anniversary of the University of Kansas there (12). Actor is an alumnus of the school. . . . Irving Asher and Hal Wallis leave Guaymas today for Hollywood, bringing to an end a successful jaunt after sword fish.

There are 62 scenes in Republic's 'Puddin' Head' showing Francis Lederer eating.

NELSON EDDY and musicians on 'Chocolate Soldier' set pitching pennies and arguing over liners. . . . Harry Brand contemplating the Grand Canyon. . . . Tom Harmon will squire Anita Louise at the University of Michigan senior ball at Ann Arbor (20). She has been mentioned for femme lead in picture the Michigan grid star is slated to make for Columbia if his draft deferment status doesn't interfere. . . . Elizabeth Arden, beauty authority, has returned to Hollywood for two weeks to complete work on 'Orchids to Charlie' at the Fine Arts Studios.

Republic's annual golf tourney will be held next Sunday at Brentwood. Bob Mohr, Lou Asher, Robert Webb, Al Horowitz and Betty Joseph head the committee in charge of the tournament.

GEORGE LLOYD, currently working in 'Texas' at Columbia, appears in four films now showing locally, 'She Knew All the Answers', 'Topper Returns', 'A Girl, a Guy and a Gob' and 'The Ziegfeld Girl'. . . . Nick Musuraca, cameraman at RKO, last week was married to Josephine Mary Camschulte, non-professional. . . . Vera Vague will lead an army of Signal Carnival entertainers for U. S. aviators at March Field June 8. . . . 'Latitude Zero', drama by Anne and Ted Sherdeman previously aired over the Pacific Coast NBC red net, goes coast-to-coast starting Saturday (7). . . . Billy Gilbert and his wife, Ella, will open at the State Lake theatre, in Chicago, June 27, on a personal appearance tour. Comedian will go from there to New York where he has a deal pending to go into 'High Kickers', musical which George Jessel will produce this fall. . . . Kenny Washington and Woodford Strode, University of California at Los Angeles athletes, have been added to the cast of Walter Wanger's 'Sundown.'

Kaltenborn Comersh Starts June 30 Over NBC Red

H. V. Kaltenborn goes commercial for Albers Milling Co., Seattle, starting June 30, over the Pacific Coast NBC Red network, KDYL, Salt Lake, and the North Mountain Group, a total of 14 stations.

Under the deal set yesterday through Erwin, Wasey agency, the Kaltenborn news analysis, originating in New York for Pure Oil, will have commercials for Albers Milling cutting in from KOA, Denver.

The program, which will be heard three times weekly, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, from 3:45 to 4 p.m., P.S.T., is contracted for 13 weeks with options.

Packard Playhouse Set 'House of Kilkare'

'The House of Kilkare' will be the second in the new transcription series of half-hour dramas in the Packard Playhouse productions to be presented over KFI tomorrow (5). Drama was written and produced by Dr. Kimball S. Sant, with Gale Page and Elliott Lewis in the leading roles. Among those slated for starring assignments in future presentations in this series are Ona Munson, Elaine Barrymore, Benny Rubin and Roy Rogers.

Jan Clayton Receives Contract at 20th

Jan Clayton, from the original 'Meet the People', has been signed to a term contract at 20th-Fox. Actress formerly was under contract at Warners and probably will be used in 20th-Fox musicals. She is the wife of Russell Hayden.

20th Scribes Set

Writer assignments at 20th-Fox have Ken Englund doing the script on 'Double or Nothing' and Robert Pirosh and Joseph Schrank scripting 'Song of the Islands', both musicals to be produced by Milton Sperling. Adrian Scott has been assigned to do the screen play on 'Private Confusion.'

RKO Adds Artists

RKO has added four new artists to its special effects department. Clifford Stein, formerly a second cameraman, has been upped to first cameraman in that department. New artists are Mario Larrinaga, Clarence Ellsworth, Clifford Silsby and Jack Shaw.

Defense Bond Report

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr. will give results of the first month of defense bond sales in a broadcast over the Columbia net tomorrow, program being heard on the Coast via station KNX from 11:15 to 11:30 p.m. PST.

MPRF Meeting (24)

Annual meeting of the Motion Picture Relief Fund will be held at the Roosevelt hotel June 24. Jean Hersholt will preside. Elections of all Fund officers and 11 of the 33 members of the board of directors are to be held.

Rep Sets Duet

Republic's 'Lady From Louisiana' goes into the Paramount theatre here week of (12) or (19). 'Angels With Broken Wings', Republic production, runs at Warners Hollywood and Downtown for week beginning (12).

SCARCITY OF STARS

New York, June 3.—Asserting that the film industry's name-casting problem is too great to be solved by the studios and playgoers themselves, or any other single group, George Schaefer, here after an extended stay on the Coast, says there are 20 to 26 first class scripts ready for production in the various major Hollywood studios, but are held back because of the scarcity of star names. Schaefer declares that the problem must be met and solved by the industry as a whole.

STRAWHATTERS MAY GRAB $1,500,000 THIS SUMMER

New York, June 3.—It is estimated that all professional strawhat theatres of the country may draw a total gross of around $1,500,000 this summer. With the season about to start, it is indicated that about 50 Equity-sanctioned spots will be operating. It is probable that business will be better than usual, chiefly due to a good supply of likely plays. Among them are such recent Broadway shows as 'George Washington Slept Here', 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', 'Skylark', 'Ladies In Retirement', 'Out of the Frying Pan' and others.

Weather is a major uncertainty, however. Hollywood names slated to appear in the strawhatters include Charles Butterworth, Mary Boland, Harpo Marx, Edward Everett Horton, Gloria Stuart and Aubrey Smith.

All 'Big Town' Hands Renewed For Next Fall

Edward G. Robinson, Crane Wilbur, script editor-producer, and all hands on Rinso's 'Big Town' have been renewed for next fall. Program signs off for the season July 2 and returns Oct. 9.

Milton Gunzberg's 'Night Court' will be dramatized (11) and 'Tough Boy', by Marian Spitzer and Milton Merlin (18).

Lester, Boyd Share Kraft Top Spot

Jerry Lester and Bill Boyd share the guest spot on tomorrow's Kraft broadcast. Lester is a candidate as a permanent summer fixture on the program when both Bing Crosby and Bob Burns take off for 13 weeks.

Esper on Probation

Dwain Esper, former independent film producer, has been fined $500 and placed on three years' probation by U. S. Circuit Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer, on charges that he violated the U. S. code governing interstate shipments of lewd matter. Esper, who was accused of sending alleged lewd phonograph records via Railway Express to the Auto Music Co., Terre Haute, Ind., was fined on the first of three counts, and given probation on the other two counts, following a report to the court by a probation officer.

Arthur Kelly Breezes

Arthur W. Kelly, acting head of United Artists, planed for New York last night to get ready for the UA sales conventions to be held around the country this month and confer with Mary Pickford, who is now in New York.

Dmytryk's-'Singapore'

Edward Dmytryk will direct Columbia's 'The Blonde From Singapore.' Picture is now being cast and will roll some time next week. Jack Fier will supervise.

Gateson's 'Rich'

Columbia has signed Marjorie Gateson for a supporting role in 'You'll Never Get Rich.'

DeMille Milestone

For the first time in his career as a director, Cecil B. DeMille appeared on the starting day of his 66th film, 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount, in mufti. Director wore a plain business suit, instead of his usual green riding breeches and highly-polished riding boots.

ACAD SOUNDMEN IN PCC PROGRAM

Members of the theatre sound standardization committee of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will participate in the convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners. Committee members plan to confer with individual exhibitors and theatre owners regarding specific technical problems of theatre and sound projection.

Members of the committee who will attend the convention are John K. Hilliard, chairman; John Aalberg, Lawrence Aicholtz, Daniel J. Bloomberg, J. P. Corcoran, Lloyd Goldsmith, Russell O. Hanson, Elmer Raguse, William Thayer and S. J. Twining.

Gosch, Harris Arrive

Martin Gosch and Howard Harris arrived yesterday from New York to report to Paramount for work on the screenplay of 'Hula Honeymoon.' Gosch and Harris wrote the original story.

Shumate's 'Cowboy'

Harold Shumate has been assigned at Universal to work on script of the next Abbott and Costello feature, 'Ride 'Em Cowboy.'

Ascap Leaders See Florida Step As Favorable Move

New York, June 3.—Last week's action by Florida authorities in persuading American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers to continue operating there under present conditions until the law can be amended to allow music users to make blanket contracts is regarded by Ascap leaders as likely to stem any epidemic of anti-Ascap legislation. Florida attorney general invited the Society to send representatives to discuss the question just as Society was preparing to notify Florida licensees that all contracts were canceled and that music users would have to do business direct with copyright owners.

With constitutionality of the Florida law finally established by the Supreme court, number of users there suddenly decided that withdrawal of Ascap service would create a state of chaos for them.

Bobby Gross Reps Miller Music Co. Here

Bobby Gross, veteran music man, who left here two years ago to represent Robbins, Feist and Miller Music companies in San Francisco, has returned here permanently. Is managing the affairs of Miller Music here.

Frankie Thomas Easting (12) for Opera

Frankie Thomas leaves (12) for St. Louis to start rehearsals for municipal opera outdoor production of 'Too Many Girls'. He then goes to Woodstock, N. Y., for a strawhat play with his father, Frank Thomas.

NBC Golf Diggers

Bob Hope and Bing Crosby are scheduled to tee off in the annual NBC athletic association golf tournament at Palos Verdes Golf Club on Saturday (7). About 50 entrants will be on hand for the tournament. George Hatch, of the NBC maintenance staff, will defend title he won last year.

Blair Planing In

Frank Blair, Mutual commentator-producer in New York, flies in from Washington in his own plane to guest on Walter White's 'Nobody's Children' over KHJ Sunday. Deanna Durbin also appears on the program.

Dram 'Fib and Molly'

Stage and radio career of Jim and Marian Jordan (Fibber McGee and Molly) will be dramatized over a stretch of three weeks starting (9) on Hedda Hopper's Sunkist program.

Ill in Pix

LOU COSTELLO is at home for few days under doctor's care, but illness is declared not serious.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SAN FRANCISCO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations Telephone WE-5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Nationwide Boycott Of Disney Seen In CLC Setup

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

ting off the list once his products have been declared unfair.

At the same time the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors announced that its members would not cross the Disney picket lines, and Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer, said that El Capitan theatre had agreed to cancel showing of Disney shorts and requested that pickets be withdrawn. He stated that picketing of other theatres would continue until they agreed to cooperate with the union by not showing Disney pictures during duration of Cartoonists strike.

William Littlejohn, prexy of the Screen Cartoonists Guild, is directing his Disney picket lines from the air. Littlejohn, a licensed pilot, makes daily flights over the studio to check the number of employes’ parked cars. He has been accompanied on several flights by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 and generalissimo of the Disney strike.

Pressure also is being brought to bear on RKO officials to stop the company from distributing Disney products. The situation has already been discussed with company executives and is being checked up to George Schaefer.

The Film Editors, meeting last night at the Woman’s Club of Hollywood, took the position that since their Disney members are already out there was no need to take a strike vote. The membership, however, adopted the following resolutions:

‘Resolved, that the Society of Motion Picture Film Editors recognizes the sanctity of the American Federation of Labor picket line as it exists during the present emergency at the Disney studio.

‘Resolved, that the Society render to its members unemployed as the result of the present emergency at the Disney studio financial aid.’

Society leaders said that no members were going through the picket line and that they had been advised the Disney cutting room now is closed.

A 24-hour picket line is still being maintained at the Disney plant. Union officials claim that additional workers are joining the strike daily, but company executives contend that production is proceeding as usual.

Fred Kley Leaves ASC Job in Combo

Fred Kley has checked out as executive secretary of the American Society of Cinematographers, and the office has been combined with that of Society president. The duties of both offices will be handled by Fred Jackman, prexy, in order to reduce operating expenses. The Society also is launching a new system of dues payments whereby employed directors of photography will pay more than unemployed lensers.

FCC REPRIEVE GIVEN NETS; FLY LETS A BLAST GO

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

monopoly and the comish reforms were:

(1). The radio industry is like the railroads—although Congress specifically said stations and webs are not common carriers—and must be run to benefit all the people. Advertisers and listeners are entitled to free choice of outlets and programs.

(2). Six webs would be ideal under present conditions. Although restrictive contracts rule out any newcomers, there should be in addition several regionals. But as long as the existing chains have a death-grip, no more than four skeins can operate.

(3). If the industry thinks the reform rules are inhumane or illegal it should go into court. The Commission will join readily in any litigation that is honest, not obstructionist.

Though he showed up with volumes of data and several assistants, Fly got only an occasional opportunity to read his script. Whenever there was an opening, however, he lectured the solons and endeavored to outtalk committee members, which didn’t succeed entirely.

Whole implication of Fly’s testimony today was that the industry, instead of asking Congress to send out a rescue crew, ought to go to court. Head reformer seemed entirely confident that the judiciary will uphold the rules. He cited a 1911 Supreme court decision in a railroad terminal case to back up his contention that ‘public interest, convenience and necessity’ really required outlawing of option time, exclusivity and dual networks. In his ‘let ‘em sue’ attitude, chief crackdowner said Congress had mandated such rules in both the Sherman and the 1934 Communications Acts.

Anti-Roosevelt senators yowled they cannot get enough radio time but acknowledged they have been fairly treated by the networks. Senators Tobey of New Hampshire, Wheeler of Montana (committee chairman), and Bone of Washington pitched in with questions about an opportunity to put over their views. Fly smartly retorted the comish is gravely concerned about free speech, claiming the webs will provide more means of earaching the listeners.

Put on the spot by Senator Tobey, a violent anti-convoy solon, Fly agreed to ask every chain and station for a full report on the amount of time given critics of the Roosevelt policy. Tobey demanded statistics about the number of speakers, names, dates, etc., as well as copies of the text. Chairman Wheeler observed there is no question that the chains have been fair but that many locals carried only one side of the argument.

Senator Bone slyly inquired if Fly thinks four webs would assure a complete airing for all arguments. The chief crackdowner agreed 90 days is too short a time to expect NBC to unload its Blue web. If the rule was enforced the company might take a bad licking, he acknowledged. But Senator Tobey observed that apparently there are many people wanting it. ‘They are waiting with their mouths watering,’ Tobey remarked.

Hearing goes on tomorrow and may continue for several days, with the industry people due to get in their licks and mirror the split which occurred at the St. Louis broadcasters’ convention. Dozens of lobbyists and mouthpieces were on hand to tell newspapermen and senators what’s what.

NELSON BLOCKS CENSOR MOVE

A move by the City Police Commission to get censorship control over legitimate theatres and motion picture houses was blocked yesterday when Councilman Norris J. Nelson, chairman of the police and fire committee, stated he would never introduce such an ordinance. He stated that power to revoke show permits should be lodged in the courts and not in the Police Commission.

The Commission is seeking passage of an ordinance giving it authority to revoke permits of any theatre, if in its judgment, the performance is lewd, indecent, or contrary to public welfare. Henry Bodkin, Commission president, insisted that the board needed broader powers to insure clean shows.

The stand of Councilman Nelson was supported at the conference by I. B. Kornblum, attorney for Actors Equity Association and executive secretary of American Federation of Radio Artists; Fred W. Beetson, of the Producers Association; Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, and Homer I. Mitchell and Alfred Wright, attorneys for the major companies. Archbishop John J. Cantwell supported Bodkin, contending the Commission was competent to judge all forms of entertainment.

Pratt Full Time Biz Rep of Collarites

Members of the Screen Office Employes Guild, meeting at the Roosevelt hotel last night, voted unanimously to employ Glenn Pratt as full time business representative of the Guild. Pratt is currently president of the SOEG and is employed as assistant cashier at Columbia.

Chuck Jones, member of the Schlesinger unit of the Screen Cartoonists Guild, and Art Babbitt, member of the SCG Disney unit, were guest speakers at the SOEG session. After listening to their talks the SOEG voted $100 from the treasury to aid the Walt Disney strikers and announced that voluntary contributions totaling $116 had been handed in by members. Pledge cards also will be circulated among the 2,500 Studio White Collarites to aid the strikers.

Lester Cole, of the Screen Writers Guild, explained the formation of a committee of representatives from studio guilds and unions to act as a clearance house for negotiations and other mutual problems. The next meeting of the committee is scheduled for tonight at SWG headquarters.

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JOHN RAWLINS

Under Contract to Universal

DIRECTED

“MEN of the TIMBERLAND”

“Packed with action. John Rawlins salts down a thoroughly competent job of direction, done with color and spirit and easy handling of the cast for solid performances. Melodrama and pictorial considerations both are well taken care of.”

—DAILY VARIETY.

“ ‘Timberland’ swell action. Classy production. Direction by John Rawlins capitalizes upon swift action. These Arlen-Devine adventure films enjoy a popularity that has made the releases consistent money-makers in their market.”

—HOLLYWOOD REPORTER.

Management

DAVID DIAMOND, INC.

●

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Cool Off Winsome Lady Daisy Green'k	1—Winsome Lady Chance Lark Field Trial	1—Cool Off Winsome Lady Moongold	1—Winsome Lady Moongold Cool Off	1—Winsome Lady Cool Off Daisy Green'k	1—Moongold Winsome Lady Paniluna
2—Ocean Bound Clipper II Bubble Lil	2—Florencita Ocean Bound Kiosk	2—Clipper II Ocean Bound Agnes S.	2—Ocean Bound Clipper II Agnes S.	2—Agnes S. Clipper II Florencita	2—Clipper II Bubble Lil Stella Gold
3—With Us Double A Corinthian	3—With Us Aqua Bubble Games Over	3—With Us Aqua Bubble Black Bud	3—With Us Aqua Bubble Double A	3—With Us Double A Black Bud	3—Corinthian With Us Hi Beautiful
4—Cal Naishapur Vegas Justice Iron Nut	4—Cal Naishapur Flying Back Tory Tom	4—Tory Tom Iron Nut Rain Crystal	4—Vegas Justice Flying Back Iron Nut	4—Iron Nut Cal Naishapur Tory Tom	4—Flying Back Vegas Justice Cal Naishapur
5—Zaca Rosa C'ous Roman Thumbs Up	5—Zaca Rosa C'ous Roman Thumbs Up	5—Thumbs Up C'ous Roman Zaca Rosa	5—Zaca Rosa C'ous Roman Thumbs Up	5—C'ous Roman Zaca Rosa Thumbs Up	5—Zaca Rosa C'ous Roman Thumbs Up
6—Spanish Main Dick Naish'r Manila Bay	6—Dick Naish'r Praetorian Spanish Main	6—Spanish Main Dick Naish'r Good Taste	6—Xenoras Fox Dick Naish'r Good Taste	6—Spanish Main Manila Bay Dick Naish'r	6—Dick Naish'r Spanish Main Praetorian
7—Sir Jeffrey R'l Crusader Vain Bo	7—Sir Jeffrey Royal Cru'der Touch and Go	7—Ship Biscuit Vain Bo Royal Cru'der	7—Vain Bo Sir Jeffrey Royal Cru'der	7—Vain Bo Royal Cru'der Sir Jeffrey	7—Vain Bo Sir Jeffrey Royal Cru'der
8—Like Green'k Torch Lee Guaymas	8—Like Green'k Torch Lee Rockaway Boy	8—Like Green'k Torch Lee Indeed	8—Like Green'k Torch Lee Guaymas	8—Like Green'k Torch Lee Count Us	8—Rockaway Boy Torch Lee Like Green'k

AAA Arbiter Takes San Gabriel Case Under Advisement

After denying motions to dismiss on jurisdictional grounds, the action brought against various distributors by O. W. Lewis of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, Herbert Cameron, arbitrator of the American Arbitration Association, before whom the issue is pending, reversed himself yesterday afternoon and took under advisement the contention of defense attorneys that the AAA lacked jurisdiction.

Arbitrator Cameron will decide by next Wednesday whether the consent decree set up by the Government gives the AAA jurisdiction, and if sustaining the dismissal motions of the defendant attorneys, he will so notify the clerk of the tribunal, which will put an end to Lewis' demands that his theatre be zoned 28 days after Pasadena first run closing instead of 21 days after Alhambra which now books seven days behind the former city.

In the event that Cameron should rule that he has jurisdiction, the defendants will return to the tribunal next Wednesday and enter evidence by which they hope to refute testimony introduced on behalf of Lewis.

Separate dismissal motions were entered yesterday by Attorney Herbert T. Silverberg, representing Loew's, Inc.; Bernard Luker, for Paramount; Herbert Freston (Freston & Files), on behalf of Vitagraph, and two interveners, V. A. Morgan, appearing for the Edwards Theatre circuit, and John Bertero, representing United Fox West Coast Theatres and the Alhambra Amusement Co.

Bitter legal battle, in which all of the attorneys participated, marked yesterday morning's hearing, when case was resumed after several days' recess. Gist of these arguments was that Lewis had failed to show any unreasonable clearance on the part of the defendant distributors. On the contrary, defense attorneys argued, Lewis was making an attempt to have a new clearance set up, and also to secure clearance of seven days over the Edwards Rosemead theatre, whereas he is now forced to play day and date with that house.

Roach MPTOA Speaker

Hal Roach will speak on his 'Streamlined Features' before the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America joint convention with the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners Thursday (12).

'Miami' Premiere

20th-Fox will hold the world premiere of 'Moon Over Miami' at Miami Beach (13) as a special pre-release opening. Picture goes into general distribution July 4.

Galligan Returns

Tom Galligan returned yesterday from a trip in the middle and southwest where he made a series of educational films. Galligan will go back to studio work here.

H. B. Warner's 'Gold'

H. B. Warner has been added to the cast of 'Flesh and Gold', formerly titled 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', at RKO.

Eckhardt Assigned

William Eckhardt will be assistant director on 'We Go Fast' at 20th-Fox. William McGann will direct.

Willie Bioff Waives Removal Trial

Willie Bioff, convicted pander and former labor hoodlum, has waived a removal hearing and posted $50,000 bond to guarantee his appearance in New York Thursday (12) to face Federal charges of extortion. George E. Browne, jointly indicted with Willie, is at liberty in $20,000 bail. The two are accused of extorting $550,000 from four major film companies.

Although the removal hearing was not scheduled until Thursday (5), Willie appeared before U. S. Commissioner David B. Head yesterday and stated he would not oppose his removal to New York. Bioff was quoted as stating he is innocent, but that he would rather go back to fight the charges than have the matter drag out.

Members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes are now demanding the resignation of Prexy George E. Browne, his personal representative, Willie Bioff, and all appointed officers of the organization. The men claim they have been 'sold down the river' by their national leaders and are insisting on handling their own negotiations, without aid or interference from the International. Negotiations committees representing the 10 IATSE studio locals meet at 8 o'clock tonight to discuss their proposals and to map out a plan of procedure in their dealings with company executives. The first meeting between the two groups will be held shortly after the arrival tomorrow of Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, who has been in the east for several weeks.

Tarkington, WB Suit Nears Settlement

New York, June 3.—Booth Tarkington's $100,000 suit against Warners over the picture, 'Penrod and His Twin Brother', is in the process of being settled. Amount of payment has not been disclosed. Tarkington claimed the Warners feature was not based on any story written by him.

Frank Tuttle at Par

Paramount has signed Frank Tuttle to work on the screenplay of 'This Gun for Hire' and later to direct the picture. Albert Maltz is collaborating with the director on the scripting job. Paramount has also taken an option for a term contract on Maltz.

Story Buys

Jack Hartfield sold his original story, 'Lucky Legs', to Columbia and has been assigned to do the screenplay.

O'CONNOR, MEYERS JOIN UNIVERSAL; UP HEINEMAN

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

capacities, term contracts being approved by the U directors.

O'Connor becomes vice-president and executive assistant to Nate Blumberg, president. Matty Fox, already an assistant to Blumberg, is expecting a call to the colors soon.

Meyers has been named eastern sales manager by William Scully, distribution chief, in a revamp of the sales setup. F. J. H. McCarthy, formerly eastern manager, has been named to a newly created position of Southern-Canadian sales manager.

William J. Heineman, formerly western sales manager, has been upped to assistant general sales manager and assistant to Scully. A new man for his vacated spot is yet to be named.

Small Seeks Fritz Lang To Direct 'Brothers'

Edward Small is negotiating with 20th-Fox to borrow Fritz Lang to direct 'The Corsican Brothers', which will have Louis Hayward in the lead. Lang is currently in New York, where he will deliver two lectures at Columbia on the technique of film direction. Director is due back in town next week to begin preparations on 'Confirm or Deny' at 20th-Fox, film which will have Ida Lupino in the top feminine role.

Parsonnet's 'Tomorrow'

Marion Parsonnet will do the screen play on his original, 'Remember Tomorrow', which Warners has purchased on a deal handled through the M. C. Levee agency.

O'Neill's 'Americans'

Henry O'Neill joins the cast of 'Young Americans' at Metro in a feature part.

Howland Spotted

Olin Howland gets featured role in Warners 'One Foot in Heaven.'

EXTRA EARNINGS DIVE IN MAY

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

as compared to 33,438 in April and 21,523 in May of last year.

Based on an average daily wage of $11, the total earnings will be approximately $175,000, as compared to $384,785 in May, and $236,084 in May of last year. The percentage of request calls by studios continued above 50%.

The Screen Actors Guild is now pushing the Producers for an answer on its proposal to reclassify extra brackets so as to provide a 10% increase for the regulars. It is understood that final approval by the companies has now been deferred until tomorrow. One of the hitches is reported to have been whether to make the new bracket $10 or $10.50. This would replace the current $8.25 and $11 calls.

There also has been some objection by the Producers to limiting the employment of $5.50 extras to calls for 50 or more players. The original proposal would fix the stipend for dancers at $13.75, instead of the current $11, and singers would be paid $15 daily and $20 for recordings.

It is understood the Producers have already agreed to substantial tilts for small freelance players, and that improved conditions also have been secured for day players. The proposal to eliminate 2,000 casual extras from the industry is being held up pending final approval of the deal to reclassify extra brackets.

Bakaleinikoff Set

Constantin Bakaleinikoff, head of the RKO music department, is handling the conducting job on the recording of 'My Life With Caroline.'

GOGI OF SCHEHERAZADE
Presents
Edith (Rogers) Dahl
and Her Violin
The American Beauty whose personal appeal to General Franco saved the life of her aviator husband.
Also
ALEC MORISON
Continental Dinners $3.00
Reservations — BR. 2-3383
9236 Sunset Blvd.

Highest SWG Member Record with 950 On the Books

The Screen Writers Guild membershop now is the highest in the history of the organization, with 950 active and associate members in good standing, it was announced yesterday by the SWG executive board. During the past year more than 200 new active and associate members have been accepted. Of this number, a majority have affiliated within the past four months.

It also was announced by the board that the financial status of the Guild is in the healthiest condition since the formation of the organization. It was stated that a big majority of the membership is paid up to date in dues and that many have paid in advance.

With membership applications coming in at the rate of 12 a week, the SWG said it was expected that the 1,000 mark in membership will be reached by the end of this month.

Capt. Len Hammond Gets in Army Time

Capt. Len Hammond, of the 20th-Fox production staff, has reported for active duty during maneuvers of the 60th Signal Battalion at Camp Hunter Liggett, Jolon, Calif. Captain Hammond has been assistant to Kenneth Macgowan at 20th-Fox and when latter left the lot handled production matters on 'Belle Starr' during filming of the picture. He is expected back at the studio by the end of the month.

SKOURAS URGES INDUSTRY FITE FOR MORE BUSINESS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

drop in attendance, the exhibiting branch determined to take a strong stand against public apathy. In the discussion following the Skouras proposal, a general acquiescence was registered, although no attempt was made to crystallize definite plans at this time.

The crying need, as expressed by some of the exhibs who attended the meeting, is for the public to become acquainted intimately with a large number of young players who, largely through force of casting circumstances, have been pushed into lead roles, in some cases before the period of promotional probation has been finished.

a.m. Dailies

Former Showgirl Sues—
Hazel Criswell Miller, former New York Earl Carroll showgirl, yesterday started legal proceedings against Frank A. Criswell, cafe operator, whom she divorced in 1938, charging that she was induced to sign away a $5,000 home to her former husband while under the influence of liquor.

Nissen, Eckert Married—
Greta Nissen, film actress, yesterday left on her honeymoon with Stuart D. Eckert, Los Angeles manufacturer, whom she married Sunday (1) in Las Vegas, Nev.

Sylos Assigned

F. Paul Sylos was signed yesterday by the Bill Pine-Bill Thomas producing unit to handle the art direction on their next picture for Paramount, 'Flying Blind'. He reports to work today.

UNIVERSAL BIGGIES IN NEXT WEEK

Flock of Universal executives get in early next week from New York. Nate Blumberg, prexy, and John Joseph, director of publicity and advertising, are due Monday. Blumberg remains here for the summer.

William A. Scully, general sales manager, and William J. Heineman, recently promoted from western sales manager to assistant general manager, arrive later in the week for the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America convention.

Morros' 'Manhattan'

Boris Morros will produce 'Tales of Manhattan' for Paramount. Story, by Billy Wilder and Walter Reisch, will feature seven different actors and seven directors will be used. Each director will direct an episode in the yarn, which deals with the life of a suit of formal evening clothes. Dalton Trumbo and Aben Kandel are working on the screenplay.

Majors Face Problem Of Clearing Decks To Move Decree

New York, June 3.—Necessity of clearing the release decks of all features promised under blanket contracts for the 1940-41 season, is the requirement facing the five majors who are party to the consent decree, before new product to be released after Sept. 1 can be shown publicly. Exception is the film that is presented nationally under a roadshow policy.

Such is the consensus of sales managers and attorneys struggling with distribution difficulties as time of transition from the old to the new methods approaches.

Sets Newsreel Week

Mayor Fletcher Bowron, working in conjunction with the News-View Newsreel theatre and the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, has designated June 14-21 as Newsreel Week. A banquet at Sardi's and a beauty contest will climax a week of radio addresses and special displays.

Roach 'Falls' Goes (6)

'Niagara Falls', first of the Hal Roach streamlined features for United Artists release, goes before the cameras Friday (6) under the direction of Gordon Douglas. Marjorie Woodworth, Tom Brown, ZaSu Pitts and Slim Summerville have the leads.

Spots Bezzerides

A. I. Bezzerides has been assigned at Warners to collaborate with Ken Gamet on screen play for 'Jook Girl.'

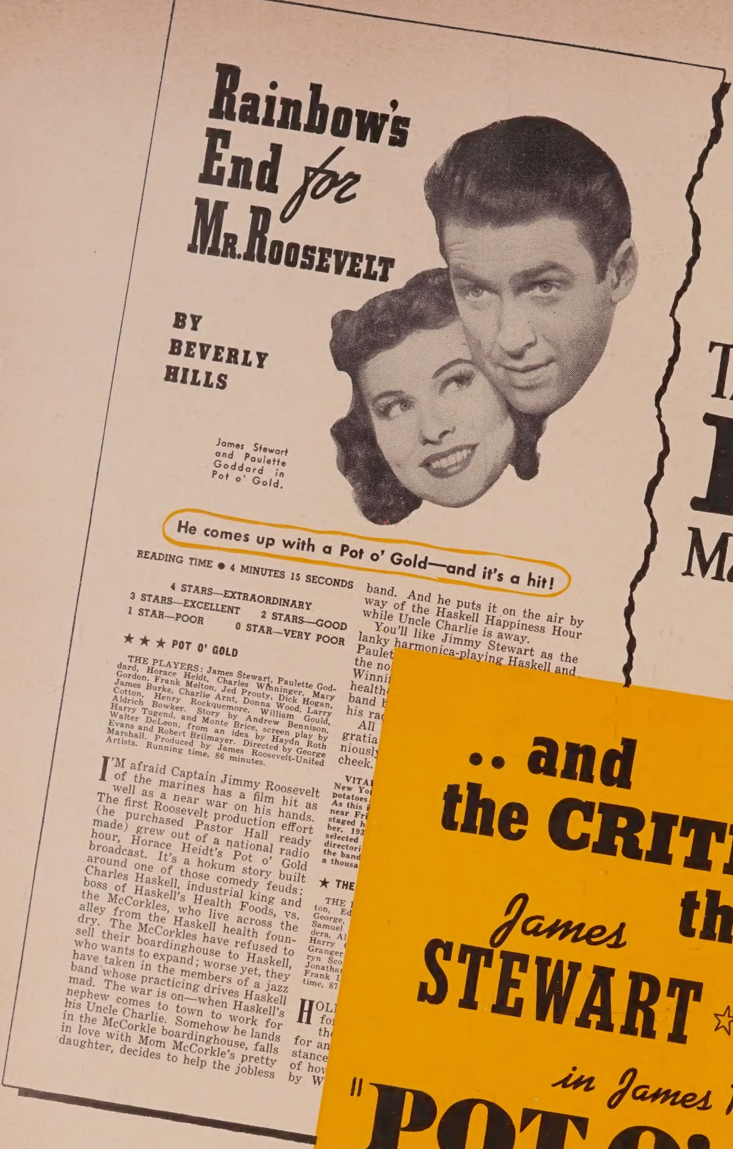
HORACE HEIDT

AND HIS MUSICAL KNIGHTS

In

JAMES ROOSEVELT'S

"POT O' GOLD"



Rainbow's End *for* Mr. Roosevelt

BY
BEVERLY
HILLS

James Stewart and Paulette Goddard in Pot o' Gold.

He comes up with a Pot o' Gold—and it's a hit!

READING TIME ● 4 MINUTES 15 SECONDS

4 STARS—EXTRAORDINARY
3 STARS—EXCELLENT 2 STARS—GOOD
1 STAR—POOR 0 STAR—VERY POOR

★ ★ ★ POT O' GOLD

THE PLAYERS: James Stewart, Paulette Goddard, Horace Heidt, Charles Winninger, Mary Gordon, Frank Melton, Jed Prouty, Dick Hogan, James Burke, Charlie Arnt, Donna Wood, Larry Cotton, Henry Rockquemore, William Gould, Aldrich Bowker. Story by Andrew Bennison, Harry Tugend, and Monte Brice, screen play by Walter DeLeon, from an idea by Haydn Roth Evans and Robert Brilmayer. Directed by George Marshall. Produced by James Roosevelt-United Artists. Running time, 86 minutes.

I'M afraid Captain Jimmy Roosevelt of the marines has a film hit as well as a near war on his hands. The first Roosevelt production effort (he purchased Pastor Hall ready made) grew out of a national radio hour, Horace Heidt's Pot o' Gold broadcast. It's a hokum story built around one of those comedy feuds: Charles Haskell, industrial king and boss of Haskell's Health Foods, vs. the McCorkles, who live across the alley from the Haskell health foundry. The McCorkles have refused to sell their boardinghouse to Haskell, who wants to expand; worse yet, they have taken in the members of a jazz band whose practicing drives Haskell mad. The war is on—when Haskell's nephew comes to town to work for his Uncle Charlie. Somehow he lands in the McCorkle boardinghouse, falls in love with Mom McCorkle's pretty daughter, decides to help the jobless band. And he puts it on the air by way of the Haskell Happiness Hour while Uncle Charlie is away.

You'll like Jimmy Stewart as the lanky harmonica-playing Haskell and
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Liberty
Magazine says—

.. and the CRITICS agree that

James **STEWART** ☆ *Paulette* **GODDARD**

in James Roosevelt's

"POT O' GOLD"

A GEORGE MARSHALL PRODUCTION

HORACE **HEIDT** AND HIS MUSICAL KNIGHTS *with* CHARLES **WINNINGER**

Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL · *Released thru* UNITED ARTISTS

is a BOX OFFICE *Treasure!*

Now Showing
GRAUMAN'S CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE THEATRES

Copy ②

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 31 No. 66 Hollywood, California, Thursday, June 5, 1941 5 Cents

UNIONS TO SUE FOR BACK PAY

FLARE UP AT RADIO HEARING

Washington, June 4. — You can pay your money and take your choice, but you must do it in good faith—with the regulators deciding who's sincere—in fighting anti-monopoly reform rules of the Federal Communications Commission. Disclaiming any vindictiveness and being lectured in return about hot-headed action, Chairman James L. Fly of FCC today told the Interstate Commerce Com-

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Harry Cohn to Chicago For Col Confabs

Harry Cohn planes to Chicago tomorrow night to preside at Columbia's national executive sales convention Saturday and Sunday, returning Monday. Chicago meeting, first of two conclaves, will be attended only by top executives from home office and studio, by sales heads and branch and division managers. Plans and details for the second meeting, to be attended by entire sales force, will be formulated. Product announcement for the 1941-42 season is expected to be made at the meeting Saturday.

Columbia Profit

New York, June 4.—Columbia Pictures profit was $274,765 for the nine months ended March 29 after taxes and charges were deducted. This figure is compared to $341,348 in the corresponding period ended March 30, 1940. It is equal, after preferred dividends, to 33 cents a common share against 51 cents in the nine months ended March 30 last year.

Spot Anna Nilsson

Anna Q. Nilsson, pursuing her film comeback, yesterday was set for featured role in Harry Sherman's 'Timber Wolves' for Paramount.

PREVIEWED

THE RICHEST MAN IN TOWN
(Col)

(Preview on page 3)

SELZNICK, CAPRA UA DECISH SOON

Decision on whether David O. Selznick and Frank Capra become producer-owners in United Artists is expected either today or tomorrow. Selznick spent yesterday at his home going over details of the UA offer with his attorney, Loyd Wright, Daniel T. O'Shea, Selznick executive,

♥ Continued on page 3 ♥

WB Terms Sutherland

Warners has signed A. Edward Sutherland to a term directing contract after bringing him on the lot on a one-picture deal to direct 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough.'

EXEMPTIONS OKAYED BY GENERAL FLEMING

Business representatives of studio unions stated last night they were recommending that mass suits be filed in Federal court in an effort to tap the mythical $3,000,000 back pay jackpot, which they claim has accrued under the 40-hour week provisions of the Wage-Hour Act. The recommendations were decided upon after Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings and exemption section of the Wage-Hour Division, announced the classifications of 545 types of employment in the film industry will become effective Monday (16).

Representatives of 10 studio lo-

★ Continued on page 6 ★

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL ENTERS DISNEY STRIKE

The Central Labor Council stepped into the Walt Disney strike situation last night, and early today was still trying to effect a settlement of the walkout ordered by the Screen Cartoonists Guild. A committee headed by Harry Sherman, Council president, was in contact with Walt Disney and other company officials in an effort to get them to sign an American Federation of Labor agreement that would call for the strikers to return to work.

It was stated that if an agreement was not reached today, the Council

● Continued on page 12 ●

Graham Baker Works

Graham Baker, who will produce 'Valley of the Sun' for RKO release, is working on script at home, where he is confined with cold. He is collaborating with his writer, Horace McCoy.

Set Morton Lowry

Morton Lowry has been given a featured role in 20th-Fox's 'Charley's Aunt.'

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	127
Major Studio Calls	255
FK Studio Service	24
Tinsman Casting Agency	44
Total	450

Florida Dries Up

Jean Renoir, Irving Pichel and W. F. Fitzgerald returned to 20th-Fox yesterday after a week's hunt for locations for 'Swamp Water' in Florida. Drought in the region desired for background may delay the start of the film.

Myers Says Minn. Anti-Consent Measure Is Unconstitutional

Minneapolis, June 4. — Northwest Allied members were told here by Abram F. Myers, national Allied States counsel, that in his opinion the Minnesota state anti-consent decree law sponsored by the local organization is unconstitutional and is likely to cause major distributors to refrain from selling in the state while it is on the statute books.

Although approximately eight weeks have elapsed since the law was enacted, leading major companies still are not selling and have made no move yet to bring the situa-

◆ Continued on page 5 ◆

KUYKENDALL HEADS MPTOA VANGUARD

Vanguard of exhibitor chieftains, including Ed Kuykendall, prexy of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, as well as the out-of-town trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, starts arriving here today for the annual conventions of the two exhibitor organizations, to be

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Geo. Montgomery Set For Zane Greys

20th-Fox will make four Zane Grey pictures, with Sol Wurtzel producing, for 1941-42. George Montgomery has just finished 'The Last of the Duanes' and will play the male lead in the other three. 'Lone Star Ranger' is the next to roll, with 'Riders of the Purple Sage' and 'Rainbow Trail' to follow.

Geo. Murphy's 'Hattie'

George Murphy will have the male lead in Metro's 'Panama Hattie.' Wilkie Mahoney has been signed by Metro to work on the screenplay for the musical.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Holly**
Copper Toe
Miss Boxthorn
2d RACE—**Clarcarole**
Canterup
Sparkling Eyes
3d RACE—**CHABELLE**
Black Heels
Lift
4th RACE—**Count Dean**
Fervorita
Nakasun
5th RACE—**Caressante**
Paper Boy
Chaldon Heath
6th RACE—**Over Drive**
Jubal Junior
Urge Me
7th RACE—**Wing and Wing**
Pageboy
Arjac
8th RACE—**Sweet Leilani**
Our Bud
Easy Sailing
CHANCE BET—**Wise Barrister**
(6th)
Selections consensus, page 12.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Elmer Hanks down from Frisco on Fox West Coast biz.

Bob Garred, KNX newscaster, got his draft questionnaire.

Linda Darnell planes tonight for Chicago to appear at a defense rally.

Hal Wallis and Irving Asher arrive tomorrow from Guaymas fishing trip.

Marjorie Rambeau and Phil Silvers guest on Rudy Vallee's Sealtest airer (19).

Kay Kyser emcees Junior Chamber of Commerce dinner in Pasadena tonight.

Mary McCall, Jr., yesterday was handed a new writing contract by Metro.

Joel McCrea marketing calves and pigs from his ranch between pic chores.

Robert Benchley checked in at Columbia yesterday for 'You'll Never Get Rich'.

20th-Fox's 'Man Hunt' will be previewed Monday night on the Westwood lot.

Veronica Lake knitting herself a large wool rug between takes in 'Sullivan's Travels'.

Raymond Massey back from season on Broadway to go into Paramount's 'Reap the Wild Wind'.

Grace Hays leaves (14) on a tour of all California army camps to discuss entertainment plans with officers.

Members of the Warners Club stage their eighth annual golf tournament at the Altadena Golf Club Sunday (8).

Nina Whayler, one of the principals in 'Du Barry Was a Lady', trained in from NY yesterday for picture work.

Martha Tilton, NBC vocalist, has been signed by Decca for exclusive recording. Gordon Jenkins' orchestra accompanies.

Cliff Nazarro will be master of ceremonies at the annual Newspaper Guild party Saturday (7) at Brentwood Country Club.

Mike McGreal, head of Warners camera department, has left for Washington, D. C. to attend the funeral of his father.

Joan Carroll, coming in from Broadway's 'Panama Hattie', arrives at RKO on Super Chief today and will be welcomed with press lunch tomorrow prior to stepping into 'An Obliging Young Lady.'

Benny the Gouge sez—Whenever you see a flock of guys prowling around Hollywood with cameras, you know the tourist season is on.

Hollywood Inside

PUBLICATION of novels and serials from which films are to be made, and simultaneous preparations on both, has practically reached the fixed policy stage at RKO. Max Brand has been set on latest of three such deals, whereby he is to write a novel to be called 'Powder Town', from a synopsis by Vicki Baum which RKO recently bought. Studio plans to have the film, also in preparation, ready to release soon after the novel appears. Other current deals involving such co-lateral writing are the bargain made by studio with I. A. R. Wylie in which author sent RKO the manuscript on her half completed, untitled novel as a basis on which to start the picture script, and the arrangement with Bud Schulberg on writer's film treatment, 'Passage to Bordeaux', which he is developing into novel, following serial mag publication.

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A NEW attempt to put over a censorship ordinance giving the Police Commission authority to revoke permits of legitimate theatres and picture houses, when in its opinion, shows are lewd, indecent or contrary to public welfare will be made after July 1. At that time Councilman Norris J. Nelson will retire as chairman of the fire and police committee, and is scheduled to be succeeded by J. Winn Austin, current member of the Police Commission who has been elected to the Council. Nelson has refused to introduce an ordinance giving the broad powers to the Commission. He contends that authority to revoke permits should be lodged in the courts and not with the Police Commission. Certain Commission members, however, have indicated the fight will be renewed when Austin moves up to the Council.

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REPUBLIC, with six pictures scheduled to start this month, so far has been unable to give definite starting dates to the productions because of casting difficulties. Male leads in three of the films are set but no femme leads or top supporting players are available at the present time. Those in need of complete casting are 'From Rags to Riches', 'Doctors Don't Tell', and 'Ten Nights in a Bar Room.' Needing the femme contingent are 'King of the Texas Rangers', serial in which Slinging Sammy Baugh makes his picture bow, 'Bad Man of Deadwood', Roy Rogers western, and 'Down Mexico Way', Gene Autry special.

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BELITA, skating star of Republic's 'Ice-Capades' yesterday walked off the lot and refused to go on in her role. Beef arose when Belita discovered that Dorothy Lewis, nitery skating professional from New York, will be given better billing. Exiting skater claimed she has never had any but star billing since she began her skating career and that she had understood that she will head the cast of skaters in the picture. Miss Lewis is the only outside skated added by Republic to the 'Ice-Capades' troupe after buying the show.

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EDDIE CLINE puts 'Cracked Nuts' back into work today at Universal for added scenes to build up the laughs around portions of the mechanical man's footage in the comedy. A number of the sequences using the mechanical man, operated from inside by Ernie Stanton, were found to lean towards the heavy side, killing several laughs. In the new scenes are Mischa Auer, doing the inventer, Hattie Noel, and Mantan Moreland, all in the original cast, and Shemp Howard, who has been added for further comedy.

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THE press preview situation was discussed again yesterday at the meeting of the Studio Publicity Directors Committee. It was agreed that pictures will be screened for writers whenever possible six to eight weeks before their release. It was pointed out that this would give the magazine correspondents sufficient time to clear their copy before the pictures go into general release. This system also will do away with the old practice of showing pictures to certain magazine writers ahead of the regular trade previews.

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NICK CASTLE, dance director under contract to Universal, is doubling in brass by doing his chores at the studio from 9 in the morning until 2:30 p.m., and from 3 until 11 at night he is at the Mayan theatre directing a novel routine of dance numbers which has every one of the 50 members in the cast of 'Jump for Joy' taking part in the new routine he evolved, and he seems happier with this double work than he has been in years. The Mayan troupe of Negro players open in the new show first week in July.

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CAPITALIZING on the current interest in sweaters generated by the Hays office ban against the garments, Fox-West Coast and the local publicity office of United Artists yesterday dispatched 10 handsome girls to crowded spots in the city as an exploitation gag on 'Pot o' Gold.' Gals, all shapely, wore sweaters, with the name of the picture lettered across the front and back. Group was dubbed the 'sweaterette brigade.'

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NUMBER of pictures available from all companies during June and July will be less than the number released during the same period last year. Studios are taking advantage of the possible shortage to reissue oldies. Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox sales head, has ordered district and branch managers of his company to determine what pictures will be best suited for re-issues in their respective territories.

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RKO is in process of ironing out radio complications which clouded use of 'The Gay Falcon' as title for series of action pictures, temporarily called 'Meet the Viking.' Original title will probably be resumed, from the Michael Arlen tale. James Gleason is first in cast for the second of the 'Falcon' series.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In prairie schooners on the dusty plain
She trekked a thousand miles in grief and pain.
Where gunmen gunned and silent Redskins lurked
The sturdy damsel pioneered and worked.

She loved a cowboy and a matador
And counted sundry husbands by the score.
A woman of the world, a hardened dame,
She traveled through life's unrelenting flame.

And now comes June and Graduation Day.
The high school kid forgets the picture play
And grabs her sheepskin with a girlish smile,
To be her own young self a little while.

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June means vacation time to all kids except those who are lucky enough to be playing in pictures. All they have to do until September is work those daily four hours they used to spend in a classroom.

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Mike Frankovich was standing on the corner of Hollywood and Vine, reading the headlines to Maxie Rosenbloom, who had left his reading glasses at home and couldn't make out the 96-pt type.

'I see where the Kaiser is dead', said Mike.

'That's tough', said Maxie. 'I wonder what's gonna happen to his band.'

While Samuel Goldwyn is putting on a big production of 'The Little Foxes', our scouts inform us that Monogram is about to produce a non-colossal edition, titled 'The Little Folkses', —with midgets.

Martin Mooney took time off from his studies of criminology to drop into the office with a tale of the great outdoors. As follows:

Martha the Mare and her equine daughter, Zuleika, were nibbling a sparse living on the 77-B Ranch when along came a slick car towing a trailer in which rode a filly with her nose elevated at a snooty angle.

'Lissen, Mom,' asked Zuleika, 'what has she got that I ain't got?'

'For one thing', replied Martha, 'she's got a boy friend named Seabiscuit. For another thing, she has a daily ration of a bale of hay—and that ain't dough.'

Maria Ouspenskaya pauses a moment before the Daily Variety mirror to readjust her red-and-blue ensemble. Girls will be girls.

Along about this time of year the college clairvoyants will reveal the names of the seniors most likely to succeed. They will be approximately as accurate as the hoss pickers, baseball pickers, pugilistic pickers and film pickers.

Preview

The Richest Man in Town

(*Drama*)

Columbia production and release. Features Frank Craven, Edgar Buchanan, Eileen O'Hearn, Roger Pryor. Supporting cast: Tom Dugan, George McKay, Jimmy Dodd, Jan Duggan, John Tyrrell, Harry Tyler, Will Wright, Joel Friedkin. Producer, Jack Fier. Director, Charles Barton. Assistant director, Thomas Flood. Screenplay, Fanya Foss and Jerry Sackheim. Story, Jerry Sackheim. Photography, Philip Tannura. Film editor, Al Clark. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Previewed June 4. Running time: 69 mins.

Lightweight story structure prevents this handily staged, well acted small town saga from ringing the bell as a first line attraction. It should serve well in support in the dualers, however, largely owing to pleasantly etched characterizations by Frank Craven and Edgar Buchanan.

Despite lapses in continuity and motivation which hinder efforts of director and cast in establishing a grip on audience sympathies, the production manages to come through with a few absorbing sequences where director Charles Barton's deft piloting becomes most noticeable.

Edgar Buchanan, as the country editor, makes his impersonation both convincing and likeable. The other party to the small town feud is Frank Craven as Crothers, the richest man in the community. Craven responds ably to the role of the village kingpin who succeeds in conveying the impression that he's a rich guy at heart even when he appears at his worst.

The rivalry between editor and country banker ostensibly dates back to boyhood days when both courted the same girl and the impecunious, sentimental publisher won. The feud never became bitter, as evidenced by the banker's interest in the daughter who survived her mother's demise. Craven is called upon to portray a Puckish individual with a deeply-rooted, sincere friendship for the editor even when he pretends to be his most determined opponent in community affairs. This friendship is demonstrated when he saves the editor's paper by advancing badly-needed loans through another banker, this concealing his benevolence.

Romantic interludes in which Roger Pryor and Eileen O'Hearn figure are light, possibly in order to avoid drawing too much attention from the dominant theme. Pryor plays a renegade showman touring small towns where he takes the natives by exacting fees for producing stage attractions and training the local talent. He makes the most of an indifferently written role. The climax revolves about the editor's sponsorship of the undertaking despite the banker's warnings, Pryor's regeneration at a moment when the

☙ Continued on page 5 ☙

FILM STARS IN FIRST AMG CAMP SHOW AT FORT ORD (15)

Entertainment for soldiers in camps by film stars and featured players has been undertaken by Artists Managers Guild, with talent being lined up for the first seven shows of the initial series. At the AMG meeting Tuesday night the wheels were set in motion for a speedy development of plans under consideration for some time. Named to the committee to administer the duties of the organization were Charles Feldman, chairman of the talent division; Abe Lastfogel and Bert Allenberg. William Dover of the Feldman-Blum agency will devote his full time to the details of organization and setting up units, the while retaining his berth with the agency.

First show will be staged at Fort Ord, near Monterey, Calif., June 15. Comprising the stellar cast of film names to initiate the project will be Jack Benny, Claudette Colbert, Ritz Brothers, Andrews Sisters, Tony Martin, Ray Bolger, Martha Raye, Burns and Allen, Dick Powell, Joan Blondell, Nicholas Bros., Jane Withers, Franklyn D'Amour and eight girls from the studios. Mark Sandrich directs. Enough top names will be assembled for the opening performance to make up a two-hour show. Players between pictures or otherwise available are being contacted to make the first junket to the northern cantonment.

Fund of $5,000 has been subscribed by AMG members, and studios will be asked to make a like contribution to meet the costs of transportation, musicians' salaries and other incidentals. Enterprise will function as an independent adjunct of United Service Organizations, of which Y. Frank Freeman is Hollywood chairman, and Edward Arnold head of talent division.

RADIO POINTS WAY

For the past month or more radio has pointed the way to morale-building entertainment for the selectees and other khaki-clad minions of national defense. Standard Brands, in association with its radio agency, J. Walter Thomson, has been spotting its air talent in the various near-by camps. Additional to the regular broadcasts, such ether stars as Edgar Bergen, Abbott and Costello have given regular shows for the trainees, dusting off some of their old vaude routines. Cost of each out-of-town hegira, around $1,000, has been footed by the agency and its client. Bob Hope and others have made camp calls with their regular airings and an 'afterpiece' running for more than an hour. Understood that most camp-minded radio star is Jack Benny, who is planning to make as many calls on the soldiery as time will allow from his picture work, and foregoing his customary summer vacation.

Directors and writers also will be asked to volunteer their services, to whip up scripts and give the shows a professional polish. As soon as talent is lined up it will be organized into units and put through rehearsals. All agents are getting behind the project to make the shows outstanding among those to play the camps. First seven will be given in camps in the west, with subsequent units to be booked into the east.

SELZNICK, CAPRA UA DECISH SOON

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

and Edward C. Raftery, United Artists attorney. Daily huddles center around the share participation Selznick and Capra will have in the company and the possibility of their producing, individually, a number of pictures to cover UA product needs within the next few months while details of the stock ownership can be worked out with other owners.

Mary Pickford is expected back from New York where she is understood to have conferred with James Mulvey on the possibility of his taking over as head of the organization, post from which Murray Silverstone withdrew to enter production on his own. Mulvey, New York representative for Samuel Goldwyn, had previously been offered the job about a month ago but turned it down, although Miss Pickford's eastern trip may influence him to change his mind.

Milstein Breezes

Jake Milstein planes out for New York today after spending a week here conferring with Edward Small and David Loew, whom he represents in the east.

In from the East

Jean Renoir
Irving Pichel
W. F. Fitzgerald
Phil Regan (SF)
Joan Carroll (SF)
Mrs. Freda Carroll (SF)
Murphy McHenry
Nina Whayler
George Jessel

Heading East

Sam Katzman (AA)
Walter Orr (TWA)
J. W. Dailey (TWA)
Harry Cohn
Jeffrey Bernerd
Jake Milstein
Jerome Safron
Wayne Ball
Gradwell Sears
Linda Darnell
Jack Mulcahy
O. Henry Briggs

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ANNIVERSARIES fell in pairs at NBC yesterday. Alex Robb, head of program and talent sales, topped off 20 years with the missus, and Hal Bock, publicity head, chalked up five with Sybil Chism, organist for Lum and Abner. . . . More than 500 extras will be used by 20th-Fox tomorrow for retreat from Dunkirk scenes for 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' . . . Shooting will take place at the lake on the lot. . . . Marian Marsh has been named honorary mayor of Chatsworth for another year's term. . . . Republic's makeup department, under Bob Mark, jumps to the record number of 65 artists today, when calls are filled for 40 men and 25 women to handle the makeup chores on studio's 'Ice-Capades.' . . Beards have gone into almost complete discard with the boys along Gower Gulch. Six makeup men and women were called in haste to drape beards and mustaches on western types when Director George Marshall called for 25 extras for 'Texas' and found 'em all clean-shaven. . . . Charles Ray and Yvonne Guerin last night were married in a private ceremony at the Wilshire Wedding Chapel. Relatives were the only guests. 20th-Fox, where Ray is in 'Marry the Boss' Daughter', gave him two days off, one before and one after the wedding. . . . U. S. Army Parachute Corps has adopted as its marching song the number written by Roy Webb of RKO, 'Song of the Parachute.'

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK

Annabella (Mrs. Tyrone Power) dancing at Mocambo in a simple white silk crepe frock with nautical epaulets of navy blue. Short jacket of white fox thrown nonchalantly over her shoulders. White slippers peeking from below her long sheath skirt, and important-looking diamond earclips sparkling from under her upswept blonde coiffure.

CAST and crew of 'Oh, Charlie' and various Universal employes received a surprise yesterday when a truck drove on the lot bearing gifts from Ted Lewis, now playing in Kansas City, in appreciation of their aid during his appearance in the Abbott and Costello comedy. . . . Cary Grant guested Barbara Hutton and friends at Leone's last night. . . . Murray Seldeen, Republic's supervising film editor, became bored with explaining his two black eyes and cut forehead so had cards printed reading 'I had gone to ice skate. It was just my fate to tangle my toes and bust my nose.' . . . Claire Trevor starts doubling between 'Texas' at Columbia and 'Honky-Tonk' at Metro next week when her schedule in the two pictures overlap.

GEORGE REEVES
"Blood And Sand" (20th)
"Illusions" (Alexander Korda)
Under contract
20th CENTURY-FOX
WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

NY Distrib Employes Ask Labor Execs For New Deal

New York, June 4.—Employes of all American distribution companies and one Mexican picture distributor appealed to labor authorities here today seeking an adjustment of contracts which have been in effect for the past two years. Workers term their demands as a peaceful request and they have no intention to strike or take other drastic action unless an extreme emergency develops.

Workers are asking for more coin and other economic concessions, and further request that two months be allowed for parleys to discuss the issue. Despite the peaceful gestures of the employes, their moves are frankly worrying the eight major U. S. distribs and the lone Mexican, Felipe Mier.

'Valley', 'Large' Will Go At 20th-Fox Monday

'How Green Was My Valley', with John Ford directing and 'Man at Large', with Eugene Forde directing, both will roll Monday at 20th-Fox. John Loder, Patric Knowles, Richard Fraser and Arthur Shields were added yesterday to the cast of 'Valley.' Richard Derr was assigned to play opposite Marjorie Weaver in the male lead of 'Man at Large.' This is Derr's first lead since being brought to 20th-Fox from the Hedgerow theatre in Philadelphia.

'Minstrel' Rolling

'Minstrel Days' starts work today at Warners under the direction of Bobby Connolly. Old-time minstrel men, Bub Jamison, Al Herman and 'Black Face' Billy Elliott, play themselves while Emmett Casey will do Honey Boy Evans, Walter Wills as George Primrose, Harry Fox as Eddie Leonard, Shelton Brooks as Bert Williams, Billy Wayne as Thomas Rice and John Swor and Harry Cody as McIntyre and Heath.

Ready 'Paris' Footage

David Hempstead and Lewis Milestone, producer and director respectively on 'Joan of Paris' at RKO, today start assembling newsreel footage on General Charles de Gaulle for use as the introduction to the picture.

WB Scribes Spotted

Everett Freeman has been assigned to work on the screen play of 'Young and Beautiful' at Warners; Fred Niblo, Jr., will script 'Battle of the Atlantic', and Raymond Schrock will do 'The Great Divide.'

Cowan in 'Falcon'

Jerome Cowan joins the featured players in 'The Maltese Falcon', which John Huston puts before the cameras at Warners tomorrow, directing his own screen play.

Mono 'Press' to RKO

Monogram's 'Roar of the Press' has been sold to the RKO metropolitan circuit for bookings in the New York area.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 5; San Francisco, 3.
Los Angeles, 6; Oakland, 1.
Seattle, 2; Sacramento, 0.
Portland, 6; San Diego, 4.

FLARE UP AT RADIO HEARING; FLY BLASTS

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

mission nobody will be penalized for honestly challenging the new regulations, but persisted under strong quizzing that the shall-nots are thoroughly justified by law and designed to protect everybody.

The hearing, which was suspended from today until Monday, was pretty much of a scuffle between Senator Wallace White of Maine (author of resolutions pigeon-holing the reforms) and Fly, with Chairman Wheeler frequently tongue-lashing both the industry and the regulators. Tempers flared quite often, such as when Fly implied that White is carrying the flag for monopolistic interests and when he said the regulators will not be trifled with by licensees.

Chairman Wheeler had to intervene several times while Fly and various solons exchanged frequent apologies. The trend of the hearing was not especially heartening to the industry people. Wheeler judiciously reprimanded both the broadcasters and the regulators. Less 'heat' on both sides would be advisable, Wheeler declaimed, after verbal war-tugging became embarrassing. The industry has entirely misrepresented the rules, and the 'industry press' has been carrying the ball, in responding to the Commission report, Fly charged.

HOT DEBATE

Citing statements by both NBC and Columbia, Fly wailed about 'exaggeration' and threw mean knives. Just what powers the Communications Act conferred on the regulators was hotly debated. Senator White, noting he wrote a good bit of the statute, maintained the regulatory body has gone much farther than Congress ever anticipated. Fly shot back quotations from court opinions, cited sections of the Act and read from transcripts of congressional debates and legislative documents. In response to White's yowls that the courts ought to decide what restrains competition, Fly repeated prior invitations to have it out before the judges. The Supreme court 'ultimately' will uphold the regulations, he predicted.

Tensest moment came when Fly said again the Commission will join any 'good faith' test of strength. The head regulator sarcastically implied the industry is seducing legislators into introducing bills and regulations and predicted they will use obstructionist tactics in court. Senator White hurled back a resentful statement that Fly had cast 'wholly gratuitous and unnecessary' reflection on his character. After Wheeler intervened, they kissed and made up.

Most of the hearing was devoted to lectures and counter lectures. Fly told Congress what it failed to do and should have done; White and other committeemen harangued Fly about abuses of authority. White acknowledged the possibility that Congress ought to rewrite the law, but table-pounded that the comish does not have sweeping authority to promulgate its own interpretations of anti-trust statutes. Restrictive contracts weren't written by the FCC, Fly noted, but Senator Johnson of Colorado made the point that a good many stations don't seem to appreciate the 'liberties' which Fly says will result from the regulations. Fly retorted that there has been little 'independent expression of opinion' about the reforms. Wheeler opined that both sides are subject to rebuke for misrepresentation and, deploring the hot tempers, indicated he doesn't blame the industry people for getting greatly excited.

EARMARKING TIME

Provision against an affiliation contract exceeding one year won't upset the industry, Fly maintained. Advertisers can earmark time for as long as they want. Stations can be 'sure of service' though they can't block neighbors from carrying programs which they reject or cannot air. Networks also can 'assure' themselves of outlets though not able to handcuff affiliates, he contended.

Prospect that the hearings may boomerang was seen as the committee suspended. Senator Charles Tobey of New Hampshire, who last summer gave both RCA and Columbia some unpleasant moments while fighting the renomination of the late commissioner, Thad Brown, said he wants about 'two hours', which probably will lead to several days of oral sparring to examine Fly about some very important matters. There was no hint as to their nature. Fly said he'll need another two hours to finish his justification of the rules.

Authentic

Eleanor Wilson McAdoo will backtrack down the years to the last war in her commentary on the Kaiser over KFWB at 9:45 p.m. Friday. She will relate some of personal observations she picked up at the White House during the last years of her father's Presidency.

Kley Joins Selznick

Fred Kley, former executive vice-president of the American Society of Cinematographers, has joined the Myron Selznick Agency. He will have charge of an exclusive camera department to be established by the agency to represent top lensers in the industry.

On 'America' Airer

Scott Bradley and his orchestra will appear on the 'This Is America' program over KFWB at 8:30 tonight. Douglas McPhail will be the vocalist, and John Garfield will appear in a dramatic sketch, 'The Road Goes Further'. John Boylan is producing. The program is being sponsored by unions and guilds to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Universal Schedules Six Pix To Go To Cameras Soon

Universal is scheduling four pictures to go before the cameras (16) and will follow with two others, one on (19) and the other on the (23). Leading off will be 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', next of the Bud Abbott and Lou Costello comedies to be directed by Arthur Lubin and produced by Alex Gottlieb.

On the same day 'Arizona Cyclone', Johnny Mack Brown western; 'Mermaid In Distress', first production for Vaughn Paul, and the initialer of seven Dick Foran-Leo Carrillo-Andy Devine adventure melodramas, untitled, will be given the go signal. Ben Pivar will be associate producer on the latter feature.

Second production for Bruce Manning, 'Heartbeat', co-starring Charles Boyer and Margaret Sullavan, is set to start the (19). William Seiter will direct and Joseph Valentine gets the camera assignment. On the (23) Jules Levey puts his Mayfair production, 'Hellzapoppin', into work with Olsen and Johnson repeating their stage roles, under the direction of H. C. Potter.

George Fisher Trekking With Bevy of Gals

George Fisher, Mutual's film gabber, goes on tour with a bevy of film players July 15. His route takes him through the east and he will remain on the road for most of the summer. His Maro-Oil bankrolled program finales July 1 but he goes on sustaining duty until he resumes commercially Sept. 10.

Milton Berle Chores

Milton Berle will appear as guest artist on three radio programs from New York, the first scheduled today on 'Vox Pop', the second tomorrow for Philip Morris in 'Whistling in the Dark', and the third Sunday (8) on Bill Stern's Sportcast.

John Howard Airers

John Howard will appear on the second broadcast of the new CBS network show, 'Stars Over Hollywood', airing Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Actor is slated for appearance on the program every four weeks.

Winter From Frisco

William Winter, war news analyst, will broadcast from Frisco over Columbia's California network for Union Oil five times weekly beginning (16). Oiler retains 'Point Sublime', dramatic series, on NBC.

Lombard, Hope Airer

Carole Lombard is teamed with Bob Hope for the Lux Radio Theatre program June 9 in an adaptation of the film 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith.'

Swallow Tours North

John Swallow, western program director for NBC, goes north today on a tour of the net's affiliates. He'll be gone 10 days.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SAN FRANCISCO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations
Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

O. Henry Briggs East After Huddles On PRC Production

O. Henry Briggs, president of Producers Releasing Corp., trained east last night after a two-week stay here talking over production matters with George Batcheller, Coast production supervisor, and unit producers. He will stop over in Denver to visit company's franchise holder there before going to New York.

Arthur Greenblatt, PRC sales manager, left for San Francisco last night, returning here Monday before joining Briggs in Denver. From there the pair head east with Greenblatt stopping over in Chicago.

Film Row Offices in Weekend Moves

Divisional offices of Southside Theatres, along with those of Cabart in the Film Exchange Building here are being moved the end of this week. Southside will hereafter be quartered in the Paramount Theatre building and the offices of Cabart, with Milt Arthur at the helm, will move intact to Long Beach. Arthur, who is the nominal operating head for Southside, and who controls Cabart, has sold his theatre interests in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Francisco, and his exhibition activities are now centered mainly in Long Beach and Orange county. Arthur is taking a new home in Long Beach and will hereafter headquarter there.

Groves Suit Transferred

Suit brought by Nell Brown Groves against Warner Brothers Pictures, Inc., in which she seeks damages of $100,000 for alleged invasion of privacy, growing out of studio's film, 'Santa Fe Trail' has been transferred from Superior to U. S. District court. Plaintiff contends that 'Trail' purports to be a story of her grandfather, John Brown, deceased.

Babs in Court

Babs Savage, eight-year-old skater, goes into Superior court today for approval of her new Republic contract. Young skater has been signed for an appearance in 'Ice-Capades' with option for a term pact.

Preview

Continued from page 3

guileless Buchanan almost loses his faith in humanity, and the presentation of the burlesque on a play of the '90's with the out-of-town critics in attendance due to the banker's acumen in changing road signs. The film has a poignant fadeout, properly enough handled with restraint, where the editor succumbs to a cardiac condition just as he receives word that the play is going over and the villagers who invested coin on the strength of his endorsement will be reimbursed. There's an excellent touch about an obituary, written for the banker when he seemed to be on his deathbed, printed for the editor simply by changing the names.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

KUYKENDALL HEADS MPTOA VANGUARD IN FOR CONFABS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

held simultaneously at the Ambassador hotel starting next Monday.

Due in today are Rotus Harvey, PCC trustee from San Francisco, and Bob White of Portland, representing the Oregon ITO in the Coast conference. Kuykendall is expected to arrive here from New York tomorrow, and Hugh Bruen, one of the two Los Angeles trustees, who has been in Seattle on business, also is expected then. W. G. Ripley is due in from Seattle Saturday or Sunday.

A special meeting of the PCC trustees has been called for 6:30 p.m. Sunday at the Ambassador, at which time the wives of the various members will be present. Dinner will be followed by a business session, laying final plans for the convention proper which opens the following morning.

Four different trustees will preside as chairman at the PCC meetings Monday through Thursday. Monday's chairman will be Bob White. On Tuesday, when the open forums of the convention start, Rotus Harvey of San Francisco will preside. L. O. Lukan will be chairman on Wednesday, speaking on 'Why I Am Opposed to Dual Bills', and Jack Y. Berman of Los Angeles will preside at the final business session Thursday morning. All business sessions of both the PCC and the MPTOA will be held in the Ambassador hotel theatre, the Pacific Coast group utilizing mornings for their business and the MPTOA holding its gatherings in the afternoons.

GO SOCIAL MONDAY

First social activity will be staged on Monday afternoon, when there are no sessions scheduled, and will consist of trips to all of the major studios. For these trips exhibitors and their wives will be divided into three parties, of approximately 350 each. First tour will cover three lots, second two studios and third another three of the production centers. Visiting exhibs will visit the various sets and meet the players.

Another feature of entertainment will be a barbecue tossed by the producers Tuesday night at the Columbia ranch, at which the various companies will provide the entertainment. Studios also will buy 100 table seats for the windup banquet at Earl Carroll's on Thursday, final night of the convention.

Kuykendall and Poole will open headquarters for their respective associations at the hotel on Saturday, with bulk of out-of-town exhibs due to arrive during Sunday or early on Monday. John Rugar, president of the Intermountain Theatre Association of Salt Lake, will head a large delegation of theatre men and their wives from the Utah territory, Rugar's wire advising that all exhibs who could get away from their business would attend.

Dolberg Sues Par on 'Quarterback' Pic

Ben Dolberg has filed suit against Paramount Pictures, Inc., for damages for misappropriation of literary property. He asks $150,000 damages in his Superior court action which charges that his story, 'The All-American Boys' was plagiarized by defendant in its 'Quarterback.' Wayne Morris, who starred in the film, and Robert Pirosh are also named as defendants.

Ed. Goldman in NY

New York, June 4.—Edmund Goldman, Columbia's Philippines manager, arrived today for home office confabs. He will be here a month.

Safron, Ball Leave For Chicago Sesh

Jerome Safron, Columbia's district sales manager, and Wayne Ball, manager of company's Los Angeles exchange, pulled out yesterday for Chicago to attend a product and sales meeting of all divisional, district and branch managers to be held at the Drake hotel there next Saturday and Sunday.

Dennis Morgan Tour

New York, June 4.—Dennis Morgan goes to Milwaukee Thursday after personalling for two weeks at the Strand. After an appearance there he strikes out on a concert tour of the middle west before returning to Warners for picture work.

Myers Says Minn. Anti-Consent Measure Is Unconstitutional

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

tion to a head. In consequence, some Northwest Allied leaders fear they'll not have sufficient satisfactory product next fall and winter to operate their theatres and they're beginning to wonder if a mistake wasn't made in pushing through the law which requires distributors to sell the entire season's product instead of in groups of five under the decree.

Addressing the Twin City Northwest Allied group, Myers said he expects distributors to attack the law's constitutionality and to continue the ban on selling if they're unable to obtain a temporary injunction to restrain its enforcement. While many exhibitor grievances have been adjusted through negotiation as a result of arbitration, numerous theatre owners have been discouraged from seeking relief because distributors utilize high-priced legal talent to represent them in proceedings, Myers said.

He declared the industry's biggest current problem is dwindling theatre attendance. Reason for it is a mystery, but the fact remains that a large section of the public now is seeking new and different thrills and spending money for entertainment other than films, he pointed out.

A. J. Cohen Testifies In Ullman Trial Over Col 'Smith'

Alfred J. Cohen of Republic was one of the important witnesses taking the stand yesterday at the second day of the plagiarism trial of Louis Ullman against Columbia Pictures, growing out of the filming of 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington'. Cohen said that in 1938 his story department made a synopsis of the Ullman yarn, 'Angel of Hell Hollow'.

Louis Foster, author of 'The Gentleman From Montana', was called, and then Lew Golder, agent, took the stand. Golder testified that he submitted a copy of the Ullman story to Hedda Hopper in 1938, and also talked with her about the yarn over the phone. In February of 1939, he said, he sent out approximately 100 copies of the Ullman story in published form to various motion picture producers and executives. This testimony was confirmed by Dorothy Austin, his secretary.

Michel Kraiki, a producer at Paramount, but acting story editor at Columbia at the time of the alleged story submission, testified that the yarn was read by one of the Columbia readers and a summary of it put on file with the studio. Edwin Schallert, drama editor of The Times, was the final witness of the day, and testified to being present at a meeting between Frank Capra and Miss Hopper in 1938.

Harry Cohn, Columbia prexy, and Capra have been subpoenaed by Attorney Herbert A. Huebner for the plaintiff, but likely will go on as defense witnesses and then be cross-examined by Huebner.

O'Connell Inaugs U. S. Bonds Giveaways

James M. (Jimmy) O'Connell, long identified here with independent distribution, has just copyrighted and set up offices in the Film Exchange Bldg. for a new type of giveaway, that embraces government defense stamps and bonds in place of the customary cash or merchandise giveaways. Under the O'Connell plan theatres will be lined up to give away defense savings stamps ranging from 25c to $1, and defense bonds priced at $25 to $1,000. Service will be rented to theatres with regular weekly (or oftener) giveaways of the government savings issues.

Sears Planes West

New York, June 4.—Gradwell Sears, Warners sales chief, planes to the Coast today for product and sales huddles with J. L. Warner. He remains over for joint convention of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, which he will address.

Bernerd Carries Print

Jeffrey Bernerd trains for New York today with a print of 'No Greater Sin', first feature of the new University Film Productions. Bernerd is taking print east to sit in on final distribution arrangements started by Edward Golden, University prexy.

1 ACRE, HOLMBY HILLS, $8,000
Level knoll, unsurpassed view, No. of Sunset, room for swim. pool and tennis court. Reduced from $15,000. Quick, if you want "steal."
GUY PRICE COMPANY CR 67151

Nazi Countries Tear H'd To Bits—But From Usage

New York, June 4. — American films are so favored over those of the Axis powers that even in Nazi-dominated countries old Hollywood prints are played until they are in tatters, according to Lacy Kastner, United Artists European sales manager, just arrived from Lisbon. Even in Spain, he said, German and Italian films are played only when no American product is available. He added that some of his company's prints there now are reduced to only about one-half their original screening length, as the worn parts have been clipped out.

Spectators, he explains, don't even seem to mind if vital parts of pictures are thus lost. Kastner will remain in America for several weeks.

Argue Milan Suit

Motion to strike from amended complaint and demurrer to same by defendant will be argued today in Superior court in the case of Wallace Milan vs. Warner Brothers Pictures, in which plagiarism is charged. Hal Wallis, Ray Enright, Nevin Busch, Robert Buckner, Walter MacEwen and Irene Lee are also named defendants. Plaintiff is asking for $1,000,000, claiming that Warners' 'Angels Wash Their Faces' is a plagiarism of his story, 'Their's Is the Kingdom.'

Par Club Election

Election of officers of the Paramount Studio Club, held yesterday, resulted in appointment of A. B. Hilton as president, Charles Boren, vice-president, Henry Ginsberg, vice-president. H. E. McCrofsky was re-elected treasurer for another term as was Mildred Brenton as secretary. New governors elected to the Board for a period of three years were Fred Geiter, Ed Greer, Pep Lee, Lillian Rock and Clarence Slater.

Suit Hits 20th-Fox

Suit was filed in U. S. District court yesterday against 20th Century-Fox Film Corp. by Myrtle Louise Stonesife, also known as Louise Howard, alleging that her story, 'Women's Hotel' was infringed upon by the studio in its film, 'Hotel For Women', adapted from a story by Elsa Maxwell and Kathryn Scola, and produced in 1939. She asks damages of $100,000, plus punitive damages of $25,000.

Armand Schaefer South

Armand Schaefer planes for Key West, Fla., Friday to scout backgrounds for his next Republic production, 'Mercy Island.' A camera crew will follow as soon as producer lines up necessary sites.

Why, Momma?

The new daughter born early yesterday morning to Mrs. Rufe Davis at the Santa Monica hospital arrived just one minute too late to make the couple's first wedding anniversary doubly important. Newcomer, weighing in at seven pounds, three ounces, arrived at 12:01 a.m. yesterday while her parents were married one year on Tuesday (3).

Unions To Sue for Back Pay; Fleming OK's Exemptions

★ Continued from page 1 ★

cals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, meeting last night to discuss negotiations, all agreed to institute suit in Federal court in an effort to recover retroactive pay for members who are affected. The locals also agreed that if a stoppage of work becomes necessary in order to enforce their demands on the Producers, members will be instructed to continue work on any Defense Program training pictures being produced on a non-profit basis for the War Department.

Vincent, as was stated exclusively in Daily Variety last month, disclosed that no inspection for retroactive pay will be made, and that only minor modifications are being made in the original recommendations of Eldred M. Cocking on 31 disputed classifications. The modifications provided that non-working best boys and gaffers are exempt, but that working gaffers and best boys are entitled to the benefits of the Act. He also held that a registered nurse was entitled to exemption as a professional employe, but that practical nurses and first aid men were not entitled to exemption.

In discussing his recommendations made to the Division after a hearing here and which have been approved by General Philip B. Fleming, Vincent said:

'I recommend that no formal inspections be made for the purpose of ascertaining whether restitution of wages may or may not be due prior to June 16, 1941, subject, of course, to the rights of individual employes under section 16(b) of the Act.

'This recommendation is made for the following reasons: Many of the job classifications involved in the survey are peculiar to the motion picture industry. Some of them are not basically different from craftsmen to be found in other industries, but, nevertheless, have aspects and functions which distinguish the duties involved from the work performed by such craftsmen in other industries. Others are peculiar to the moving picture industry alone. The rates of pay and hours of work which are typical in the foregoing job classifications and in the motion picture industry have long been established by collective union agreements and do not in many respects correspond to standard rates found elsewhere.

'MUCH UNCERTAINTY'

'Previous to establishing the classifications recommended herein, there was much uncertainty in the minds of the Producers and the unions respecting the exempt or non-exempt status of the work performed. This uncertainty extended to a considerable number of classifications. The fact that many of these classifications of positions were distinguished in their nature or functions from jobs found in other industries made it necessary to make a scientific survey and analysis of all jobs and positions in the industry, as a basis for determining their exemption status. The survey and analysis made by the Division for this purpose required the better part of a year's time. Then followed a hearing to afford both the Producers and the unions an opportunity to file objections to the classifications recommended by the Special Survey Analyst (Mr. Eldred M. Cocking). Following such hearing, additional time was required by me for the preparation of these recommendations.

'In view of the collective union contracts, wage rates and working hours prevailing in the industry, the uncertain status of some of the positions, and the length of time necessary to complete the survey and final recommendations, it appears but fair to recommend that no formal inspections be made for the purpose of determining possible liabilities arising from failure to observe the requirements of the Act and the regulations, subject, of course, to the rights of individual employes under section 16(b) of the Act.'

The original recommendations of Eldred M. Cocking, survey analyst of the Division, was that gaffers and best boys be exempted. Vincent modified these to provide they be exempted when they did not perform manual work, and that they be classified as non-exempt when they did perform manual work. Cocking also recommended that nurses be classified as non-exempt, and Vincent merely modified this to provide for the exemption of registered nurses. Practical nurses and first aid men remain non-exempt, as recommended by Cocking.

Classifications recommended as non-exempt by Cocking and so approved by Vincent and General Fleming follow: Set designer, assistant set designer, assistant cameraman, first company grip, second company grip, standby grip, standby painter, standby prop maker and special effectsman, standby plumber, second assistant director, script clerk, standby electrician, detective, process projectionist, first and second company propman, Class 2 and Class 3 soundman, extras $8.25 and under, wardrobe fitter, Class 1 and Class 2 costumer.

EXEMPT CLASSES

The following classifications are exempt, as recommended by Cocking:

Second cameraman, still cameraman, Class 1 soundman, actors, Class 1A and Class 1B makeup artists, body makeup artist, hair stylist, music department copyist, animal trainer, senior and junior publicists, scenario department title writer and title spotter.

Failure of the Department to order an inspection for back pay was discussed last night at the meeting of business representatives and committees from the studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. Herbert Aller, business head of International Photographers Local 659, said he would recommend that his union file suit for back pay on behalf of the approximately 216 assistant cameramen classified as non-exempt. Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695 and chairman of the IATSE business representatives committee, is known to have already consulted an attorney with the idea of bringing suit for the soundmen. It is probable that Dave Sokol, former attorney for the National Labor Relations Board, will be retained to file the action. Other unions affected by the ruling are expected to join in the suits.

Paramount Gears Up For Heavy Work During July

With a scheduled backlog of 18 completed pictures by July 1, Paramount is gearing to continue heavy production during July, when five features will be started.

Slate for next month embraces 'Louisiana Purchase', 'Take a Letter, Darling', 'Sing a Song of Homicide', 'Mr. Aldrich's Boy' and 'American Empire.'

Starting in June will be three more, 'The Remarkable Andrew', 'Glamour Boy' and 'Timber Wolves.'

Willis Decision

Superior Court Judge Hugh M. Willis ruled yesterday that an employer has a legal right to discharge employes who are members of one union when the employer signs a closed shop contract with a rival union. Leo Stockwell and Earl W. Keeler, theatre projectionists and members of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union, were denied an injunction to restrain the Vinstrand Theatres, Inc., from discharging them following the signing of a closed shop deal with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor. The UERMWU is affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Hansard Appeal Denied

Ted Hansard has received notice that his appeal for reinstatement as business representative of Affiliated Property Crafts Men Local 44 has been denied by George E. Browne, prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The notice was forwarded by Louis Krouse, IATSE national secretary. Hansard was ousted after a fist fight with certain officers of the local, but a majority of the membership is said to have felt the action was too drastic.

Busch Trial July 8

Trial of Superior court suit brought by Nevin Busch, writer at 20th-Fox, against Walter O. Heinze, agent, has been set for July 8, in Dept. 1. Suit is based on claim of plaintiff of a secret profit and fraud on the part of Heinze. Also named as defendants are Pierre T. Barnes, Vernon D. Woods, Herbert Sapper and Mrs. Louise M. Heinze.

RKO Seeks Nancy Kelly

RKO is dickering with 20th-Fox for the contract of Nancy Kelly. Gower street lot wants her for a series of pictures in which she is to be co-starred with Edmund O'Brien.

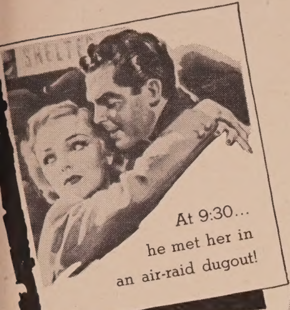
Jas. Stephenson Set

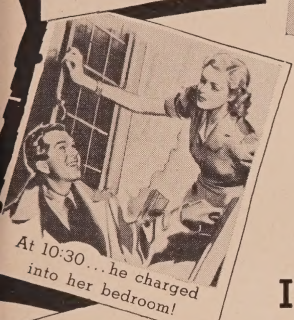
James Stephenson gets the role of Dr. Tower in 'Kings Row' at Warners.

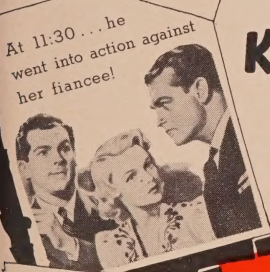
Hotel EL RANCHO VEGAS —"THE CALIENTE OF NEVADA"
LAS VEGAS
SWIMMING • RIDING • BOATING • BOULDER DAM TOURS
DEATH VALLEY • DINNER DANCING • ENTERTAINMENT
CASINO • COCKTAIL LOUNGE. 100% AIR CONDITIONED
ROOMS FROM $3.50. PHONE HO 2442 FOR RESERVATIONS

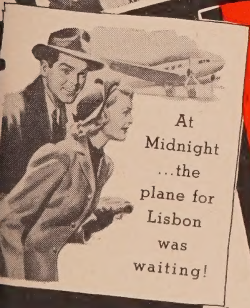
"...The Swiftest Romantic Comedy in Many a Long Day..."

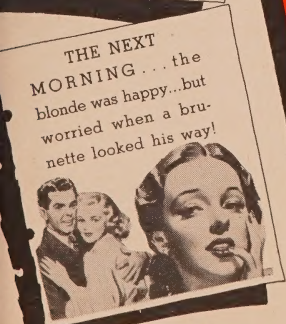
EDWIN SCHALLERT
Los Angeles Times

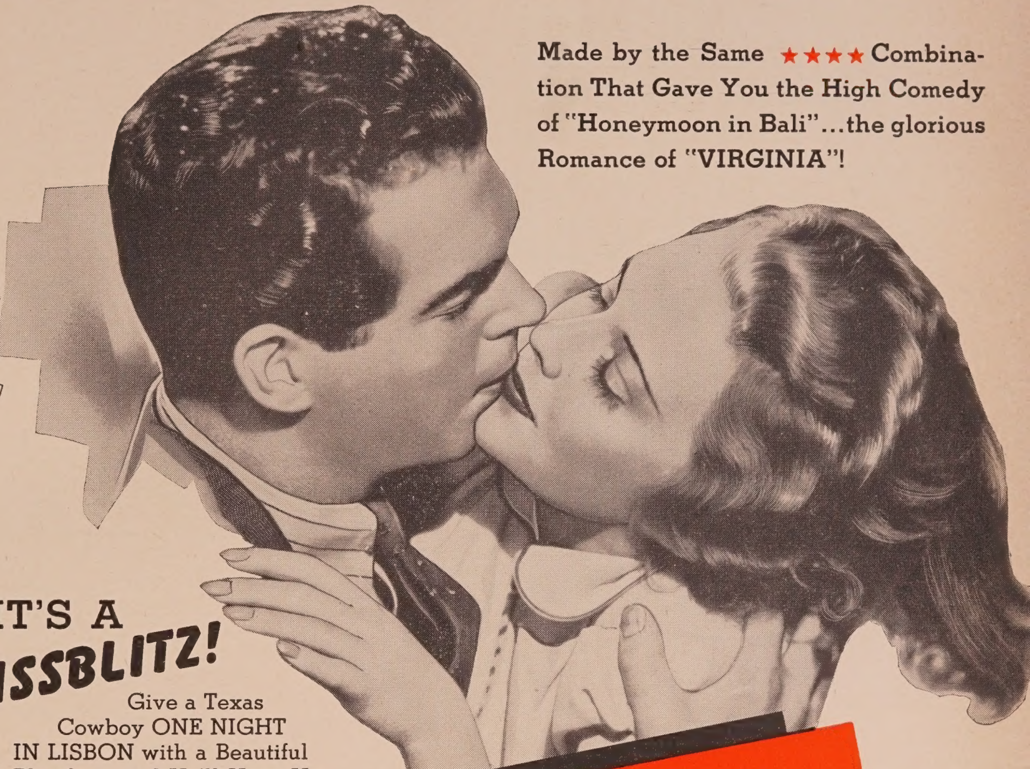

At 9:30... he met her in an air-raid dugout!


At 10:30... he charged into her bedroom!


At 11:30 . . . he went into action against her fiancee!


At Midnight ...the plane for Lisbon was waiting!


THE NEXT MORNING . . . the blonde was happy...but worried when a brunette looked his way!



Made by the Same ★★★★ Combination That Gave You the High Comedy of "Honeymoon in Bali"...the glorious Romance of "VIRGINIA"!

IT'S A **KISSBLITZ!**

Give a Texas Cowboy ONE NIGHT IN LISBON with a Beautiful Blonde...and He'll Have Her Roped and Tied!

FRED MacMURRAY ★ MADELEINE CARROLL

"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"

with Patricia Morison • Billie Burke • John Loder • Dame May Whitty
Edmund Gwenn • Reginald Denny • Billy Gilbert
Produced and Directed by Edward H. Griffith • Screen Play by Virginia Van Upp

Now Playing
PARAMOUNT THEATRE

If It's a Paramount Picture It's the Best Show in Town!

EDWARD H. GRIFFITH

PRODUCER – DIRECTOR

IN PREPARATION
"OUT OF THE FRYING PAN"

IN PRODUCTION
"BAHAMA PASSAGE"
with
MADELEINE CARROLL and STIRLING HAYDEN

"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON

SCREEN PLAY BY

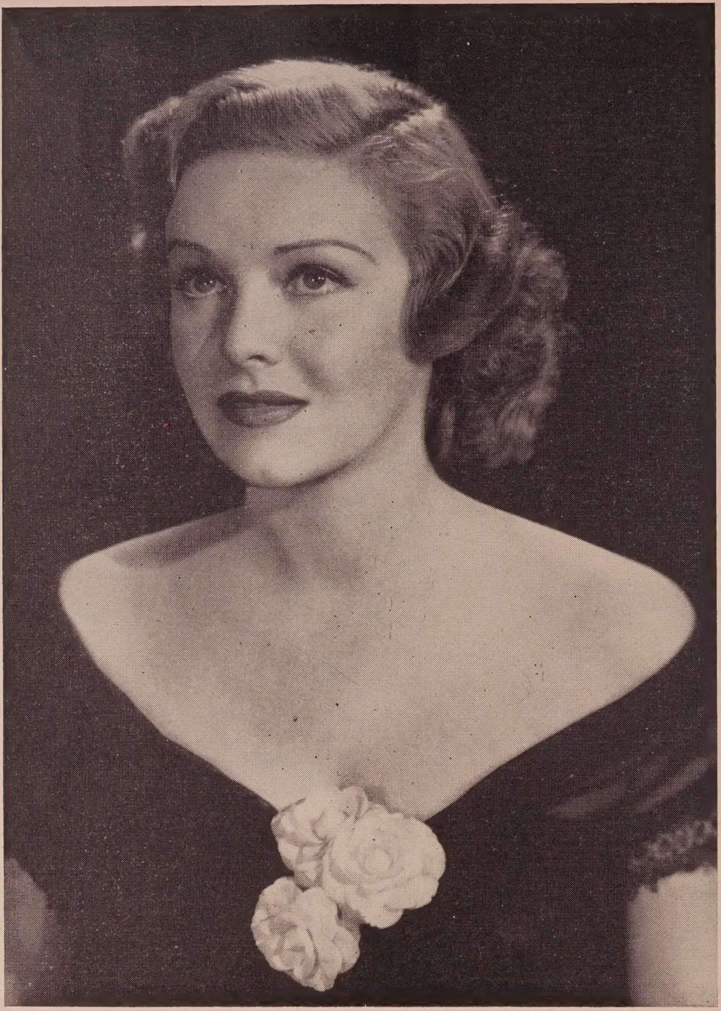
VIRGINIA VAN UPP

CURRENT ASSIGNMENT
"OUT OF THE FRYING PAN"

IN PRODUCTION
"BAHAMA PASSAGE"

PHIL BERG - BERT ALLENBERG, INC.
Exclusive Representatives

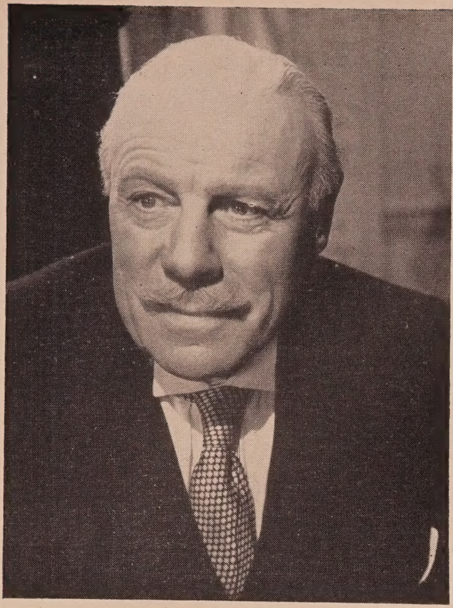
ONE NIGHT IN LISBON



MADELEINE CARROLL

Management
PHIL BERG - BERT ALLENBERG, INC.

"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"



EDMUND GWENN

as

"Lord Fitzleigh"

Management
HAYWARD-DEVERICH, INC.

Current Assignment
"CHARLEY'S AUNT"
20th Century-Fox

**Thank You Edward H. Griffith
and Paramount**

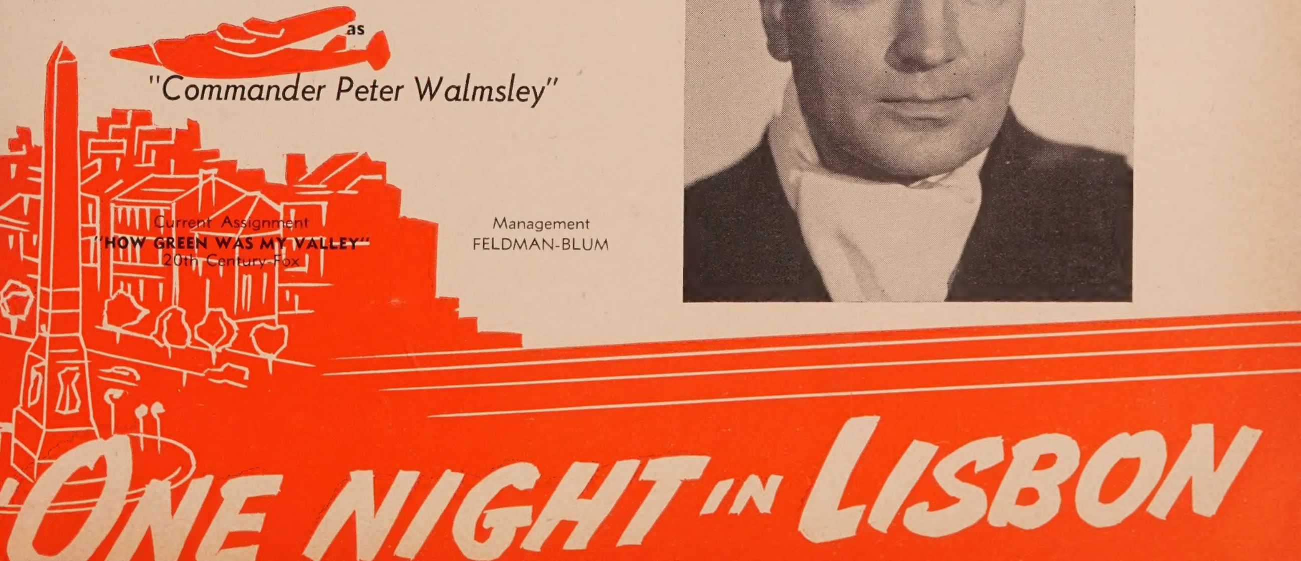
JOHN LODER

as

"Commander Peter Walmsley"

Current Assignment
"HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY"
20th Century-Fox

Management
FELDMAN-BLUM



ONE NIGHT IN LISBON

Zanuck Doing Special For 20th Sales Sesh In New York July 9

Darryl F. Zanuck is supervising production of a special picture for the 20th-Fox sales convention opening July 9 in New York. It is planned for the film to be shown only to those attending the confab, although it later may be shown at consent decree trade screenings in July.

Zanuck also will turn actor for the picture, appearing in it with new 20th-Fox producers, William Le Baron, Ernst Lubitsch and Mark Hellinger. Sol Wurtzel, William Perlberg, Lou Edelman, Robert T. Kane, Harry Joe Brown, Nunnally Johnson, Milton Sperling, Lou Ostrow, Ralph Dietrich and Walter Morosco also will be shown.

Producers will speak from the screen, telling their production plans for the coming season. There also will be scenes from pictures that will still be in production at the time of the convention, screen tests and other material dealing with acting personnel.

20th-Fox will not have any special features completed in time to be screened at the convention, but the studio expects to have at least two packages of five each ready for exhibitors by August 1.

'Dressed to Kill', 'Charlie Chan In Rio', 'Last of the Duanes' and 'Private Nurse' already have been finished for next season. Before the cameras are 'Belle Starr', 'A Yank In the R.A.F.', 'Charley's Aunt' and 'Wild Geese Calling'.

Rushes from pictures not completed also will be shown along with Zanuck's special convention film. Studio figures to have 'How Green Was My Valley' and 'Remember the Day' ready for trade showings by the first of September. On that date there will be at least 20 completed films for 1941-42 release.

Casey at Desk Today

Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, returns to his desk here today, after spending several weeks in New York, during which time he appeared before the Federal Grand Jury investigating the extortion charges against George E. Browne and Willie Bioff. His first action probably will be to go into negotiations with studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Don Victor Televizes

Don Victor, recently in from San Francisco, has been engaged as a television producer by Patrick Michael Cummings Productions.

Births

TWIN SONS to Mrs. W. H. Fawcett, Jr. last Saturday, in Greenwich, Conn. Father is president of Fawcett publications.

The Brown Derby

Restaurants

Today's Inglewood Consensus

	LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1	Holly Mad Crusader Miss Boxthorn	Pkt. o' Gold Mad Crusader Holly	Holly Miss Boxthorn Broken Clouds	Copper Toe Mad Crusader Broken Clouds	Holly Pkt. o' Gold Miss Boxthorn	Broken Clouds Holly Miss Boxthorn
2	Clarcarole Only Girl Spark'g Eyes	Clarcarole Only Girl Spark'g Eyes	Clarcarole Star Struck Spark'g Eyes	Clarcarole Only Girl Canterup	Clarcarole Star Struck Spark'g Eyes	Only Girl Clarcarole Star Struck
3	Chabelle Black Heels Lift	Chabelle Lift Black Heels	Chabelle Black Heels Lift	Chabelle Islam Girl Black Heels	Chabelle Islam Girl Sagittal	Chabelle Islam Girl Lift
4	Max Forst Aranmore Count Dean	Count Dean First Choice Aranmore	Aranmore Count Dean Bon Boots	Count Dean Fervorita Uneasy	Count Dean Fervorita Aranmore	Aranmore Count Dean First Choice
5	Paper Boy Creakle Chaldon H'th	Paper Boy Wild Oats Creakle	Paper Boy Creakle Chaldon H'th	Paper Boy Caressante Chaldon H'th	Paper Boy Creakle Chaldon H'th	Wild Oats Paper Boy Creakle
6	Urge Me Wise Barris'r Straw Hat	Straw Hat Wise Barris'r Jubal Junior	Jubal Junior Urge Me Mr. Grundy	Wise Barris'r Urge Me Straw Hat	Wise Barris'r Flying Bonny Jubal Junior	Mr. Grundy Jubal Junior Journey On
7	Wing & Wing Count d'Or Pageboy	Wing & Wing Albert Jay Pageboy	Albert Jay Wing & Wing Pageboy	Wing & Wing Albert Jay Pageboy	Wing & Wing Pageboy Albert Jay	Pageboy Albert Jay Wing & Wing
8	Sweet Leilani Godspeed On Stage	Sweet Leilani Godspeed Spring Flood	On Stage Godspeed Sweet Leilani	Sweet Leilani On Stage Easy Sailing	Sweet Leilani On Stage V'dina Gypsy	Sweet Leilani Godspeed Spring Flood

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL ENTERS STRIKE

● Continued from page 1 ●

will order Disney products placed on the AFofL unfair list and that a national labor boycott of Disney products will be launched. The proposed deal would call for reinstatement of all strikers and discharged employes and would give all AFofL crafts closed shop contracts. The company would be given 30 days to adjust wages with the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

While the Council committee was contacting company officials, J. W. Buzzell, executive secretary-treasurer of the Central Labor Council, was addressing 600 members of the SCG meeting at headquarters of Moving Picture Painters Local 644. Joseph Clarke, international vice-president of the Brotherhood of Painters, also spoke.

Buzzell told the Cartoonists that the Central Labor Council and the AFofL is solidly behind them. He said that if the company does not agree to sign with the unions the AFofL will use all of its tools to enforce recognition of the unions and bring the company to terms.

A request for RKO to cease distributing Disney cartoons for duration of the strike was made yesterday by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, at a conference with Sid Rogell, RKO studio manager. Later Sorrell sent a letter to Rogell stating that if the company continued to handle Disney films a national labor boycott and other actions would have to be started against RKO products in order to protect the interests of members of the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Earlier in the day William Littlejohn, SCG prexy, issued a statement outlining the reasons why the Guild now refuses to agree to a National Labor Relations Board election to designate a bargaining representative for Disney employes. The statement follows:

'The request of the company for an election is made only for the purpose of beclouding the issues involved in our strike. The union offered on numerous occasions prior to the strike to enter into an election or a cross-check of its membership against the company payroll. Each time the company refused our offer. This strike was forced on the union by the unlawful tactics of the company.

'On May 22, after a hearing at the NLRB on charges of company unionism, the company signed a stipulation by which it agreed to cease and desist from interference with the organizational activities of its employes, to dis-establish its company union, the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, or any successor thereof.

'Immediately thereafter, the company dis-established the old company union, the Federation, and organized a new union, the American Society of Screen Cartoonists, six of the seven incorporators of which were officers of the old Federation. Determined then to terrorize its employes into submission, it fired 18 Guild leaders, including the treasurer of the Guild and four stewards. The day before the strike was called, it discharged Arthur Babbitt, chairman of the Disney unit of the Guild, an animator of 10 years' service, and one of the outstanding artists in the industry. In the letter of discharge, Gunther Lessing, vice-president of the company, stated that Babbitt was being discharged solely for his union activities.

'The Guild is striking against company unionism, intimidation, discrimination and persecution. The only guarantee of the good faith of the company and of its intention to comply with the law is in the recognition of our union and the reinstatement of the leaders fired for union activity. The company cannot on the one hand violate every provision of the Wagner Act and on the other hand try to hide behind it. The company has known for three months that the union represented the overwhelming majority of its artists. If it wants further proof it need only count the 450 artists on the picket line against the 130 in the studio.'

A 24-hour picket is being maintained at the Disney studio, and flying squadrons also are picketing theatres exhibiting Disney products.

Grand Jury Probe of IA Officers Offed Till July 9

The Los Angeles County Grand Jury investigation into activities of national officers of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes has gone over until July 9. In the meantime it is understood that efforts are being made to serve a subpoena on Floyd Billingsley, IATSE vice-prexy at San Francisco, who is desired as a witness. Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695, who also is under subpoena as a witness, yesterday was instructed to return.

Castings for 'Sundown'; Crew on Location

Bruce Cabot, George Saunders, Carl Esmond and Joseph Calleia yesterday were set for the top male bracket in Walter Wanger's 'Sundown.' Six principals yet remain to be cast, including the femme lead. Company, under direction of Henry Hathaway, goes on location at Acoma, New Mexico, Monday, where script will permit shooting around femme lead for couple weeks.

Vaughn, SOEG Prez

Peggy Vaughn, currently vice president of the Screen Office Employes Guild, is being upped to president to succeed Glenn Pratt, who retires as prexy to become full time business representative of the organization. A new vice president will be elected.

a.m. Dailies

Downey, Bennett Divorce—
Morton Downey, singer, yesterday won an uncontested divorce from Barbara Bennett, screen actress, and was awarded custody of their five children.

Laughs, Laughs, Laughs!
at
SLAPSY MAXIE'S
with
BEN BLUE & CULLY RICHARDS
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. WEbster 9513
Management: Sammy Lewis

Copy

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 32 No. 1 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, June 6, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

PRODUCERS MULL BACK PAY

SCG CINCHES LINES ON DISNEY

New attempts were being made to settle the Walt Disney strike last night, as the Screen Cartoonists Guild tightened its picket lines around the plant. Officials of the Central Labor Council were again in contact with company executives, and it was reported the latter had put out several peace feelers as to what kind of deal could be arranged.

A brief skirmish occurred at the studio yesterday when the company attempted to open a new entrance to the lot. The pickets immediately

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

20th Sales Convention Back to July 14-16

New York, June 5.—20th-Fox has moved its annual sales convention date, originally scheduled for July 9-11 in New York, back to July 14-16, according to announcement today by Herman Wobber, sales head. Switch will give five extra days for preparations on program announcement.

Keough, Lee Arrive

Austin C. Keough, Paramount secretary and director, and Claude F. Lee, exchange contact, arrived from their New York headquarters yesterday to attend the MPTOA convention next week.

Schless Heading West

New York, June 5.—Robert Schless, head of Warners foreign sales, heads for the Coast over the weekend for huddles with studio executives. He recently returned here from a South American trip.

Charter Northwest Co.

Sacramento, June 5.—Northwest Pictures, capitalized at $25,000, was chartered today by Jackson Parks, E. M. Maki and M. C. Towle of Hollywood.

PREVIEWED

WEST POINT WIDOW
(Par)

OUT OF THE FOG
(WB)

(Previews on page 3)

WELLMAN NAMED USO CHAIRMAN FOR INDUSTRY

Appointment of William Wellman as industry chairman for the United Service Organizations Contributions Drive in Hollywood was announced yesterday by Edward Arnold, chairman of the Motion Picture Permanent Charities Committee. Wellman will head the campaign in the stu-

♣ Continued on page 11 ♣

Geo. Dembow En Route

George F. Dembow, general manager of National Screen Service, planes in from New York today. Coming for MPTOA convention and will supervise workings of his large staff during the sessions.

BIZ REPS STUDY U. S. REPORT WITH VINCENT

The Producers and company attorneys spent several hours yesterday discussing the effect of the Wage-Hour decision on the question of retroactive pay for workers, and demands of the Actors, Directors, Writers and other studio groups for contract revisions. Simultaneously, business representatives of the various film unions were huddling with Merle D. Vincent, chief of the hearings and exemptions section of the Wage-Hour Division, on the stand taken by the Department on back pay.

The company executives are understood to have finally referred the back pay situation to the attorneys

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Daily Variety MPTOA Confab Offices

Daily Variety will maintain headquarters in Rooms 174-175, Ambassador hotel, beginning Sunday and throughout the MPTOA convention. Staff members will be on hand to furnish information, etc., to visiting delegates.

IA COMMITTEE STUDIES UNION PLAN SETUP

The Constitution and Ways and Means committees appointed by the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes met last night to coordinate the various recommendations submitted by union representatives. The negotiating committees of the crafts met Wednesday night to discuss general working conditions that are considered standard for all six-hour crafts. Another meeting has been called for Monday.

The conditions on which it is agreed should be standard for all locals include computation of daily overtime, computation of Sunday work time, computation of holiday work time, conditions when called more than once in a day, provisions for working in a higher classification, provisions for employes receiving above scale, provisions for ratios

♥ Continued on page 11 ♥

Cornelia Otis Skinner Set for Series

Cornelia Otis Skinner and Warners have signed a deal for the actress to do a series of 12 two-reelers. This will be her first venture into films. In some of the pictures, it is understood, she'll appear with others in the cast. Actress will also have a hand in preparing the material.

Don Castle Spotted

Don Castle gets a feature assignment in 'Torpedo Boat', Richard Arlen starrer to be produced by the Pine-Thomas unit for Paramount.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	648
Major studio calls	196
FK Studio Service	17
Tinsman Casting Agency	47
Total	908

Metro Switches 'Tonk' On Legal Angle

To avoid possible legal complications, Metro switched its title, 'Honky Tonk' to an entirely new story, discarding the one previously prepared after it had been brought right to the starting line three days ago. New yarn, with Clark Gable and Lana Turner, went before cameras on Tuesday, and concerns a western gambler who falls in love with a New England girl at height of his flashy career. Marguerite Roberts and John Sanford wrote the screenplay which is being filmed.

Bishop Option Plucked

Julie Bishop had her option taken up at Warners after six months stock deal in which she appeared in 'The Nurse's Secret' and 'Flight Patrol.'

SOEG, Majors Resume Wage negotiations

Negotiations between the Screen Office Employes Guild and the major companies were resumed last night when Guild officials talked wages and working conditions with RKO executives. The Guilders will meet with Metro executives Monday (9), with Universal Tuesday (10), and with Columbia Wednesday (11).

Katharine Booth Bow

Katharine Booth will do a role in 'Sing a Song of Homicide' as her first assignment under a new Paramount contract.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Boxida**
Sinhala
Gray Mystery
2d RACE—**Quick Gold**
Sizzling Pan
Alviso
3d RACE—**Swiss Tryst**
Pharmenarch
Seabread
4th RACE—**Challomine**
Fly the Coop
Gallant One
5th RACE—**Blon Gla**
Southern Jane
Doll Baby
6th RACE—**Tow Rope**
Gay Jacket
Prince Gale
7th RACE—**Cute Trick**
Mt. Vernon II
Arigotal
8th RACE—**Raby Rattler**
Day Dawn
Strombus
CHANCE BET—**Cynic Queen** (3)

Selections consensus, page 10.

For Doc Baker's Saturday Inglewood picks phone Daily Variety office, HO-1141, after 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Bob Hope taking a hide-out vacation in San Diego.

Wib Eickelberg to Frisco for a week on network biz.

Charles Ryder, KNX auditor, petroled to Ohio on vacash.

Connie Boswell, cellist, joined Musicians Local 47 yesterday.

Mary Martin does a guest stint on the Bob Hope show Tuesday.

Walsh Crane, editor of Newark Jersey Review here on a sabbatical.

Helene, mind-reader, opens an engagement at the It Cafe tonight.

Ella Boros deserts the Paramount flackery next week for a two-week vacation.

Bob Jennings, radio head of H. W. Kastor agency, bobbing around the kilocycles.

Claude Rains finishes his role in 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town' at Columbia today.

Art Carter photoging for Esquire Features in addition to his regular string of mags.

Three Chocolaters have been added to the show at the Rhum Boogie, opening tonight.

Charles Coburn will head the summer sessions of the speech and drama class at UCLA.

Metro is negotiating with Paramount for the loan of Frances Farmer on a one-picture deal.

Eva Gabor planed for New York last night to bring her sister, Seri Berge, to Hollywood to live.

Kay Kyser mailed back his draft questionnaire yesterday, asking no favors and pleading no exemption.

Premiere of Warners 'Here Comes the Cavalry', preparedness short, will be held at Fort Bliss, Texas, next Wednesday.

Fred Othman, minus 25 pounds after an attack of the measles, back doing his Hollywood rounds for United Press.

Mary Jo James, actress from the Seattle Repertory Theatre, recently signed by Warners, is due to report at the Burbank lot June 15.

Addison Richards received word yesterday that his mother, Mrs. Lulu Richards, had suffered a stroke while vacationing in Yosemite National Park.

Jinx Falkenberg planed out for Chicago last night to be guest of honor at the RCA-Victor radio distributors' national convention tomorrow and Sunday.

Benny the Gouge sez—Men are not supposed to be vain, but when you see a guy without a hat you also see a handsome head of hair. Bald heads wear skimmers.

Hollywood Inside

PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, at the instance of Jock Lawrence, recently issued engraved, framed 'distinguished service' scrolls to all those who made the trip from Hollywood to the Mexican Motion Picture Festival in Mexico City in April. These were followed up later by resolutions of appreciation. Scrolls and written resolutions were sent first to those who actually made the trip, later to publicity directors and executives at studios who were adjudged to have been cooperative. The trip to Mexico originally was devised as a promotion stunt for Globe Productions' 'Pot o' Gold' by Johnny Miles, then publicity director for James Roosevelt. Miles sent men to Mexico City to line up details and Roosevelt's political connections were vitally important in laying the groundwork for the junket. At the last minute Lawrence took over the job of promoting the junket when it became an industry affair. When his distinguished service awards were dispatched, Lawrence failed to send any to the two individuals responsible for the trip, Roosevelt and Miles.

☆ ☆ ☆

FURTHER cast shuffling on 'Weekend For Three' took place at RKO yesterday with Jane Wyatt drawing the femme lead opposite Dennis O'Keefe in the former film, originally intended as a Ginger Rogers starrer. Irving Reis will direct the picture under the production guidance of Tay Garnett, studio executives figuring latter's experience in both production and direction will help Reis move up into larger budgeted features. Same plan is being tried out on 'Unexpected Uncle', on which Peter Godfrey will make his director bow with Garnett in the producer seat. 'Weekend' will have Edward Everett Horton, Philip Reed, Franklin Pangborn and Marion Martin in the cast and was scripted by Alan Campbell and Dorothy Parker from the Budd Schulberg original. Charles Coburn, Anne Shirley and James Craig have the leads in 'Uncle'.

☆ ☆ ☆

AFTER hatching up the notion to put out a picture built around the world of radio and cast with radio personalities, Universal has now decided to forget the air show angles in exploiting 'Radio Revels of 1942'. Sales executives figure that radio personalities might be popular at home, for free, but that they won't pack people into theatres via the box office, for cash. Ken Murray, Frances Langford, Don Wilson, Skinnay Ennis and band, Senor Lee, Elvia Allman and Hanley Stafford are among the air performers in the picture. Under the plan of selling the picture, those in top roles, like Ken Murray and Frances Langford, will be billed as 'stage and screen stars' with no mention of their radio work.

☆ ☆ ☆

THERE will probably be a mighty squawk today at 20th-Fox among some of the 500 extras who have been called for the retreat from Dunkirk sequences for 'Yank in the R.A.F.' Central Casting heard mutters of discontent when a number of extras refused the call yesterday because it paid only $11. Those who turned the job down complained that the pay figure should be either $35, for stunt work, or, at a minimum, $16.50, for especially stiff chores. Job calls for the extras to fall into the water with a heavy pack, to work in blowups and around explosions, to dash through clouds of smoke, to fall into the mud and to carry heavy rifles.

☆ ☆ ☆

GRADUATING classes from 25 high schools in this region will be guests of Warners Sunday at the Forum theatre for a screening of new films produced by the U. S. Navy and two Technicolor shorts by the Burbank studio, 'March On Marines' and 'Meet the Fleet'. Ronald Reagan, Jane Wyman, William Lundigan, Alexis Smith and several naval officers will be on a broadcast from the stage of the theatre during the day. Program, to be presided over by Vierling Kersey, Los Angeles school superintendent, is the first of a series of such affairs Warners, with the cooperation of the Navy, will present throughout the country.

☆ ☆ ☆

DURING the past year Warners has wasted no time in bringing along at least three directors. With the start of 'The Maltese Falcon' today the studio is trying the experiment with a fourth, John Huston. If Huston makes a go of switching from writer to director, he'll probably be given a top picture to direct as his second assignment. Irving Rapper, whose first was 'Shining Victory', will direct 'One Foot in Heaven'. He was previously a dialog director at the studio. Curtis Bernhardt's initial one was 'My Love Came Back', followed by 'Million Dollar Baby'. Vincent Sherman's first was 'The Return of Dr. X', his latest is 'Underground'.

☆ ☆ ☆

BEN MARTINEZ, for the tenth time has been unanimously nominated for re-election as business representative of Studio Plasterers Local 755. Victor H. Heal has been nominated for re-election as president of the local; O. E. Daniels for vice-prexy, and Christian Bjerre for recording secretary. Since there are no opposing candidates, all of the officers are assured of retaining their offices in the annual election Tuesday (17).

☆ ☆ ☆

LEO McCAREY and Howard Hughes have washed up their association on the Hollywood story McCarey had been preparing for the latter based on 'Queer People'. After McCarey had done considerable work on the story differences with Hughes on casting resulted in their calling off their association.

☆ ☆ ☆

ERSKINE JOHNSON, on his Monday night program over KFI, will blast away at calamity howlers in the film business. Program airs at 8 p.m. Columnist will present data and statistics to show that all is well with the picture business.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A lone and hopeless bachelor, the cowboy on the screen.
In every film he saves a blonde and gallops from the scene.
He fights by day and rides by night in many a moonlit dell
But never weds the heroine—which may be just as well.

★ ★ ★

Tex Ritter was the guest of honor at a bachelor dinner the other night, with a troupe of buckaroos shooting remarks appropriate to such occasions but nowhere else. They all smiled when they spoke them words, podner. Tex is going to get married.

★ ★ ★

Frank Bull, the sports announcer, says it is all wrong about the fellows who bet on the wrong horse and win. 'All my life', he says, 'I have been betting on the wrong horse, and it is still the wrong horse.'

★ ★ ★

Marlene Dietrich is sponsoring formal shorts, and where could you find a more artistic sponsor? It was Marlene who first garbed her gorgeous gams in slacks and set a precedent which helped to beautify the world, in a negative way. Most femme gams look better when concealed. The shorts idea would contribute to the city beautiful if all the gals were equipped with Marlene's architecture—which they ain't.

Yale is sending half a dozen of its Drama School scholars to learn what happens in a film studio. If they were from Harvard they would discover a flock of tomatoes, wrapped in cans.

Hollywood ambition — To make enough dough in pictures to buy a home in a state without an income tax.

★ ★ ★

When 'The Shanghai Gesture' comes up again the leading femme's name will probably be changed to Madame Goshdarn.

★ ★ ★

After a drive through San Fernando Valley, watching the early verdure turning brown, one feels a hope that the boys will finish 'How Green Was My Valley' before the brush fires start blazing.

★ ★ ★

The birds fly south in Fall and north in Spring,
But not the birds who act in picture plays.
When June breaks out, the movie actors wing
Back east to strawhat all the Summer days.

★ ★ ★

Sea Scouts in Seattle want Nancy Kelly to bash a bottle of something-or-other on the prow of their new motor cruiser, to be launched under her name. It is described as 'a trim little craft with graceful curves and a neat beam.'

★ ★ ★

Milady has a set of furs
And wears 'em when the cool wind purrs
And even when the zephyrs hot
Conspire to put her on the spot.
'And why?' I asked the pretty maid.
'Because I have 'em, sir,' she said.

Film Previews

Out of the Fog

(*Comedy Drama*)

Warners release of a First National production. Cast: Ida Lupino, John Garfield, Thomas Mitchell, Eddie Albert, George Tobias, John Qualen, Aline MacMahon, Jerome Cowan, Odette Myrtil, Leo Gorcey, Robert Homans, Bernard Gorcey, Paul Harvey. Directed by Anatole Litvak. Executive producer, Hal B. Wallis. Associate producer, Henry Blanke. Screenplay, Robert Rossen, Jerry Wald and Richard Macaulay. From Irwin Shaw's play, 'The Gentle People'. Photography, James Wong Howe. Art director, Carl Jules Weyl. Film editor, Warren Low. Special effects, Rex Wimpy. Music director, Leo F. Forbstein. Previewed June 5. Running time: 85 mins.

In careful and skillful production, with top-notch playing and direction, Irwin Shaw's play, 'The Gentle People', works out as moving and thought-provoking drama under the less specific screen title, 'Out of the Fog'. Never veering very far from the original, and retaining the major comedy situations and laugh lines, the film version, scripted by Robert Rossen, Jerry Wald and Richard Macaulay, nevertheless leans somehow more toward the ironic than the comic, largely perhaps, because of the savagery with which John Garfield plays the grafting hoodlum. Limited audiences will relish it thoroughly, because of its theatrical, productional and creative merits. To win wider patronage will require every selling device. The nature of the piece—two middle aged, gentle men pitting a defensive philosophy of peace and good will against the torturing brutality of a powerful young grafter—presents the marketing problem, in view of the current taste.

Thomas Mitchell and John Qualen, a tailor and a waterfront cook, find supreme delight and surcease from their monotonous labors in going fishing so many nights a week in their little boat. John Garfield, a guy who has rocks where his heart should be, moves in to collect five dollars per week to 'protect' the skiff. He also turns the head of the tailor's daughter, a frantic sort of telephone operator, who wants to find the 'unusual' in life. Eddie Albert, her quiet, steady beau, is pushed out of the way. The hoodlum makes life hell for the three men and for everyone else he encounters. On a heedless tip from the daughter, Garfield demands a lifetime savings from Mitchell. The two elderly men had planned to buy with that money a bigger boat and to go to the Gulf Stream for mighty swordfish—a top adventure of a colorless life. Cunning at last, with a deadly rebellion against the grafter, symbol of all violent people preying on the meek and the gentle everywhere, the two victims plot to pitch Garfield overboard from their little craft. An act of God saves them the crime. They even recover some of the crook's pelf, beside their own money, and pledge it to charity.

Thus the fable of Brooklyn, as Irwin Shaw designated his play.

It is beautifully played, and tellingly directed by Anatole Litvak. Ida Lupino creates another outstanding character in her growing repertoire of tragic and oblique women, etched unforgettably. John Garfield makes his satanic portrayal the very essence of symbolical villainy—so much so that audiences will resent his easy death in the drowning accident. Thomas Mitchell upholds his standard of excellence. John Qualen maneuvers skillfully between whimsical comedy and tragic foreboding in his highly individual manner for an outstanding result. Albert has a short role but a good one. George Tobias'

★ Continued on page 4 ★

West Point Widow

(*Drama*)

Paramount production. Stars Anne Shirley. Features Richard Carlson, Richard Denning, Frances Gifford, Maude Eburne, Janet Beecher, Cecil Kellaway. Supporting players: Archie Twitchell, Lillian Randolph, Patricia Farr, Sharon Lynne, Deanna Jean Hall, Eddie Conrad. Director, Robert Siodmak. Producer, Sol C. Siegel. Associate producer, Colbert Clark. Screenplay, F. Hugh Herbert and Hans Kraly. Based on a story by Anne Wormser. Photography, Theodor Sparkuhl. Art direction, Hans Dreier and Haldane Douglas. Film editor, Archie Marshek. Costumes, Edith Head. Sound recording, Phil Wisdom and Don Johnson. Dialog direction, F. Hugh Herbert. Assistant director, C. C. Coleman, Jr. Previewed June 5. Running time: 63 mins.

'West Point Widow' measures up as a good entry in the program field. There are a number of topnotch performances, notably those of Anne Shirley and Richard Carlson; some chuckles, and a general high production tone to help carry the story. Picture is the first from the new Sol C. Siegel unit at Paramount, and augurs well for future budget entries from that division, reflecting as it does careful judgment of values and the best obtainable results from the material.

Script by F. Hugh Herbert and Hans Kraly is based on a story by Anne Wormser. The plot tells of a girl who has her marriage to a West Pointer annulled so his army career can go on, and how she attempts to raise their baby by nursing until the time he graduates and can again claim her. Her attempts to conceal knowledge of the baby from her coworkers and the attentions of an interne allow for a number of amusing sequences and the finale carries a twist that delights.

Miss Shirley as the nurse and Richard Carlson as the interne have most of the footage and turn in talented performances that add to their film stature. Miss Shirley is most advantageously photographed by Theodor Spakuhl and becomingly gowned by Edith Head. Among the supporting players Maude Eburne, with a very funny blowsy landlady character, and Archie Twitchell, as another interne, show best. A most charming young baby, played at various ages by Sharon Lynne and Deanna Jean Hall, is a surefire interest catcher. Richard Denning shows the results of Paramount's grooming with a brief, but excellent, West Pointer spot. Frances Gifford, Janet Beecher, Cecil Kellaway, Lillian Randolph, Patricia Farr and Eddie Conrad do well with their short footage.

Robert Siodmak makes his American debut as a director with this, and generally gives a good impression. There are several scenes, particularly the football sequence, that are held too long for interest, but his handling of the balance of the picture is first rate. Colbert Clark as associate producer under Siegel did well by his assignment, and the other contributions are equally as capable.

Artists Managers Rush Show for Sunday At Camp Roberts

Following receipt of a plea from officers at Camp Roberts, San Miguel, California, that the camp was sorely in need of entertainment, Artists Managers Guild yesterday hurriedly assembled a show and were working into the late hours last night to ready a unit for Sunday.

William Dover, assigned to organization work and rounding up of talent by AMG, declared last night that some difficulty was being encountered on account of the short notice but that a show would be given at Camp Roberts Sunday regardless.

Among the early volunteers for the first camp show by AMG, which will keep talent pouring into the cantonments to keep the soldiers happy, were Laurel and Hardy, Borrah Minnevich and his Harmonica Rascals, Jane Withers and Buddy Pepper, Red Skelton, Ella Logan, Marta Farrell, Virginia O'Brien and Jimmy Durante unless he is tied up by a commitment in Frisco. Troupe leaves by bus Sunday morning, returning at midnight. An orchestra also will be taken along.

First call on Hollywood to supply a headliner for an eastern unit came yesterday from William Morris and Robert Sherwood, committee heads. Allan Jones was contacted and immediately consented to join the eastern unit, which will be out two weeks. He flies out Monday for the east and joins the troupe at Fort Bragg. Other cantonments to be visited are Camps Davis, Croft, Stuart, Blanding and Wheeler, and Forts Bragg, Jackson and Benning. Unit winds up the tour at Atlanta.

Meyer Lewis Friscos

Meyer Lewis, western director of the American Federation of Labor, planed to San Francisco yesterday. Will return here the first of next week.

Coast League Baseball Results

San Francisco, 10; Hollywood, 4.
Oakland, 3; Los Angeles, 2.
Sacramento, 3; Seattle, 1.
Portland, 12; San Diego, 3.

In from the East

Austin C. Keough
Claude F. Lee
Irene Dunne
George F. Dembow
Ole Olsen
Chic Johnson

Heading East

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Donlevy
James Mulvey
Jinx Falkenberg
Eva Gabor (UA)
Judy Garland (TWA)
Mrs. Ethel Gilmore (TWA)
Roger Eden (TWA)
Betty Asher (TWA)
Jack Mulcahy (UA)
Linda Darnell (UA)
Mrs. Henry Luce
Don Ameche
Joe Moskowitz

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HOLLYWOOD'S the only place things like this could happen. Bill Thomas was lunching at the Derby in one booth, Eddie Moran in an adjoining one and across the aisle from them were Dorothy Lamour and her attorney, G. Bentley Ryan. The latter called the boys to come over and said, 'Will you please witness the will of Miss Lamour?' They appended their sigs to the document and returned to finish their repast. . . . John Barrymore to Mono Lake for a week's rest. . . . Boris Aronson, painter and designer of the sets for 'Cabin in the Sky', is here from New York for the exhibition of his canvases. . . . Milton Berle finished his third book on comedy, 'Laugh, Town, Laugh', to be published by Simon Shuster. . . . Cinema songbirds combine talents in Hollywood Bowl (21) to present Motion Picture Festival of Music as a feature of American Music Festival here (18-26). Backed by a full symphony orchestra will be Jeanette MacDonald, Nelson Eddy, Rise Stevens, Allan Jones, Deanna Durbin. Dennis Morgan and Irene Dunne.

As a penalty for not growing a beard along with other San Fernando citizens during this Fiesta week, Edgar Kennedy will have to march in their big parade tomorrow as head of the booby brigade, composed of other beardless resident celebs. Comic's son and daughter, Larry and Coleen, will ride horseback in the 'class' section of the assembly.

OLSEN, Johnson and Red Skelton join the comedian lineup that will take part in the 'Pan Roast' show for Jack Benny which The Masquers are staging Tuesday (10). Edward Earle is chairman for the evening and William Collier, Sr. will be toastmaster. . . Lieutenant General H. H. Arnold, chief of the Army Air Corps, will be the luncheon guest of J. L. Warner at Warners studio today. Accompanying General Arnold will be Major General Jacob Fickel, Major C. C. Moseley, Major Eugene H. Beebe and Captain Lewis N. Parker.

Warners has 150 South American type extras working for three days in 'Law of the Tropics.'

BRIAN DONLEVY, Major Leo De-Rosier and Lieut. Beirne Lay, Jr. and their wives got together last night at the actor's home for a three-way party. Donlevy and the missus train for New York tonight and will then take a motor trip through New England. Major DeRosier is on leave before reporting for duty at the Air Cadet school at Tucson, same place that Lieut. Lay will be stationed within the next two weeks. . . . Irene Dunne returned yesterday after six weeks in New York and Washington. . . . Shepperd Strudwick has been renamed John Shepperd. He is currently playing in Gregory Ratoff's production, 'Tonight Belongs to Us.'

Frank Capra Testifies In Ullman, Col Suit Over 'Smith'

Frank Capra took the stand yesterday as a defense witness in the Louis Ullman plagiarism action against Columbia, arising from the filming of 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington'. Capra was cross-examined as to the nature of the material which it is alleged is an infringement on the Ullman story, 'Angel of Hell Hollow'.

Herbert A. Huebner, attorney for the plaintiff, contended that although 'Mr. Smith' reportedly was based on a story entitled 'The Gentleman From Montana', by Louis Foster, the material in the film which it is charged is an infringement was not present in the Foster yarn but was written into the screenplay.

William Hinkel, attorney for Columbia, questioned Capra during the morning court session, with Huebner conducting the cross-examination in the afternoon. Capra is to continue on the stand this morning for further questioning.

Ask Morris Deferment

Warners is asking the Naval Reserve to defer Wayne Morris for two weeks until he finishes his current role in 'The Smiling Ghost.' Morris yesterday was notified to report today to the Naval Reserve at Long Beach. He was informed that he will have an ensign's rating. Actor originally was given a 90-day deferment by the Army because he had applied for a non-commissioned officer's status in the Naval Reserve.

Producers Mull Back Pay; Biz Reps Study Reports

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

for legal opinions and recommendations. While Vincent recommended that no formal inspections be made for the purpose of ascertaining whether restitution of wages may or may not be due prior to June 16, the question was raised as to whether the companies had committed themselves by notifying employes wage adjustments would be made if they were affected by the decision.

Representatives of the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes have already agreed to make formal demand upon the Producers for back pay. It was stated that if this was refused, suits would be filed in Federal Court for double the amount of wages that might be due, court costs and attorneys fees. The request for back pay, however, will be incorporated in the demands to be submitted by the unions.

A meeting of company attorneys is expected to be held today, with the probability that certain producer representatives will be called in. Y. Frank Freeman, prexy of the Producers Association, discussed the situation with officials of the Wage-Hour Division at a luncheon the first of this week.

The Producers at their session yesterday are reported to have tentatively agreed to requests of the Screen Actors Guild for reclassification of extra brackets. These call for elimination of the $8.25 and $11 calls, establishment of a $10 or $10.50 ticket and placing of a limitation on the use of $5.50 players.

Counter proposals will be made to the demands of the Screen Directors Guild for minimum wages and to the contract proposals of the Screen Writers Guild. Meetings with these three groups will be arranged this week. Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, has been recalled from the east to direct negotiations with the 10 IATSE studio locals, but their demands have not yet been submitted.

Fred Pelton read the Wage-Hour decision to the executives yesterday, and presented the proposals of the various guilds and unions that have submitted demands.

The Producer session was held in the offices of Y. Frank Freeman at Paramount. In addition to the attorneys, the following executives were present: Louis B. Mayer, E. J. Mannix, Joseph M. Schenck, William Goetz, Harry Cohn, B. B. Kahane, Sol Siegel, E. H. Goldstein, H. M. Warner, J. L. Warner, Samuel Goldwyn, Cliff Work, Hal Roach, J. R. McDonough and Fred.W. Beetson.

Walker's New Spot

Vic Walker, owner of Walker theatre, Santa Ana, has taken over the Roxy theatre, Huntington Beach, and changed house name to the Surf.

YOU CAN HELP THE BOYS AT CAMP
TONIGHT & TOMORROW NITE
By Buying Tickets TODAY For the Showing of the
WIZARD of ORD
A Gay, Entrancing Musical Comedy
Presented by the Seventh Division, U. S. Army
Written, Staged and Played by the Men in Service at Fort Ord
Male Chorus of 100 Voices ★ 60 Piece Fort Ord Orchestra
Top Flight Singing Stars ★ 17 New Songs
Cast of 300 Military Men ★ Fort Ord Comics
Spectacular 600 Man Maneuvers
Music ★ Laughter ★ Thrills
All Proceeds for Recreation & Morale Fund of Fort Ord
TWO PERFORMANCES ONLY
Tonight . . . Friday Tomorrow Night . . . Saturday
HOLLYWOOD BOWL
Reserved Seats $1.00, Gen'l Admission 50c, Children 25c, Boxes $1.50
All Major Studios will have Tickets today. Look for the Soldiers, also all Ticket Agencies, and at the Box Office of the Hollywood Bowl

SCG TIGHTENS LINES ON DISNEY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

parked their cars across the opening and blocked anybody entering or leaving the plant. Several were towed away, but others were quickly thrown across the opening.

A mass demonstration was staged at 5:30 p.m., at which time Gunther Lessing, Disney vice-president, was hanged in effigy. Approximately 1,200 pickets, led by the fife and drum corps of the Schlesinger Guild unit, marched back and forth in front of the main gate. Cowboy pickets rode along the wire fence and William Littlejohn, SCG prexy, flew back and forth over the studio, dipping the wings of his plane to the pickets. Later the strikers assembled in a vacant lot across the street where they were addressed by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 and one of the strike leaders.

The Central Labor Council had agreed to call off the strike and request all workers to return to their jobs if the company signs a blanket agreement to recognize all the crafts. The company would agree to reinstate all strikers and discharged employes, and would be given 30 days to make wage adjustments with the Cartoonists. The committee is headed by Harry Sherman, prexy, and J. W. Buzzell, executive secretary-treasurer of the Central Labor Council.

Negotiations have been slowed some by the necessity of Buzzell appearing at the North American aviation strike, but it was indicated that there were strong probabilities that an agreement might be reached to end the walkout. None of the AFofL workers are crossing the Guild picket lines and full support of the American Federation of Labor has been promised the strikers. The Central Labor Council has announced that if Disney does not agree to recognize the crafts, a national labor boycott will be started against his products. The Brotherhood of Painters also is threatening to picket RKO if that company continues to distribute Disney shorts. It is understood that officials of RKO are anxious to see a settlement reached before they become involved.

Academy Recommends Less Silk in Dresses For Film Work

A suggestion that all dancers be required to wear over shoe socks when appearing on studio sets is contained in a report of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences carrying recommendations for reducing acoustic difficulties in picture production. Other recommendations call for substitution of chipped cork for gravel on walks and driveways, substitution of celanese taffeta for silk in women's dresses, overlayer of soft building board on cement, stone and flagstone walks.

Double windows are recommended to reduce noise when it is necessary to have a production shot show rain striking against a window. It also was stated the noise could be further reduced by the use of a receptacle, filled with rubberized hair, to catch the water as it falls from the window. An experiment showed rubberized hair to be more effective as a noise reducer than sawdust, excelsior or other materials.

The Council recommendations, prepared by a sub-committee under the chairmanship of William A. Mueller, are being distributed today to all studio art directors, set construction departments, set dressers, etc. Other members of the committee are C. W. Faulkner, Gordon Sawyer, William Thayer and Gordon S. Mitchell, manager of the Research Council. Loren Ryder is chairman of the basic sound committee.

Preview

★ Continued from page 3 ★

scene in the Russian steam bath, where he laments the loss of his business and comments ludicrously on business ethics, is a wow. Aline MacMahon, Jerome Cowan, Odette Myrtil, Leo Gorcey, Robert Homans, Bernard Gorcey and Paul Harvey are excellent in carefully cast roles.

Director Litvak displays precise timing and sound dramatic sense in capitalizing every entertainment element in the script.

Henry Blanke's seasoned producership is evident in quality presentation, and the shrewd muster of his personnel, in which James Wong Howe gets a notable credit for his unusually effective photography.

EL CADIZ - UNIQUE
4, 5 & 6 Spacious Rooms
2 baths, 2 stall showers highly tiled. Exquisitely furnished. Electric kitchens. Maid and chauffeur quarters. Subterranean garage. High deck for sun bath.
1721 to 1729 N. SYCAMORE
Just north of Hollywood Blvd.
West of Chinese Theatre
MR. & MRS. WARD IN CHARGE

ANNA NEAGLE as "*Sunny*"

Sunny a Honey!

"SUNNY" OPENED TO CAPACITY AUDIENCES
GOLDEN GATE THEATRE, SAN FRANCISCO
HELD OVER SECOND WEEK

". . . Bright and tuneful as the day it took Broadway by storm, the 'Sunny' of the title springs from the Herbert Wilcox workshop a tip-top piece of entertainment made to order for big towns and little, young, adults and children."
Motion Picture Herald.

". . . Of all the musical pictures we have had since sound came to Hollywood, I think this is the best."
Hollywood Spectator.

". . . By far the best of the Anna Neagle filmusicals that Herbert Wilcox has brought us, 'Sunny' is headed for a bright boxoffice future. It is a lithesome, gay entertainment, attractively packaged."
The Hollywood Reporter.

". . . Musical-minded ticket buyers will find this version of 'Sunny' to their liking. Tunefully strung together with the melodies of the old stage piece, picture is showmanly handled in all departments."
Daily Variety.

". . . 'Sunny' will please patrons of any age. The music will cause them to whistle and hum many new patrons into your theatre."
The Film Daily.

". . . Blessed with fine music, singing and dancing, this romantic love story with backstage and the New Orleans Mardi Gras atmosphere has plenty of genuine entertainment for the masses."
Hollywood Motion Picture Review.

". . . Herbert Wilcox has given the best direction any picture of the sort has had."
Hollywood Spectator.

". . . A profit entry on any exhibitor's ledger and a revived appetite for motion pictures on the part of any customer. They loved it."
Motion Picture Herald.

". . . Producer-Director Herbert Wilcox's particular artistry in handling musical extravaganzas is well demonstrated. There's a flow to his films—an effortless something—which fits the musical 'spectacles' neatly into the book plot."
The Film Daily.

". . . Producer-Director Wilcox rates a vote of thanks and a round of applause."
Motion Picture Herald.

". . . Producer-Director Herbert Wilcox has given his picture lively tempo, lavish production and expert staging effects."
Hollywood Motion Picture Review.

". . . Everyone should see it. It is a striking demonstration of the screen's superiority over the stage as a medium for the presentation of a love story with a light opera complex."
Hollywood Spectator.

". . . The production by Wilcox is handsome, and his polished direction allows free rein to the players to score individually."
The Hollywood Reporter.

". . . 'Sunny' is really the best of the trio of pictures Herbert Wilcox has made since transferring his British production activities to Hollywood. It is all-around audience entertainment."
Box Office Digest.

". . . 'Sunny' a Wilcox-Neagle combo hit. Lavish production, colorful cast do well by Kern musical."
The Film Daily.

". . . Anna Neagle is seen at her best, turning in a portrayal of exceptional merit and charm."
Hollywood Motion Picture Review.

". . . Anna Neagle in her best straight performance to date by a wide margin."
Motion Picture Herald.

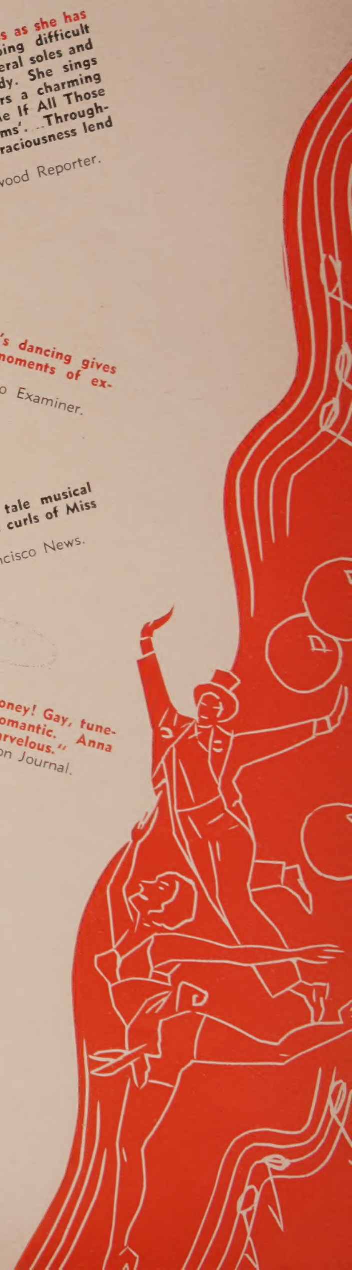
". . . Miss Neagle handles her four songs easily with melodic charm, 'Who', which dominates the production: 'Do You Love Me?', 'Sunshine' and 'Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms.' Her dances and dramatic portions are equally impressive."
Daily Variety.

". . . Miss Neagle dances as she has never danced before, doing difficult routines with Bolger, several soles and an amusing sailor parody. She sings with Carroll and delivers a charming rendition of 'Believe Me If All Those Endearing Young Charms'. ..Throughout, her beauty and graciousness lend verve to the scene."
The Hollywood Reporter.

". . . Miss Neagle's dancing gives some unforgettable moments of exquisite flowing grace."
San Francisco Examiner.

". . . Delightful fairy tale musical adds many laurels to the curls of Miss Neagle."
San Francisco News.

". . . 'Sunny' is a honey! Gay, tuneful and happily romantic. Anna Neagle's dancing is marvelous."
Oregon Journal.



SUNNY

SUNNY

RAY BOLGER

Personal Management
ABE LASTVOGEL
WILLIAM MORRIS AGENCY, INC.

SUNNY

AN RKO - RADIO PICTURE

MERRILL G. WHITE

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

ELMO WILLIAMS
FILM EDITOR

SUNNY

AN RKO-RADIO PICTURE

Petrillo Explains AFM Victory Over AGMA In Long Fight

Seattle, June 5.—The American Federation of Musicians has won a complete victory over the American Guild of Musical Artists, with 98% of the virtuosos now signed up with the AFM, according to Prexy James C. Petrillo, here to attend the annual AFM convention.

The most serious problem confronting the convention is the canned music situation, and something must and will be done even though it takes a long campaign, Petrillo stated.

The executive board of the AFM met all day today considering the report of Ben Selvin, who has made a survey of the use of recorded music in juke boxes and on radio stations. The board will be in session Friday and Saturday and possibly Sunday, reporting its findings to the convention on Monday.

Weiss Passes Out Three Promotions

Promotions were passed out yesterday by Lewis Allen Weiss to three department heads at KHJ. Henry Gerstenkorn, merchandising director, moves up to the sales staff as special contact; Ed Kemble becomes sales promotion manager; Emily Peters takes over Kemble's former post as head of commercial traffic.

Kraft Guestars

Ethel Waters heads the Kraft guest list on Thursday's broadcast. Other callers are Donald Crisp and Chester Morris. Don Ameche show goes July 17 for a summer run. Bing Crosby and Bob Burns trail off for 13 weeks after the broadcast week previous. Deal for Eddie Bracken to make several guest calls has curdled.

New C & S Batoner

Chase & Sanborn program will have a new baton wielder when it returns to the air in the fall after a summer layoff beginning (29). Robert Armbruster checks off the show at close of the current stanza.

Rackin to Chicago

James Rackin, Exhibitors Service, Inc., is leaving for Chicago on combined holiday and business trip.

Renew Willson

Meredith Willson has been signed for four more guest conductor shots on the Ford summer hour, making eight in all. Percy Faith takes the last four of the series.

PARAMOUNT
Direction Fanchon & Marco
6th & HILL
VA-2041
• FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND •
NOW!
FRED MacMURRAY • MADELEINE CARROLL
"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"
A Paramount Picture
STAGE! CAST OF 30
"HAWAiiAN FROLICS"
Harry OWENS • "Hilo HATTIE"
30¢ TO 1 P.M. plus tax
40¢ TO 6 P.M. plus tax
50¢ After 6 P.M. plus tax

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	**Bob Hebert**	**Paul Lowry**	**Bernard**	**Martha**	**Jim Mitchell**
1—Boxida Sinhala Gray Mystery	1—Boxida Sinhala Drift Silver	1—Boxida Gray Mystery Sinhala	1—Sinhala Gray Mystery Boxida	1—Boxida Henry G'nock Sinhala	1—V'dina Meany Sinhala Boxida
2—Alviso Quick Gold Red Cannibal	2—Quick Gold Alviso Sizzling Pan	2—Alviso Quick Gold Red Cannibal	2—Quick Gold Red Cannibal Alviso	2—Alviso T'my Whelan Red Cannibal	2—Red Cannibal Alviso T'my Whelan
3—Swiss Tryst Lt. Greenock Seabread	3—Swiss Tryst Ancestral Seabread	3—Swiss Tryst Lt. Greenock Seabread	3—Parmenarch Swiss Tryst Seabread	3—Swiss Tryst Ancestral Easy Does It	3—Seabread Lt. Greenock Cora S.
4—Fly the Coop Challomine Gallant One	4—Challomine Gallant One Fly the Coop	4—Challomine Fly the Coop Rivagold	4—Fly the Coop Gallant One Challomine	4—Fly the Coop Gallant One Challomine	4—Gallant One Fly the Coop Challomine
5—Southern Jane Doll Baby Charlottine	5—Southern Jane Blon Gla Her Did	5—Southern Jane Her Did Blon Gla	5—Southern Jane Blon Gla Her Did	5—Southern Jane Yesteryear Her Did	5—Southern Jane Doll Baby Her Did
6—Gay Jacket Prince Gale Tow Rope	6—Gay Jacket Prince Gale Dixie-Man	6—Conscription Gay Jacket Prince Gale	6—Gay Jacket Prince Gale Iron Bunker	6—Gay Jacket Prince Gale Dixie-Man	6—Conscription Prince Gale Gay Jacket
7—Mt. Vernon II Cute Trick Arigotal	7—Cute Trick Mt. Vernon II Arigotal	7—Cute Trick Mt. Vernon II Arigotal	7—Cute Trick Mt. Vernon II Arigotal	7—Cute Trick Mt. Vernon II Aethelwold	7—Cute Trick Mt. Vernon II Arigotal
8—Strombus Raby Rattler Day Dawn	8—Raby Rattler Little Long Strombus	8—Strombus Raby Rattler Day Dawn	8—Strombus Raby Rattler What Fun	8—Raby Rattler Day Dawn Little Long	8—Strombus Little Long Raby Rattler

Denver Withholding Charges Dismissed By Arbitrator

Denver, June 5.—Charges against major film companies that they were withholding films were dismissed in the first arbitration decision given in Denver under the consent decree, but the 21-day clearance held by the Rex theatre at Brighton over the Star at Ft. Lupton, Colorado, was cut to three days. The two houses are six miles apart.

The case originally involved five distributors but Metro negotiated a settlement and 20th-Fox was dismissed from the hearing which lasted three days, ending May 16. The Rex is owned by C. U. Yaeger and the Star by E. K. Menagh.

Testimonial Broadcast For Canada Lee

Testimonial broadcast to Canada Lee, star of the play, 'Native Son', on Broadway, will be carried over Mutual network Monday. Paul Robeson will emcee, and Negro talent will be picked up from coast to coast. From here two of Duke Ellington's songs, used in 'Jump for Joy', will be aired, 'Brown Skinned Gal in a Calico Gown' and 'I Got It Bad, and That Ain't Good.' Ivy Anderson and Herb Jeffries will sing them.

New Dram Technique

New dramatic technique will be tried out on Actors' Workshop over KFI on Monday nights. Young film players have been assembled as a stock company and will be used in the weekly plays. James Allen produces.

New Bout-masters

Bill Corum and Don Dunphy, New York sport writers, will handle the fights for Gillette over the Mutual network, beginning (18) with the Louis-Conn joust. Bouts formerly heard on KECA switch to KHJ locally.

Describe Nova Fight

Blow-by-blow description of Lou Nova-Jim Robinson heavyweight bout will be handled by Sam Taub and Bill Stern over the NBC-Blue net tonight beginning at 7 p.m. PST.

Bill Goodwin Set

Bill Goodwin of the Pepsodent airer draws a comedy supporting role in Lux broadcast Monday of 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith', which co-stars Bob Hope and Carole Lombard.

Obituary

ADELYN ESTEE

Funeral services, in charge of The Troupers, will be held today for Adelyn Estee, 70, one-time Metropolitan opera and musical comedy star, in Pierce Bros. Hollywood Chapel, with cremation following at the Hollywood Memorial Park Crematory. Death occurred Tuesday (3) in Los Angeles.

Miss Estee, wife of William Bence, vaudevillian, was born in New York and made her début at the Met at the age of 18. She later appeared in musical comedies, starring opposite Eddie Foy. She played the old Tivoli Opera House, San Francisco; appeared with Gilmore's Band, worked for Al Woods and starred in her own production, 'Queen of the Moulin Rouge'. She also played opposite Nat Goodwin, in her later years appearing in films. Surviving are her husband, William Bence; a sister, Mrs. Alma Haas, and two brothers, Harry Esten, Santa Monica, and Samuel Esten, Chicago.

ALEXANDER DILOPOULO

Funeral services were held yesterday for Alexander Dilopoulo, 59, stage actor, at the W. A. Brown Mortuary, with interment following in Inglewood Park cemetery. Dilopoulo, who died Monday, used the stage name of Aleko. His widow, Mrs. Frances Dilopoulo, survives.

State Fair Contracts

Sacramento, June 5. — Contracts for entertainment at 1941 California State Fair Aug. 29 to Sept. 7 are expected to be awarded by the Fair board at a meeting in Los Angeles June 12. Present plans call for a continuance of the name band policy instituted last year, by Fox Case, when more than $50,000 was paid out for talent. Case, Fair board director, is again in charge of negotiations.

Carolina Pines
YOUSAH!
Delicions, delectable Fried Chicken, Ham, Prime Ribs, Steaks, Chops, etc. Served in the gracious atmosphere of the Old South.
7315 Melrose Ave.
WY. 9122

Olsen, Johnson Arrive To Prepare Universal 'Hellzapoppin'' Pic

Ole Olsen and Chic Johnson arrived here yesterday from New York to begin preparations on 'Hellzapoppin', Jules Levey's next production for Universal. Picture will roll June 23, with Henry C. Potter directing.

Nat Perrin is writing the story. Eight new songs have been written for the film by Don Raye and Gene de Paul. Chief difficulty in transferring the musical from the stage to pictures has been in devising sequences to take the place of those scenes requiring audience participation (of which the show largely consisted) in the stage version.

China Relief Airers

Heading the picture names appearing tonight on the United China Relief broadcast over NBC from 6:30 to 7 are Ronald Colman, Lionel Barrymore, Claudette Colbert, Tyrone Power, John Garfield, Katherine Grayson and Alan Marshal. Power will be master of ceremonies. Broadcast will go to the Orient by short wave and here goes transcontinental.

Willkie Talks

NBC and Columbia are cancelling four commercial programs to carry Wendell Willkie's reply to isolation talks by Charles Lindbergh and Senator Burton Wheeler from Chicago at 7 o'clock tonight. Sidetracked are Amos 'n' Andy, Lanny Ross, Lum and Abner and the Fred Waring repeat.

NOW!
James Roosevelt presents
JAMES STEWART PAULETTE GODDARD
"POT O' GOLD"
HORACE HEIDT and his Musical Knights CHARLES WINNINGER
Released thru UNITED ARTISTS
Companion Feature
THE PEOPLE V.S. Dr KILDARE
Lew AYRES • Lionel BARRYMORE • Laraine DAY • Bonita GRANVILLE
A METRO GOLDWYN MAYER PICTURE
GENERAL ADMISSION 30¢ to 1 40¢ to 6 WEEK DAYS
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND
AND LOEW'S STATE 7th and BROADWAY

WELLMAN NAMED USO CHAIRMAN FOR INDUSTRY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

dios and among studio workers for the first money-raising program for a strictly American purpose, recreation centers for the Army and Navy cantonments.

Members of the Permanent Charities Committee executive board, which selected Wellman for the post because of his strong activities in all charity drives during the past year included Edward Arnold, representing the Screen Actors Guild; King Vidor, representing the Screen Directors Guild; Ralph Block, representing the Screen Writers Guild; Bert Allenberg, representing the Artists Managers Guild, and Samuel Goldwyn, representing the Producers' Association.

The USO drive, on behalf of the Salvation Army, the Jewish Welfare Board, the YMCA, the YWCA, the National Catholic Community Service, the National Travelers Aid Association, will start in the industry Monday (9). Committee and studio colonels will be appointed by Chairman Wellman.

RKO SUES POMMER ON HIS CONTRACT

RKO has filed suit for declaratory relief in Superior court against Erich Pommer, asking that its right to discharge the producer, under terms of his contract, be upheld. Illness of Pommer with a heart attack, lasting from April 17 to May 20, resulted in studio exercising contract clause assertedly giving it the right to terminate pact in case of any illness lasting longer than three weeks.

Pommer, who was given a new 52-week contract last March 31 after a year on the lot, has refused to accept the discharge and contends the pact is still in force. Two production assignments, 'Weekend For Three' and 'Unexpected Uncle', which Pommer was to have done before his illness and subsequent dismissal, have been reassigned to Tay Garnett.

IATSE COMMITTEE STUDIES SETUP

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

of apprentices and helpers, cancellation of calls, minimum calls, payoff requirements, provisions for 'keying', a man for troupe work, computations for pay when 'keyed', meals and meal period provisions, provisions for distant and nearby locations, and provisions for travel time. In addition to the standard provisions, each local is drafting demands that are applicable only to its members.

All of the locals are asking for substantial wage increases, minimum six-hour calls, and plan to incorporate a demand for back pay under the Wage-Hour Law.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'The Medico Rides'	Columbia	Wm. Berke	Lambert Hillyer	June 6
'Honky Tonk'	Metro	Pandro Berman	Jack Conway	June 2
Untitled 'Kildare'	Metro	Front Office	Harold Bucquet	June 2
'City Limits'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	June 2
'Arizona Bound'	Monogram	Scott Dunlap	Spencer Bennett	June 6
'Reap the Wild Wind'	Paramount	Cecil B. DeMille	Cecil B. DeMille	June 2
'Timber Wolves'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Lesley Selander	June 6
'Billy the Kid In Santa Fe'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Sherman Scott	June 2
'Ice-Capades'	Republic	Robert North	Joseph Santley	June 2
'Marry the Boss's Daughter'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	Thornton Freeland	June 3
'Niagara Falls'	UA	Hal Roach	Gordon Douglas	June 6
'Masked Caballero'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ford Beebe	June 2
'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'	Warners	William Jacobs	Eddie Sutherland	June 2
'The Maltese Falcon'	Warners	Henry Blanke	John Huston	June 6

10 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Fugitive Valley'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	June 9
'Phantom Rider'	Monogram	Robert Tangey	Bob Hill	June 9
'Deadly Game'	Monogram	Unassigned	Unassigned	June 12
'Unexpected Uncle'	RKO	Erich Pommer	Tay Garnett	June 14
'Riders of the Purple Sage'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	Unassigned	June 9
'We Go Fast'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	Wm. McGann	June 9
'Man At Large'	20th-Fox	Ralph Dietrich	Eugene Forde	June 9
'How Green Was My Valley'	20th-Fox	Darryl F. Zanuck	John Ford	June 9
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 11
'Hot Nocturne'	Warners	Henry Blanke	Anatole Litvak	June 11

22 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	Preparing
'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Unassigned	Unassigned	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 15
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Ted Tetzlaff	June 16
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	Wm. Pine and Wm. Thomas	Frank McDonald	June 30
'The Remarkable Andrew'	Paramount	Richard Blumenthal	Unassigned	June 30
'Mr. Celebrity'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Unassigned	Preparing
Untitled Feature	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Jed Buell	Unassigned	Preparing
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	Preparing
'Weekend In Havana'	20th-Fox	Wm. LeBaron	Walter Lang	June 16
'Tanks a Million'	UA	Hal Roach	Fred Guiol	June 20
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Jungle Book'	UA	Alexander Korda	Voltan Korda	Preparing
'Mermaid In Distress'	Universal	Vaughn Paul	Unassigned	June 16
'Arizona Cyclone'	Universal	Will Cowan	Unassigned	June 16
'Ride 'Em Cowboy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	June 16
'Heartbeat'	Universal	Bruce Manning	Wm. Seiter	June 19
'Hellzapoppin'	Universal	Jules Levey	Henry C. Potter	June 23
'Kings Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	June 23

a.m. Dailies

Suit Hits Duncan Sisters—

Action was filed in Superior court yesterday by the California Bank to oust Vivian and Rosetta Duncan, actresses, from the premises known as the Writers' Club, allegedly because the Duncan Sisters are behind in their rent.

Ruttenberg's Garbo-er

Joe Ruttenberg has been assigned to photograph the new untitled Greta Garbo starrer at Metro.

Dave Palfreyman In For MPTOA Sesh

Dave Palfreyman, Hays office exhibitor relations contact, arrived from New York yesterday to attend the convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to be held at the Ambassador hotel June 9-12.

Story Buys

Ralph Dietrich has bought for his own production at 20th-Fox 'The Night Before the Divorce', by Ladislas Fodor, and has assigned Jerry Sackheim to script.

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Culver City, Calif

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 32 No. 2 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, June 9, 1941 5 Cents

KUYKENDALL SEEN RE-ELECTED

COSTELLO UP AS BREEN SUCCESSOR

Congressman John M. Costello of the 15th Hollywood District, it is understood, likely will succeed Joe Breen as the Hays office Production Code administrator. Likely that Costello will be appointed this week, as Breen is desirous of obtaining his release in time to attend the RKO convention in New York next Monday, where he would take over his post officially as

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Pasternak Appears Likely As 20th Unit Producer

Joe Pasternak who settled his producer contract at Universal through Johnny Hyde of the William Morris Agency will probably wind up at 20th-Fox as a unit producer. Pasternak, who had around a year to go on his U ticket, had been reported as going to Metro. Understood that latter company will not stand in way of 20th-Fox on a deal. Pasternak leaves Universal in about five weeks on completion of his current Deanna Durbin picture, 'Almost An Angel'. He has been with Universal since 1936 when he started his chores at $300 a week and is understood to have hiked the weekly take to around $3,500 currently.

RKO's $988,191 Loss

New York, June 8.—RKO's consolidated net loss for 1940 is $988,191 after all charges, including taxes and contingent fund of $794,600.

Exhibitor Headquarters

MPTOA
Helen O'Toole, Secretary
in charge
Rooms 114 - 115 - 116

PCCITO
Ida Schreiber, Secretary
in charge
Rooms 170 - 171 - 172

Daily—VARIETY—Weekly
Anything you want to know
Suite 174 - 175

Patience and Tolerance

WELCOME, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. It has been seven years since Hollywood has had the MPTOA in its midst, and the young and important PCCITO holding its second annual conclave has been the means of bringing the important organized theatre owners here.

☆ ☆ ☆

THIS meeting should be the most important in the history of organized exhibs.

It comes at a time when our national economic setup is chaotic. The exhibitors of the country can be most helpful in devising a constructive plan of cooperation with the Distribu-

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

THREE INDIES SET ON EQUITY COUNCIL

New York, June 8.—Three independent candidates were elected to Equity Council in Friday's annual election, the first time in the Association's history that an independent has won against the regular ticket.

Climaxing the hottest fight in many years, Mady Christians, Alan

★ Continued on page 23 ★

Sears In Huddles

Gradwell L. Sears, Warners sales head, arrived from New York Saturday and starts series of sales conferences today with studio executives. Talks will include road show plans for 'Sergeant York' and larger productions now in work.

Blumberg, Joseph Due

Nate Blumberg, Universal president, and John Joseph, director of publicity and advertising, arrive today from New York and Chicago.

OPERATORS SEEK TO RETRIEVE BOXOFFICE

Facing what they regard as one of the most crucial periods in the history of the industry, with film

♣ Continued on page 8 ♣

Henigson to Chicago on Jas. Roosevelt Checkup

Henry Henigson, who was general manager of Globe Productions for James Roosevelt, planed to New York last night, stopping over a day in Chicago. He will get report on Mills Soundies activities while there and communicate it to Capt. James Roosevelt when the latter gets back from his worldwide missing ending up in London. Roosevelt is due in New York either Thursday or Friday by Clipper from Lisbon. Roosevelt, after arrival, will report to Washington on his mission and return to Hollywood middle of next week. Roosevelt left April 17 on his round-the-world hop, following his marriage here a few days previous.

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, June 8.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Intermezzo	Schubert
Things I Love	Campbell
Hut Sut Song	Schumann
My Sister and I	BMI
Maria Elena	Southern
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Lullabye Lane	Warren
Band Played On	P.D.
Amapola	Marks

SLATE WILL GO ALONG WITH HIM

Despite the fact that he has encountered some slight opposition, and one or more names likely will be submitted for his job, outlook last night was that Ed L. Kuykendall, just finishing his seventh term as prexy of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, would be re-elected,

♥ Continued on page 8 ♥

Selznick, Capra Deal With UA Nears Ink

Negotiations for David O. Selznick and Frank Capra to join ranks of United Artists member owners are expected to be concluded this week. At Saturday's session Selznick acting for himself and Capra sent several points back to the current member owners to act upon before proceeding with the contract. Decision on these points will have to be made by Mary Pickford, Charlie Chaplin, Alexander Korda and the Bank of America, acting for the Douglas Fairbanks estate. Korda has been the UA spokesman on the deal. Expected that deal may be consummated by Wednesday before Frank Capra leaves for New York. In event it is not it will have to await his return in about three weeks.

PCC TRUSTEES MAP CAMPAIGN

Trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners met behind closed doors last night and mapped out a vigorous campaign to be prosecuted on behalf of the exhibitor members at the convention meeting starting this morning. Several hours were devoted to

● Continued on page 26 ●

PREVIEWED

TIGHT SHOES
(U)

REVIEWED

TWO-FISTED RANGERS
(Col)

BOSS OF BULLION CITY
(U)

(Preview and Reviews, page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Manie Sacks here to scout talent for Columbia records.

Leon Schlesingers celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary today.

Mladin Zarubica, former UCLA football player, has turned agent, on his own.

Phil Brito, vocalist with Al Donahue's ork, airing four times weekly over NBC.

Al Lichtman has flown to Chicago to be with his sister, Mrs. Beck, who is seriously ill.

Robert Montgomery has completed his role in 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town' at Columbia.

Dennis Morgan will sing at the patriotic gathering at Soldiers Field, Chicago, Sunday (15).

Jack Briggs' player option picked up at RKO. He has been in nine pictures during past six months.

Harry Cottrell, in charge of the still department at Paramount for a number of years, checked off the lot Saturday.

Albert S. Rogell and Harry Rapf were on latter's yacht, cruising for fish off Santa Barbara islands, over weekend.

Jean Hersholt flies to Chicago Thursday for meeting of National American-Denmark Assn., of which he is chairman.

Harold Lloyd has pulled out for Indianapolis to attend the meeting of the Imperial Council of the Shrine of North America.

Oliver Morosco has filed a petition in Superior court asking for legal confirmation of his name, originally Oliver Morosco Mitchell.

Bert Jordan is set to do the film editing on 'Niagara Falls' for Hal Roach, and Paul Stanhope gets the makeup spot on the production.

Because of barbecue previously scheduled by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners for the same night, the Masquers is postponing its testimonial dinner to Jack Benny from (10) to (17).

Memphis Ward, an ardent Jean Harlow fan, on Friday did his annual tribute for the anniversary of her death by putting a bunch of flowers over her footprints in the forecourt of Grauman's Chinese. Memphis, a newsboy, swapped a valued first edition book for the flowers.

Benny the Gouge sez—When you hear a couple of farmers bragging about their crops, the odds are 8 to 5 that they are film actors.

Hollywood Inside

BEEFS of extras over being paid only $11 for their work Friday in the retreat from Dunkirk sequence in 20th-Fox's 'Yank in the R.A.F.' were cooled somewhat when the studio tossed them a quarter-check extra, although many of them were dismissed an hour before overtime would have started. The extras claimed they were required to work on the beach, in water, around guns, trucks, boats, smoke and explosions, and many of them insisted the call should have been paid stunt wages. To add to the confusion, the wardrobe ran out of dry uniforms, and more than 100 of the players were wearing their own civilian clothes when dismissed around 4 p.m. The names of some 124 extras who ran out of dry clothes were taken down by studio officials, but representatives of the Screen Actors Guild present said they did not know why the names were taken. Howard R. Philbrick, Central Casting general manager, his assistant Antrim Short, and Charles Drubin and other SAG representatives were on the set during shooting of the evacuation scene.

☆ ☆ ☆

TEN thousand Texas kids and Walter Wanger are in a tug-of-war as to who shall enjoy the company of 'Penny', the only baby African elephant in this country, for the next three weeks. Wanger wants the big-eared baby pachyderm for his picture, 'Sundown', and had made a deal with the Fort Worth zoo to borrow him, at a handsome rental, for the period the film company is on location at Acoma, New Mexico. But the youngsters really own the elephant through popular subscription, and no sooner did they hear of the proposal to send the animal away during their school vacation period than they set up an awful squawk. The board of park commissioners in Fort Worth rescinded the deal, temporarily, to get their breath, and now Wanger is doing his utmost to have it go through without arousing the further furies of the Texas tykes who had figured on feeding their communal pet a lot of peanuts during the next few months. The elephant is mighty important to the script, also.

☆ ☆ ☆

SAN DIEGO wants to entertain the coast exhibitors at the 1942 convention. A formal engraved invitation, in the form of a parchment has been received from the mayor and other prominent officials of the border city, inviting the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to meet there next year. Invite is signed by Mayor P. J. Benbough, Walter W. Cooper, city manager; Walter Bellon, chairman of the San Diego county board of supervisors, and Joseph C. Dyer, president of the San Diego City and County Convention Bureau. Seal of each of the four officials has been affixed and invitation has been prominently displayed at the exhibitor registration booth. San Francisco, as well as the Pacific Northwest cities, Seattle and Portland, are also angling for the 1942 coast exhibitor meet, with the odds slightly favoring San Francisco.

☆ ☆ ☆

PROTESTS by members of Affiliated Property Craftsmen Local 44 over double-shifting without overtime was ruled out by officers of the organization at a meeting Friday night. The workers were told there is no provision in the Local 44 Constitution or in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes contract negotiated by Willie Bioff that would permit the union demanding overtime for members who work double shifts. Those protesting claim men who work the morning shift at one studio are called in by another studio for an afternoon shift and that the company in that way avoids the payment of overtime. Hundreds of the workers are peeved over the deal set by Bioff, and are certain to demand a new provision ending double-shifting unless overtime is paid.

☆ ☆ ☆

SHEILAH GRAHAM, North American Newspaper Alliance correspondent in Hollywood, will fly to Lisbon and then to England, for a six-week stay, in mid-July. Miss Graham will write feature stories about the war from England for the NANA. After a month and a half she'll return to this country for a lecture tour and to resume her duties in Hollywood. Newspaperwoman is using her regular vacation period to take on the assignment as a war correspondent. She recently returned from New York, where her syndicate managers arranged all details of her trip with British and American State departments. During her absence her duties will be assumed by Harold Heffernan, who also covers here for NANA.

☆ ☆ ☆

SO THAT there may be no lost illusions by radio audiences when they see Fibber McGee and Molly (Jim and Marion Jordan) on the screen, in their film, 'Look Who's Laughing', RKO has deliberately avoided writing anything into their roles above the 'corn' the ether patrons widely have relished and approved. Studio figures for its keynote the Crossley rating which gives the radio program top current rating. Temptation, RKO believed, was to make Fibber and Molly smart and sophisticated above their regular level of air entertainment, reaching some 25,000,000, and that was very carefully sidestepped.

☆ ☆ ☆

SHOOTING on 'The Yearling' will be resumed at Metro in about 10 days under direction of King Vidor, who took over the assignment from Victor Fleming. Cast and crew that had been working in Florida for the past few weeks, plus the animals, are now back at the studio awaiting new go signal. Delay is occasioned by production huddles that will likely result in several cast changes being made and studio is still undecided about the selection of a young player to portray the title role.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In Hollywood the actor leaps from bed at break of day
And hastens to the studio to labor in a play,
And when his daily chores are done, his energy is flat.
The lights are bright in night clubs but he has no time for that.

When strawhat season rolls around he seeks a sylvan scene
And plays in reconstructed barns amid the fields of green,
Amid the sunny meadowlands where summer blooms are gay,
And yet he has no time for them, because he sleeps all day.

★ ★ ★

Many an actor deserts pictures and goes into summer stock for one simple reason—to get a good day's sleep.

★ ★ ★

Don Ameche has played so many Latin-American roles that he feels like a stranger north of the Mexican border.

Ted McMichael, who wrote the Hut Sut ditty, is building a home in the valley and calling it Hut Sut Hut.

Colin Blair, the actor who has been living in a tent outside the Paramount studio, no longer carries on his vigil alone. After three weeks of watchful waiting for a job, the hermit awoke the other morning to discover that he was no longer a hermit. Alongside his tent was a trailer containing Mary Burgess, an actress, also camping out for a job. A new version of 'Boy Meets Girl.'

★ ★ ★

After years of villainy, Humphrey Bogart has joined the forces of law and order. As a detective in 'The Maltese Falcon', he solves murders instead of committing them.

★ ★ ★

The villain in the picture show is hated by the mob
But public hatred fills his soul with many a pleasant throb,
For there is wealth in wickedness—he always has a job.

★ ★ ★

Ann Sheridan does a hula in 'Navy Blues', recalling that old refrain, 'Oh, for the life of a sailor.'

★ ★ ★

Suggested as a double bill:
'When Tomorrow Comes',
'There Is No Tomorrow'.

★ ★ ★

If Bob Hope plays all those pictures lined up for him by Paramount, he practically has a life job.

★ ★ ★

And if Uncle Sam takes over ALL the ammunition, the future Jesse Jameses and Billy the Kids will do their shooting with pop-guns.

★ ★ ★

One thing you'll never see in this or any other place—
A cowboy drama on the screen without a single chase.

★ ★ ★

'Tales of Manhattan' will probably

Continued on page 4

Film Preview and Reviews

Tight Shoes

(*Comedy*)

Universal release of a Mayfair production. Features John Howard, Binnie Barnes, Brod Crawford, Anne Gwynne, Leo Carrillo, Samuel S. Hinds. Supporting cast: Shemp Howard, Richard Lane, Sarah Padden, Ed Gargan, Selmer Jackson, Robert Emmett O'Connor, Tom Dugan. Director, Albert S. Rogell. Original story, Damon Runyon. Screenplay, Leonard Spigelgass and Art Arthur. Photography, Elwood Bredell. Art director, Jack Otterson; associate, Ralph M. DeLacy. Film editor, Otto Ludwig. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Sound supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; technician, Robert Pritchard. Gowns, Vera West. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, June 6. Running time: 67 mins.

'This is a very funny picture.' And probably the closest interpretation of the Damon Runyon humor that has yet been brought to the screen. It doesn't have assured marquee names to rate first billing in the de luxe houses, but will provide the strongest of support, and looks headed for a laugh success in the other situations.

Runyon's tale of how a big city's political setup is turned topsy-turvy when a gangster buys a pair of 'Tight Shoes' is ably adapted to the screen by Scripters Leonard Spigelgass and Art Arthur, and the players, from top to bottom of the list, romp home with a slam-bang 67 minutes of fun and action under the slick direction of Albert S. Rogell. There is a John Doe-ish touch when Mr. Average Man, in the person of Shoe Clerk John Howard, runs amuck against political corruption. The fun starts when Brod Crawford forces Howard to sell him shoes that are too small, on the assumption that his feet couldn't be larger.

Taking it from there everyone plays it broadly and to the hilt. Crawford makes a hunch bet because of the shoes and loses his boss's money and his girl friend, Binnie Barnes. Howard is forced into public office on the crest of a newspaper campaign. Is tricked into deserting his long-time sweetie, Anne Gwynne, for Miss Barnes. Life finally catches up with the principals in a honey of a church wedding sequence where brides and grooms are exchanged merrily in scene after scene of sustained hilarity and slapdown, drag-out slugging between the four leaders.

Howard, Miss Barnes, Crawford and Miss Gwynne are solid successes, each sharing equal honors and each giving much to their individual Runyon characters to assure happy playing time for exhibitors who book the feature. Leo Carrillo, Samuel S. Hinds, Shemp Howard and Richard Lane, who are respectively a bewildered shoe store owner, the brains behind the political corruption, the very funny stooge and the newspaper man who tells the story in retrospect, sock over their chores. Sarah Padden, Ed Gargan, Selmer Jackson, Robert Emmett O'Connor and Tom Dugan, the latter with a swell bookie bit, complete the first rate cast who help generously with the fun.

Albert S. Rogell's direction of this production by the Jules Levey Mayfair unit at Universal is a smart comedy interpretation. Each laugh and every scene is given wisest presentation. The camera work by Elwood Bredell, the film editing by Otto Ludwig, the art direction and every other contribution are important factors.

Two-Fisted Rangers

(*Western With Music*)

Columbia production and release. Stars Charles Starrett. Features Iris Meredith, Sons of the Pioneers. Supporting cast: Bob Nolan, Kenneth MacDonald, Dick Curtis, Hal Taliaferro, Bill Cody, Jr., Pat Brady. Director, Joseph Lewis. Screenplay, Fred Myton. Film editor, Charles Nelson. Photography, George Meehan. Music and lyrics, Bob Nolan and Tim Spencer. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, June 6. Running time: 60 mins.

This is a western distinguished by a surefire instrumental and singing sextette billed as Sons of the Pioneers. Coupled with the conventional quota of brawn and pistol duels, horsemanship, and a stalwart, handsome cowboy Robin Hood in Charles starrett, western fans won't complain of being short-changed by this one.

Starrett is an unusually lithe and active principal and impressive both on and off a horse. In this innocuous narrative he comes to seek revenge for the killing of his brother, sheriff of a lawless community which has fallen into the grip of an unscrupulous gang leader who employs trigger men to carry out holdups and keeps a figurehead sheriff to help him evade the law.

Also involved in this yarn is Iris Meredith, the girl who determines to carry on the fearless editorial policy of her father who was rubbed out for daring to call on the decent citizens of the community to elect a new sheriff and put an end to the reign of terror. Starrett arrives just in time to beat up a couple of villainous characters who have upset the typecases, overtured the forms and the flatbed press, and terrorized the girl and a youngster who has been helping her.

In order to get a line on his brother's murderers Starrett first poses as a crooked gambler horning in on the town's rackets. As such he is accepted by the small town Napoleonic mastermind who directs all criminal activities in the territory.

Kenneth MacDonald, the heavy, keeps his trigger men pretty busy in this sagebrush meller. His head man has a pretty full day holding up a payroll stage, busting up a meeting of townspeople, hunting down the guy on the white horse who has been stirring up all the opposition. Action and suspense are maintained at a pretty swift pace throughout.

Boss of Bullion City

(*Western*)

Universal production and release. Cast: Johnny Mack Brown, Fuzzy Knight, Nell O'Day, Maria Montez, The Guadalajara Trio, Harry Woods, Melvin Lang, Dick Alexander, Earle Hodgins, Karl Hackett, George Humbert. Director, Ray Taylor. Assistant director, Howard Christie. Associate producer, Joseph G. Sanford. Screenplay, Arthur St. Claire and Victor McLeod. Story, Arthur St. Claire. Photography, William Sickner. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, June 6. Running time: 63 mins.

Johnny Mack Brown turns out to be one of the mighty tough western heroes in this one, a fighting man who keeps things moving pretty fast. Not only that, but he also makes eyes at two dames at the same time, which should be okay with the Hays office since it doesn't go any further than a mild flirtation.

Nell O'Day, the split-skirted gal who rides a horse and handles a gun with the best of them, registers as an excellent bet not only for westerns. Under a less prosaic monicker she indicates possibilities in more pretentious assignments.

The yarn, by Arthur St. Claire, deals with the current vogue for crusading frontier town editors who come strolling into western outposts with printing presses strapped on their backs, figuratively speaking, and start panning the crooked politicians, sheriffs, or what have you.

Johnny Mack Brown is the publisher in this instance, backing up his editorial opinions with a powerful wallop. Calling attention to the flock of killings and stage holdups which go unpunished, Brown incurs the enmity of the crooked sheriff who pretends to be the law in Bullion City. Brown also is obliged to turn safecracker for once, looting the Wells Fargo safe in order to prevent the sheriff's men from getting the gold first—a rather dangerous trick that could lead to embarrassing explanations.

Fuzzy Knight comes in for a couple of comedy sequences as Brown's Man Friday. Two out of three times Nell O'Day comes to his rescue. Though the newspaper publishing theme at a time and place where seven-eighths of the natives can't read is rather thin and unconvincing, the implausibility of the story most likely will be overlooked in the continual round of chasing and scrapping melees.

The Guadalajara Trio, Latin guitarists, are a strong musical addition to the production.

Sam Wood Will Direct Par 'Bell Tolls'

Sam Wood has signed with Paramount to direct the Ernest Hemingway novel, 'For Whom the Bell Tolls'. He will check in at Paramount to make preparations as soon as he completes 'Kings Row', not yet in work at Warners.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THIRD ANNUAL NBC-AA golf tournament at Palos Verdes on Saturday, June 7, saw honors go to Bob Kimic, who won the NBC-AA trophy for first place with a low gross of 78, and George Volger who won the Daily Variety trophy for the tournament's worst golfer with a gross of 130. . . . A total of 48 entrants participated, with the first foursome beginning the handicap at 8:30. Fourteen prizes were awarded, six apiece going to the first and second flights, and the blind bogey and Daily Variety awards comprising the total. . . Winners were: (First flight low gross), Bob Kimic in first place with a 78, Dick Eckeles 79, and a tie for third between Bing Crosby and George Hatch who had 80 apiece. In the first flight low net winners were: Bob Brooke 69, John Wald 70, and a tie for third between Sam Hayes and Lew Frost each with a 72. . . . Winners in the second flight were: (Low gross), John Lally first with a 95, Sid Dixon second with a 98 and Bill Andrews third with a 99. Low net winners in the second flight were: Charles Dant first with a 71, Mike Raffetto second with a 73 and Joe Parker third with a 75. Aubrey Ison took the blind bogey, and George Volger won the Daily Variety trophy. . . . Crosby, off form, played the last nine first and finished with a 39, but lost ground on the first nine and came through with a total of 80 for the 18. Hatch, last year's winner, tied with Crosby, also finishing with an 80. George Hatch and Dave Lasley were in charge of tournament arrangements, Sam Hayes, Bob Brooke and Stanley Radom were the committee for prizes, and Frank Dellett and George Hatch scheduled the handicaps.

Robert Brown, son of George Brown and student at the University of New Mexico, has received the Marcella Reidy Mulcahy Memorial prize for poetry—Youth is majoring in anthropology.

UNIVETS, Universal studio veterans organization, is sponsoring a $1.10 premiere of 'In the Navy' at the Pantages theatre Thursday night, proceeds going to charity. Show opens regular day-date run with the RKO-Hillstreet Friday. . . . Harry Sherman was persuaded to abandon intended title for a forthcoming Hopalong Cassidy, 'Bar-20 Strikes', because someone might think the monicker referred to strikes and thus remotely conflict with national defense. So, the title will be 'Stick to Your Guns.'

Joan Carroll, moppet from 'Panama Hattie', staging reunion with Phyllis Brooks, who preceded youngster from same play to RKO, at the press luncheon Friday.

CONNIE RUSSELL
"Lady Be Good"

Under contract
M-G-M

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Bob Hope Receives His New Contract At Paramount

Bob Hope has been handed the expected new term contract at Paramount. Now vacationing, after 'Nothing But the Truth', comic's next assignment is 'Louisiana Purchase', set for July 7 start, and will follow that in late August with 'The Murder Farm.' Other picture presently scheduled for Hope are 'Road to Morocco' with Bing Crosby, 'We Want a Girl Friend', with Jack Benny, and 'Her Perfect Mate', with Madeleine Carroll.

Plaque Unveiled

They turned back the clock to 1884 at First and Main streets yesterday and relived all the gaslit glamour of the grand opening of Childs Grand Opera House. Yesterday such old-timers as L. E. Behymer, today's famed impresario, who hawked opera glasses then; Hobart Bosworth, who trod the boards of the Grand during its first year of operation; and others gathered to mark the site as a landmark.

Inescort In 'Rich'

Frieda Inescort will have the role of Robert Benchley's wife in Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich.'

Coast League Baseball Results

Sunday Double-Headers

Hollywood, 5-0; San Francisco, 4-1.
Los Angeles, 13-4; Oakland, 10-0.
Sacramento, 5-4; Seattle, 4-1.
San Diego, 3; Portland, 2, (17 innings). Second game incomplete.

Saturday Scores

Hollywood, 7; San Francisco, 4.
Oakland, 5; Los Angeles, 0.
San Diego, 6; Portland, 3.
Sacramento, 8; Seattle, 2.

Friday Games

Hollywood, 8; San Francisco, 1.
Los Angeles, 7; Oakland, 3.
Seattle, 4; Sacramento, 3.
San Diego, 6; Portland, 0.

Retakes

Continued from page 2

be changed to 'Tails of Manhattan.' It's about a dress suit.

If there is any more scrapping on the Goldwyn lot, 'The Little Foxes' will be re-titled 'The Little Wildcats.'

With consent decrees and what-not, the motion picture situation is as easy to understand as the lingo of a tobacco auctioneer.

* * *

The Andrews Sisters may be great little harmonizers, but not with Universal.

* * *

When movie players bill and coo, you doubt its authenticity— So much romance in Hollywood is studio publicity.

Patience and Tolerance

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

tors and Producers for working under the governmental consent decree which becomes effective shortly.

It is to be hoped that the consent decree will be properly interpreted in the relationship between the producers, distributors and exhibitors.

The decree was asked for by the industry and the Government wants it carried out properly.

It will need patience and tolerance until it may be working smoothly.

Then it is hoped the benefits that were not previously derived from company selling plans will come to the exhibitors.

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BESIDES this, you will no doubt discuss the business conditions which for a long time have been bad in theatres but are improving now. You will take up the matter of Government interest in production and distribution.

Of course, the matter of dual bills may come up for discussion. Probably there will be no remedy for this co-called evil outside of the attitude of the public who support or do not support, what they like or do not like.

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YOU will no doubt discuss the Ascap seat tax. Road showing of pictures will be taken up too. You probably will find this process of selling has value, and also handicaps, especially when release dates of important and entertaining pictures are set back for long periods.

Quality of pictures will be another vital topic with you. That is something which is the life of the box office. Undoubtedly what pictures cost to make is of no concern to you, providing they are successful for you. You are not interested in studio overhead, talent costs, etc. So far as you are concerned, if pictures merit the expenditure, no doubt you will want to encourage.

You, as we, have no fault to find with what the producers make as long as it is profitable to you and them and gets the approbation of the picture theatre goers.

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THE industry has had its costly productions that have meant dollars at the box office. Outstanding example is 'Gone With the Wind,' the biggest grosser in the history of films. It is hoped for the sake and future success of the industry that more pictures of this meritorious calibre will be made.

Producers should get closer to you than they have been. There's nothing against either of you giving the other a 50-50 shake. If the producers turn out excellent pictures they should be liberally reimbursed for their exhibition. Should they be bad, that's their fault, not yours. Under the consent decree you have the right to exercise your own judgment. The duds you will not want. The good ones you will.

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IT'S our hope that tolerance will prevail between all factors in the industry during the first season of the consent decree, and if the decree has merits and value to the industry it may be a means of reviving and stimulating interest in theatre going and all concerned should have a healthy and prosperous business year.

And if it proves so the industry will realize that Exhibitor conventions are not held for the purpose of elements tearing others down but to cooperate and build a bigger and better industry.

—A. U.

Kaye Ends Chore

Louis Kaye has completed writing assignment at Paramount, handling added comedy sequences for 'Nothing But the Truth'. Latter is 11th picture Kaye has worked on for Bob Hope.

Seltzer Quits Hays Spot

Frank Seltzer, who has been working in the Producers Association publicity offices since leaving Hal Roach several months ago, is leaving the post. Seltzer came in temporarily to organize the setup and get it working.

Castle Refuses Stand For Re-election In Carpenters Local

William Castle after serving for three consecutive terms as business representative of Studio Carpenters Local 946 has declined to stand for re-election. J. N. (Jim) Skelton, H. E. Loudon and D. E. Russell have been nominated for the office. Castle is throwing his support to Skelton, who is currently president of the union.

Henry (Hank) Lofquist, of 20th-Fox, is the only nominee for president, and Charles A. Sproul, of Metro, is lone nominee for vice-prexy. J. W. (Jack) Vance, of Metro, and Benton Stone, of Universal, are opposing candidates for recording secretary. Walter E. Sparks, who is seeking re-election as financial secretary, is opposed by Dan R. Jones.

James F. Connoley, R. F. Buchanan and Walter Brestel will fight it out for treasurer. Robert Buchanan and Ben Price are nominees for trustee. The election will be held Wednesday and Thursday (11-12).

Props, Animals Leave For 'Sundown' Locale

Two carloads of props and two of animals leave for Acoma, New Mexico, where filming on 'Sundown', to be released by Walter Wanger through United Artists, will take place under the direction of Henry Hathaway. Director, a production staff of 30 technicians, six principals and 48 Negroes also leave today. A tent city to house 200 already has been completed by crew that left for location recently. Troupe will spend three weeks at spot before returning to the studio.

Dawn Cuds 'Night'

Isabel Dawn has turned in completed script on 'Lady for a Night' which Albert J. Cohen will produce at Republic.

In from the East

Neil Agnew
Nate Blumberg
John Joseph
Nathan Golden (AA)
Les Peterson (AA)
Danny Danker (AA)
Gradwell L. Sears
Spyros Skouras
Sammy Baugh
William Scully
Bill Heineman
Brian Marlow
Zorina

Heading East

Bud Abbott
Lou Costello
Bob Reynolds (TWA)
Stanley Kahn (TWA)
Al Hall (TWA)
John McGowan (TWA)
Harry Cohn (TWA)
John P. Marcon (TWA)
Harold Lloyd (UP)
J. P. Marquand
Willie Bioff
Henry Henigson (AA)

DAILY VARIETY CAMERAMAN CATCHES DELEGATES

Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA prexy and J. R. Denniston of Monroe, Mich., being officially greeted by Mrs. Jenne Dodge, heading the local reception committee.

Some Exhibs were so anxious to register they almost stumbled over each other. Left to right, Mrs. Jesse E. Jones, Jesse Jones and daughter Marguerite of Portland Ore., and Rotus Harvey of San Francisco.

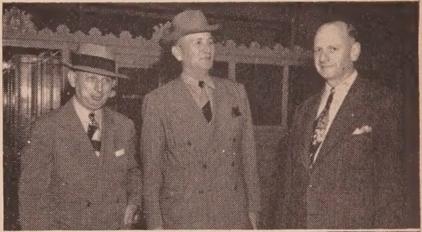
Registration M.P.T.O.A. PCCITO JOINT CON

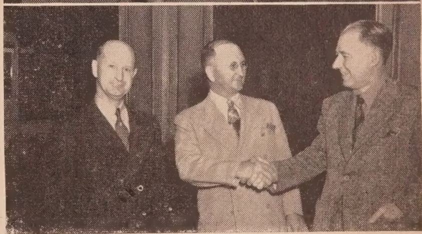
Here's a trio of San Franciscans, happy to be in LA. They are Leslie J. Jacobs, Mrs. Ben 'Toots' Levin and Ben C. Levin, latter a PCCITO trustee.

Nathan D. Golden of the U.S. Department of Commerce Motion Picture Bureau, here to address the MPTOA gathering tomorrow, talks things over with Hugh Braly, Pacific coast district manager for Paramount.

Morris Lowenstein, secretary for MPTOA, here from Oklahoma City and A. E. Lichtman, circuit exhib of Washington, D. C. talk over old times.

This octet of femmes were among the early arrivals. (L to R) they include Mrs. A. E. Lichtman, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Ed Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss.; Mrs. Thomas E. Orr, Albertville, Ala.; Carol Orr; Mary Kiper, Hazel McCoy, both of Tulsa, Okla.; Mrs. Andrew Tuckett, Columbus, Miss.; Mrs. R. J. Goodman, Starksville, Miss.





Lewis Rosenbaum, gen. mgr. of the Muscle Shoals Theatres, at Florence, Ala., and Thomas E. Orr, of Amusement Enterprises, Inc., Albertville, Ala., are greeted by Hugh Bruen of Whittier, PCC trustee.

C. A. Ferry, who keeps an eagle eye on the cash box at registration headquarters; Oscar Lam, veteran Rome, Ga., exhib, and Bob Poole, executive secretary of the PCCITO indulge in some chatter.

W. A. Cochrane, operator of the Brock theatre at Snoqualmie, Wash., and Florence and William Bedgescoff, hailing from Seattle, form a contented lobby trio.

A Pacific Coast contingent that doesn't mind depressed grosses. (L to R) they are Gerald Harvey of Fresno, Cal.; Mrs. Homer Tegtmeier, Salinas, Cal.; Mrs. Sue Perunke, Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. Bob White, Portland, Ore., and Homer Tegtmeier.

It's always fair weather, etc., when Ed Kuykendall, Fred Meyer, former secretary of the association who has since retired to Hollywood, and M. A. Lightman, head of the Malco Theatres of Memphis, get together.

20th-Fox Summer Production Keel Around 9 Pix

Three pictures go before the cameras at 20th-Fox today, and one tomorrow, bringing total number of features in work to nine, a figure that will be held up through the summer months. 'How Green Was My Valley', with a 72-day schedule, rolls today under the direction of John Ford. Walter Pidgeon and Maureen O'Hara head the cast and Arthur Miller has the camera assignment.

William McGann puts 'We Go Fast', with Lynn Bari and Alan Curtis, into work, and Eugene Forde launches 'Man at Large', with Marjorie Weaver and George Reeves as cast toppers. Harry Jackson is first cameraman on 'We Go Fast' and Virgil Miller does similar job on 'Man'. Tomorrow 'Riders of the Purple Sage', with George Montgomery and Mary Howard starts shooting under the direction of James Tinling. Lucien Andriot is first cameraman.

Tentative starting dates for the summer months include 'Week-End in Havana', (16); 'Cadet Girl', July 7; 'Small Town Deb', July 7; 'Lone Star Ranger', July 14; 'Hearses Don't Hurry', July 14; 'Remember the Day', July 26; and 'Detour to Love', July 26.

Sues Paul Lukas

New York, June 8.—Suit by Benjamin Blumenthal in Supreme court here against Paul Lukas (named Pal Lukacs in the complaint), asks that the actor pay him 246,691,200 kronen. Blumenthal is assignee of the Theatrical Industry Co., Ltd., of Hungary. Action, based on 60,000 kronen to the dollar, asks $3,922. Money, according to the complaint, is due for loans to the actor in 1934 and 1935.

Abbott, Costello P.A.

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello planed out via TWA yesterday for New York to do a personal appearance at the premiere of 'In the Navy'. Comedians are due back Friday.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(20th-Fox)

'How Green Was My Valley'
Dir.: John Ford
Assts.: Gene Bryant, Edward O'Fearna

'We Go Fast'
Dir.: William McGann
Asst.: William Eckhart

'Man At Large'
Dir.: Eugene Forde
Asst.: Sam Schneider

(Monogram)

'Fugitive Valley'
Dir.: S. Roy Luby
Asst.: Bobby Ray

(Warners)

'The Maltese Falcon'
Dir.: John Huston
Asst.: Jack Sullivan

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(Republic)

'Hurricane Smith'
Dir.: Bernard Vorhaus
Asst.: Phil Ford

(Universal)

'Mob Town'
Dir.: William Nigh
Asst.: Howard Christie

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

Following tabulation of network popular music performances is confined to WOR, New York outlet for Mutual Broadcasting System. Compilation herewith covers the week beginning May 30 through June 6 (Fri.) from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., and is based on data provided by accurate reporting service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry:

Title	Publisher	Total
I Understand	Feist	13
Tale of Two Cities	Harms	11
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	11
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro-Bernstein	9
Love Me a Little Little	Mayfair	8
Dolores	Paramount	7
Hut Sut Song	Schumann	7
Chapel In the Valley	Witmark	7
Intermezzo	Schubert	6
You're Dangerous	Santly	6
Maria Elena	Southern	6
Sing a Love Song	Musicana	6
Aurora	Robbins	5
Do I Worry?	Melody Lane	5
Harbor of Dreams	Miller	5
Music Makers	Paramount	5
When Sun Comes Out	BVC	5

DOC BAKER, TWO OTHERS TIED IN HANDICAPPING

Doc Baker, the equine sage of Daily Variety, is tied out front with two other handicappers in the dailies' pickin' bee at Inglewood. On same footing with the Doctor are Hernandez of the Examiner and Hebert of the News. The old Doctor is carrying a briefcase with him this year, and it is believed by many of his admirers that he has the data right at hand for looking up the family tree of all the hosses as far back as the days of the racing mongoose before he makes his selection official. This the equine savant refused to confirm or deny, merely stating from the right side of his kisser he was pickin' em with both hands this year. Acknowledging fecilitations before a small coterie of Vine Streeters last night in the Eagle Buffet, Flash Baker, as he is sometimes called, holding a mug of brew and a ham-on-rye, paused with half-raised arms to point out how he never set an early pace alone at a meet, but assured he'd have all the boys settling up with Uncle Joe before he reached the turn for home.

With exception of Otis of The Times, and Collyer, whose wares are printed in the Examiner, the balance of the pack is stationed more or less in line just back of the spread-eagling three. Martha arched a few brows when she speared Agnes S. one day, it paying off better than 25 to 1. Doc Baker had it, too; however, it was tabbed as a flyer.

At the quarter pole:

Handicapper—Paper	TS	R	W	Pct.
Doc Baker, Variety	105	28	77	.267
Hebert, News	105	28	77	.267
Hernandez, Exam.	105	28	77	.267
Bernard, Examiner	105	26	79	.248
Lowry, LA Times	105	26	79	.248
Martha, LA Times	105	26	79	.248
Prospectus, Her-Exp.	105	25	80	.238
Mitchell, Her.-Exp.	105	25	80	.238
Collyer, Examiner	105	19	86	.180
Otis, LA Times	105	18	87	.171

MG Seeks Carolyn Lee

Metro is trying to borrow Carolyn Lee for the moppet role in 'Panama Hattie'. Joan Carroll, who was to have had the part, is tied by other commitments. Paramount starlet has just finished in 'Birth of the Blues' and is scheduled to check out for her home in the east for a vacation next week.

COSTELLO UP AS BREEN SUCCESSOR

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

the company studio operations head here.

Breen flew to Chicago on Saturday to confer with Will Hays, who is ill there in a hospital, in an endeavor to get his release.

Though efforts were made by producers to get him to continue in his current job, Breen, it is said, told Hays that he wants to get out as expediently as possible, but, however, would aid in breaking in his successor were he chosen quickly. The financial reimbursement and scope of his job at RKO, Breen feels, should not be overlooked, and therefore the sooner he can get his release the happier he would feel.

Costello, it is said, has the backing of the Legion of Decency and the Catholic church and is well thought of by the film contingent here. Though he would be new to the type of work in films it is figured that with the aid of Geoffrey Shurlock, current aid to Breen, he would get into the swing of the office procedure in quick time.

Judith Allen Tome

Judith Allen has written 'My Eyes Still Shine', book to be published this fall by the House of Field. Publishing concern has established a department for the publishing of books by legit and film people under the imprint of Cinema-Literary Alliance.

Regan, Decca Pact

Phil Regan has signed new contract with Decca to do 40 recordings during the next two years. Singer completed last 10 records on his old pact during the past two weeks while in New York.

Veidt Gets Termer

Metro has signed Conrad Veidt to a new term contract.

Two Gosch, Harris Shows Up For Sponsorship

Two radio shows from the portfolio of Martin Gosch and Howard Harris are up for fall sponsorship. Both Chrysler and Palmolive have shown interest following the audition of 'Mr. and Mrs. North', and Raleigh cigarets may underwrite 'The Amazing Mr. Smith'. Latter is now under sponsorship of American Can Co., but will be dropped due to inability of outfit to acquire enough metal on account of priority defense orders.

Chrysler is understood to be replacing Major Bowes, also a war move. Impresario of the amateurs is costing the automaker around $38,000 a week in salary and network time and reduced output of chariots is said to have prompted a less expensive radio layout.

Gosch would produce either or both shows if their originations do not conflict. Plan is to use film names in 'North', which would pitch the program here. Gosch and Harris are at Paramount screenplaying 'Hula Honeymoon', which they sold to the studio.

Spyros Skouras Here For Product Sesh

Spyros Skouras, head of National Theatres Corp., planed here over the weekend for confabs with his brother, Charles P. Skouras, prexy of Fox West Coast Theatres. Skouras flew to the Coast primarily to sit in on the annual buy of Universal product for 1941-42, deal for which is expected to get under way early this week. He will remain over here four or five days.

Seek Contract Okehs

Warners last week filed petitions in Superior court for approval of two contracts of minors, Diana Jeanne Schultz and Gloria Mildred Weiman.

Planted

20th-Fox

Crauford Kent, Richard Davis, Russell Burroughs, James Craven, Edward Fisher, Victor Kendall, Martin Lamont, Gavin Muir, John Good, Leslie Denison, G. P. Huntley, Dennis Hoey, Gordon Wallace, Evan Thomas, 'A Yank In the R.A.F.'

Eula Guy, Charles Arnt, Frank McGlynn, George Meeker, Milton Kibbee, Grace Hayle, Minerva Urecal, Ray Walker, Marshall Ruth, 'Marry the Boss's Daughter'.

Michael Morris, George Watts, 'Wild Geese Calling'.

Metro

Fay McKenzie, Catherine Lewis, Ann Doran, Chester Clute, 'Dr. Kildare'.

Frank Mills, Franco Corsaro, Robert Kellard, Buster Slaven, William Felter, 'Young Americans'.

Eddie Chandler, Mickey Martin, 'Ringside Maisie'.

Henry Roquemore, Louis Mason, Robert Homans, 'Honky-Tonk'.

Universal

John Harmon, Bob Wilbur, Evelyn Selbie, 'Raiders of the Desert'.

Rico De Montez, 'The Masked Caballero'.

Warners

Ben Weldon, 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'.

Billy Newell, 'Navy Blues'.

Paramount Reaches Story Reserve Of 53 Properties

Paramount has reached a story reserve of 53 properties, including stage plays, novels, published short stories and original screen plays, from which to pick its 1941-42 product. In addition studio has 14 new season pictures ready for release now, plus 12 scripts completed and ready for the cameras and another 26 from the total of 53 well underway in the writing division. Every writer office on the lot is occupied, what with 45 scripters busy on yarns and new story purchases being added to the list every week. So far studio has made definite star, producer and director assignments on about two-thirds of its 1941-42 group of stories.

Several of the more important vehicles are still awaiting writer assignments, but these are expected to be completed this week. Awaiting writers are 'For Whom the Bell Tolls', 'Tex Guinan', and 'The Forest Rangers.'

Joel Bezahler Reports Population Shifts

Joel Bezahler, assistant to the Metro western division sales manager, E. M. Saunders, who planed in from Salt Lake City to attend the convention, reports that population shifts through the middle and far west territories due to the drift to metropolitan areas for war industry employment, has reached astonishing proportions. In some sections of the country as much as 12% of the population has moved from rural to city districts. While this sudden shift in population has affected picture exhibition and distribution locally it has not made any appreciable dent in the potential picture house draw generally excepting for the comparatively short adjustment period while families are getting settled in new surroundings.

Zorina Will Do Stage Role In 'Purchase'

Zorina will play in Paramount's screen version of 'Louisiana Purchase' the same role she had in the B. G. DeSylva stage musical. She planed here over the weekend to make color tests for the part, and will report next month to prepare for the picture. Dona Drake is said by DeSylva to be the most favored candidate for the part played on the stage by Carol Bruce. She is the former band leader whom Paramount signed for role in 'Aloma of the South Seas.' Her professional name originally was Rita Rio.

Castings For 'Sage'

Lynne Roberts gets a feature assignment in 'Riders of the Purple Sage' at 20th-Fox. Other cast additions include Robert Barrat, Kane Richmond, Richard Lane, Ethan Laidlaw, LeRoy Mason and William Pagan.

a.m. Dailies

Johnson, Carter Wed—
Marjorie Johnson, daughter of Nunnally Johnson, and Ken Carter, of the Universal publicity department, were married yesterday at Las Vegas.

TODAY'S EXHIBITOR PROGRAM

Pre-Sessions

9:00 a.m.—Registration in Main Lobby
10:00 a.m.—Exhibits in Fiesta Room

PCCITO Convention

10:00 a.m.—Official greeting, Robert H. (Bob) Poole, General Chairman
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Welcome Address........Mary Pickford
10:15 a.m.—'Why We Oppose Double Bills'........L. O. Lukan
10:45 a.m.—Report on Ascap and Consent Decree........Albert J. Law
11:30 a.m.—Report on Conference Activities
11:55 a.m.—Announcements
12 Noon—Adjournment

Exhibitors and Ladies
(Inc. Registered Guests)

1:30 p.m—Special chartered busses leave the Hotel for tour of the Studios

WARNERS NEARS ALL-TIME PROD. PEAK WITH 13 PIX

Warners expects to hit an all-time production peak for the summer months, according to announcement by Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production, of plans for the company's schedule during the next few months. As now set up, studio contemplates having 13 pictures before the cameras simultaneously by the end of June, which will push total of employes above the 6,000 mark, highest figure ever reached by the company.

Helping to swell record on the lot is the number of national defense pictures to be filmed, included in the preparedness short subjects covering the various branches of the service. Heavy summer program is a continuation of the production pace which has been going on at the valley lot for several months, during which employment figures passed the 5,000 mark, largest in Warners history.

Lot now has 19 stars, 64 featured players, 54 contract writers, 14 contract directors and 15 associate producers, and expects production spurt will require the working of three-shift days for the various crafts and technical employes.

With five pictures, 'Navy Blues', 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough', 'Law of the Tropics', 'The Smiling Ghost' and 'The Maltese Falcon', now shooting, an additional eight pictures will be put into work during the next three weeks, including 'They Died With Their Boots On', 'Kings Row', 'One Foot In Heaven', 'Hot Nocturne', 'Shadows of Their Wings', 'Background to Danger', 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' and 'All Through the Night'.

Shorts to start are 'Battle Wagons of the Sea', 'Parachute Shock Troops', 'Coast Guard Patrol' and 'In the Army Now'.

Kuykendall First

Ed Kuykendall, prexy of the MPTOA, was the first exhibitor to register at convention headquarters yesterday. Kuykendall, who is accompanied on the trip by his wife and son, arrived in town late last weekend. His theatres are at Columbus, Miss., but he spends much of his time at MPTOA headquarters in New York and traveling around the country.

'DINNER' INVOLVED IN NY SUIT

New York, June 8.—'The Man Who Came to Dinner' was involved here Friday in a Federal court suit by Vincent McConnor, writer, against George S. Kaufman, Moss Hart, Sam H. Harris, James Monks, Random House, Inc., and Warner Bros., Inc. Action asks an injunction, accounting of profits and damages against all defendants but the film company for alleged plagiarism of McConnor's play, 'The Murder Man.'

Warner Bros. are named as defendants because they purchased screen rights to the play and the legal action taken here asks an accounting against them if the picture is made and released.

McConnor claims he and Monks wrote the play in 1935 and submitted it to Kaufman in 1936. Kaufman and Hart are accused of plagiarism, Harris of having produced the play, and Random House of publishing a book based on the play.

Lloyd to Tahoe

Frank Lloyd and troupe of his Universal production, 'This Girl Is Mine', left Saturday for a week of exteriors at Lake Tahoe. Company of 110 will headquarter at Brackaway's at the north end of the lake.

Spot Gladys Cooper

Gladys Cooper, English actress, joins the featured players in 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' at 20th-Fox.

Jerry Brandt In (15)

Jerry Brandt, head of Pyramid Pictures, producing the 'Scattergood Baines' series for RKO, is expected back around the (15) to start preparations on the third of the group starring Guy Kibbee. Brandt is now in Chicago on a tour of key cities.

Write RKO's 'Widows'

Adele Rogers St. John and Charles Belden stay at RKO to write the screen play of their 'Modern Merry Widows' after doing the treatment.

Studio Tour Begins At 1:30 p.m. For Exhib-seers

Exhibitors, their wives, and others here attending the joint PCCITO and MPTOA convention will be guests of a studio tour beginning at 1:30 p.m. this afternoon to get a new, first-hand view of production and players. Studios will be divided into three groups for the tour so that all conventioneers can be accommodated. Further entertainment programs for the week have been set up by the studios arrangements committee chairmaned by Fred Meyer, to give the visitors a generous view of Hollywood and its activities.

In Hollywood itself, visitors will tour Columbia, RKO, Samuel Goldwyn and Paramount studios. In the San Fernando Valley, conventioneers will be shown Republic, Universal and Warners, while the Culver City and Westwood visits will be covered at 20th-Fox, Hal Roach and Metro.

Later activities lined up by Meyer and his committee will include the special general film industry party tomorrow night to the convening exhibitors, their wives and guests. Labeled 'An Old California Barbecue', event will be hosted by Harry Cohn, acting for the picture business, at the Columbia studio ranch in the valley, beginning at 7 p.m. The top production executives and film personalities will be on hand to entertain the visitors, with studios furnishing a special show.

Wives of the exhibitors will have their special party Wednesday afternoon in the Cocoanut Grove with studio entertainment.

Thursday night will be the 'Aloha Banquet', the Exhibitors having taken over the Earl Carroll theatre-restaurant for the affair. The Carroll floor show, plus studio names, will entertain the visitors.

Arbiter Cameron Decish Expected Today

Herbert Cameron, arbitrator for tha American Arbitration Association, adjudicating the complaint brought by O. W. Lewis of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, against various distributors and circuits, is scheduled to hand down a decision today on whether the AAA lacks jurisdiction in the dispute. If Cameron denies the motion to dismiss on jurisdictional grounds then counsel for the distributors and United Fox West Coast and Alhambra Amusement Co. will be required to prepare their rebuttal for tomorrow instead of Wednesday (11) as originally scheduled.

Writers For Holters

RKO has set writers to do the next two Tim Holt westerns on his 1941-42 schedule. Morton Grant will adapt 'Homesteads of Hate' from the Lee Bond original and Norton S. Parker will screenplay his original story, 'Come On, Danger.'

Virginia Dale Bally

Paramount is sending Virginia Dale, one of the principals in 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', to New York (15) to participate in the campaign to be staged there for picture's test pre-release run in that territory.

Kuykendall Re-election Reported; Slate To Go with Him

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

along with virtually the entire slate of national officers.

Nominations will be made at a meeting of the association's executive committee at the Ambassador hotel this afternoon, and tonight the board of trustees, in annual session, is expected to ratify the selections made.

Entire executive committee, with the exception of Major L. E. Thompson of New York is on hand for the MPTOA powwow. Body comprises in addition Morris Loewenstein, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Arthur H. Lockwood, Boston; H. V. (Rotus) Harvey, San Francisco; Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA prexy; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis; Lewen Pizor, Philadelphia, and Oscar C. Lam, Rome, Ga.

Vice-presidents likely to be reelected today without opposition are Frank C. Walker, presently postmaster general; M. A. Lightman, Memphis; E. C. Beatty, Detroit, and A. Julian Brylawski, Washington, D. C. Morris Loewenstein of Oklahoma City is a cinch to be renamed secretary, and Walter Vincent will undoubtedly again be saddled with the treasurership duties. Wehrenberg is chairman of the executive board, a position he will probably again be named to, and George P. Aarons of Philadelphia is expected to succeed himself as associate general counsel.

First business session of the MPTOA is scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, with other meetings to be held Wednesday and Thursday afternoons throughout the week. Speakers at tomorrow's session will include Nathan D. Golden, head of the motion picture bureau of the department of commerce; Dave Palfreyman, exhibitor contact for the Hays office; Austin C. Keough, general counsel for Paramount, and others.

At the closing session on Thursday reports of special convention committees will be submitted.

Joint social activities will be participated in by the MPTOA and the PCCITO delegates and guests, with all business transacted in time for the annual banquet at Earl Carroll's on Thursday night.

Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles will welcome the MPTOA delegates to this city with a response by Mitchell Wolfson, association vice prexy, who is here from Miami, Fla.

Reports to be submitted will include those of Rotus Harvey, general convention chairman; Prexy Kuykendall's account of his stewardship during the past year, and the annual report of the secretary, Morris Loewenstein.

Reports and forum discussion from MPTOA regional associations will be by Charles H. Arrington, Rocky Mount, N. C.; R. R. Biechele, Kansas City, Mo.; Max A. Cohen, New York City; E. M. Fay, Providence, R. I.; Rotus Harvey, San Francisco; A. C. Hayman, Buffalo; J. M. Hone, Seattle; Oscar C. Lam, Rome Ga.; Arthur H. Lockwood, Boston; Morris Loewenstein, Oklahoma City, Okla; Sidney B. Lust, Washington, D. C.; Lewen Pizon, Philadelphia; James C. Shanklin, Ronceverte, W. Va.; Roy L. Walker, Lampasas, Tex.; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, and R. X. Williams, Jr., Oxford, Miss.

COL SKEDS 48 FEATURES, 16 WESTERNS FOR 1941-42

Chicago, June 8.—Chicago wound up its national sales convention here today with the announcement that the company would produce 48 features, 16 westerns, four serials and 140 short subjects on its 1941-42 program. Convention, held at the Drake hotel yesterday and today, also was featured by the screening of approximately 40,000 feet of rough-cut film from six of the top budget pictures now in work at the Hollywood studio, 'Our Wife', 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town', 'You'll Never Get Rich', 'Woman of Desire', 'Texas' and 'Ladies In Retirement'.

For its new season program Columbia will continue to stress features on the lighter side and will give a play to music in many of them. Features will lean to the sophisticated and romantic rather than straight screwball farces, plus a large number of big-budgeted dramas. Lineup of stars and featured players who will appear in 1941-42 product shows the results of company's recent concentration on building a list of contract names and those set on straight picture deals. Further augmented is the lineup of producer-directors and directors to handle the making of the pictures, and story and play properties.

THEATRE OPERATORS SEEK TO RETRIEVE BOXOFFICE

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

grosses dropping daily to almost unparalleled depths, and with the government consent decree found to be working new burdens, exhibitors from all parts, most of them independents, have converged on Los Angeles in a desperate attempt to work out some solution. Exhibs are here to attend the annual conventions of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, meeting in simultaneous session for the first time at the Ambassador hotel.

Theatre heads are thoroughly awakened to the necessity for drastic action on their part in an effort to retrieve some of the box office business which over a period of months has more and more been weaned away. In consequence they are prepared to go before their respective association conventions and demand that ways and means be worked out that will restore, at least in part, the grosses they are now being denied.

Never in their experience as motion picture theatre operators have so many difficult problems confronted the average exhibitor as is apparent to even the most optimistic at this time. The exhibs have surged on Los Angeles with one objective uppermost in their minds, the working out of ways and means by which they hope to gain some relief. Whether or not this year's conventions will accomplish any concrete results is a matter of conjecture. However, most exhibs are satisfied that the way at least will be paved for them to better enjoy the fruits of their labors.

Considered the most grievous of the problems confronting the exhibitor today is the rapidly declining grosses at the nation's box offices, a low point in intakes over all time having been reached in many cases. Steps to bring an end to this condition will undoubtedly be taken. Exhibs are expected to advance many proposals that they hope will be a solution, but what concrete details will be worked out no one professes to be in a position to say.

Another problem that has independent exhibitors frankly worried is the recent consent decree set up up by the government with a majority of the major distributors whereby the entire system of film selling is to be radically changed at the start of the new 1941-42 season.

Interference of the government was brought about mainly because of indie exhibitor wails that distribution, and circuit exhibition as carried out over a period of years was rapidly forcing many of them to the wall. Criminal proceedings brought against the majors were dropped after long negotiations and a new consent decree set up under the terms of which it was hoped the unaffiliated theatre would reap an immeasurable benefit. But things did not turn out as most indies had figured. The setting up by the government of the five-in-a-package selling policy is now regarded by most theatre operators as a hardship instead of the promised relief and other features of the decree, now that it has been promulgated, fail to meet with the general approval of exhibs.

> F. W. Graham, who operates at Shelton, Wash., couldn't be bothered traveling by train to the exhibitor convention so flew his own plane here from Tacoma. He made the trip in seven hours and 20 minutes, something of a record for non-professional flying, and arrived here in plenty of time for the registration yesterday.

These are but a handful of the vital problems affecting the present day exhibitor and relief from which is hoped for at the hands of the two exhibitor associations that convene today. It is the second consecutive year that the PCCITO has met here, and the first time that the MPTOA has converged in Hollywood since the trying days of 1934.

This year a radical departure is being followed for the joint or simultaneous exhibitor conventions. PCCITO, embracing the far-western states, is acting as host and confining its business sessions to morning meetings, the first of which is scheduled for today at 10 o'clock. Similar meetings will be held each subsequent morning through Thursday. MPTOA, on the other hand, will hold its business sessions Tuesday through Thursday in the afternoons, with the evenings given over to various social activities in which the members of each association will participate.

This morning's PCC meeting, which formally opens the joint exhibitor convention, will feature an industry greeting delivered by Mary Pickford, who will repeat her welcome for the MPTOA group when the national body meets for its initial business session tomorrow afternoon.

Following this morning's meeting, at which the various PCC trustees and standing committees will make reports of the past year's activities, bulk of the conventioneers will make a tour of the various studios, the first of a series of social events that have been set up. A barbecue will be staged at the Columbia ranch tomorrow night, there will be a personality parade and fashion show, conducted by Miss Pickford and other cinema names on Wednesday, and the final banquet and dinner dance, bringing the convention to a close, will be staged Thursday night at the Earl Carroll restaurant in Hollywood.

First House To Plan Program With Defense Pix

New York, June 8. — The first picture house in the country to make up its program largely of national defense films is the World, here, which begins this policy June 23. Theatre, formerly devoted to French language pix, will use approximately half its show for defense subjects, with an hour to Sino-Japanese documentary war films. Only other subject will be a short, the initial picture featuring Carmen Amaya.

'Army in Overalls', which runs nine minutes; 'Men and Ships', a 21-minute picture, and 'Bits and Pieces', 12 minutes in length, are all-defense pix on the program. 'Kukan', 16mm. feature in Kodachrome (first ever made) shows scenes from the war in China. Defense films are being supplied by government or military service cameramen.

Berlin Song

New York, June 8.—The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, acting on a request of Secretary of Treasury Morgenthau, today announced it has released irrevocably Irving Berlin's new song, 'Any Bonds Today'.

Edw. Smith Spotted

Edward Smith, Bliss-Hayden recruit recently signed at 20th-Fox, has received name change to Bruce Edwards and gets the male lead opposite Brenda Joyce in 'Marry the Boss's Daughter'.

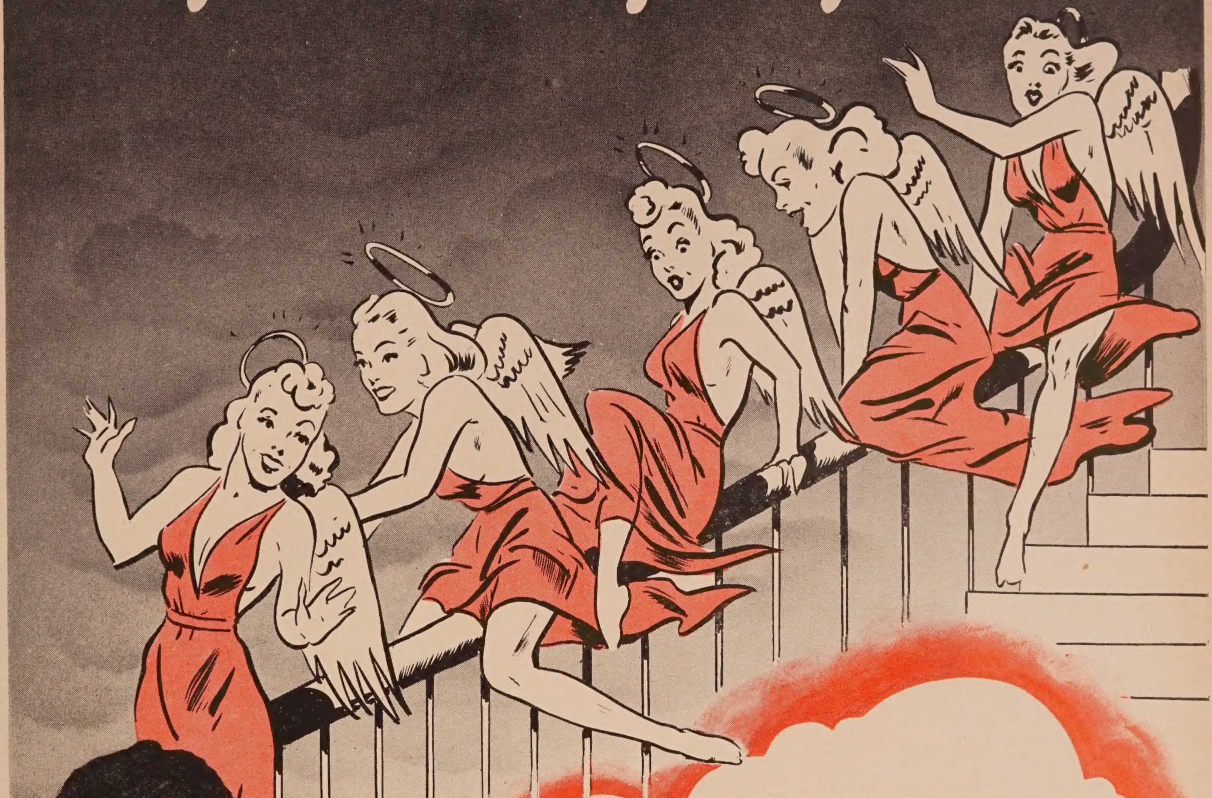
Burkhardt Hired

Bob Burkhardt has been engaged by John LeRoy Johnston, Walter Wanger's publicity chief, to handle the 'Sundown' unit on location at Acoma, N. M., for the next four weeks.

Ed Warren Out

Eda Warren, film editor for Edward H. Griffith, planed for Nassau Saturday to join the Paramount producer-director on cutting of 'Bahama Passage'.

Have you a little angel in your home?



ANGELS WITH BROKEN WINGS

with

BINNIE BARNES • GILBERT ROLAND
MARY LEE

BILLY GILBERT • JANE FRAZEE • EDWARD NORRIS
KATHARINE ALEXANDER • LEO GORCEY
LOIS RANSON • LENI LYNN • MARILYN HARE

BERNARD VORHAUS—*Director* • Screen play by George Carleton Brown and Bradford Ropes • Original story by George Carleton Brown

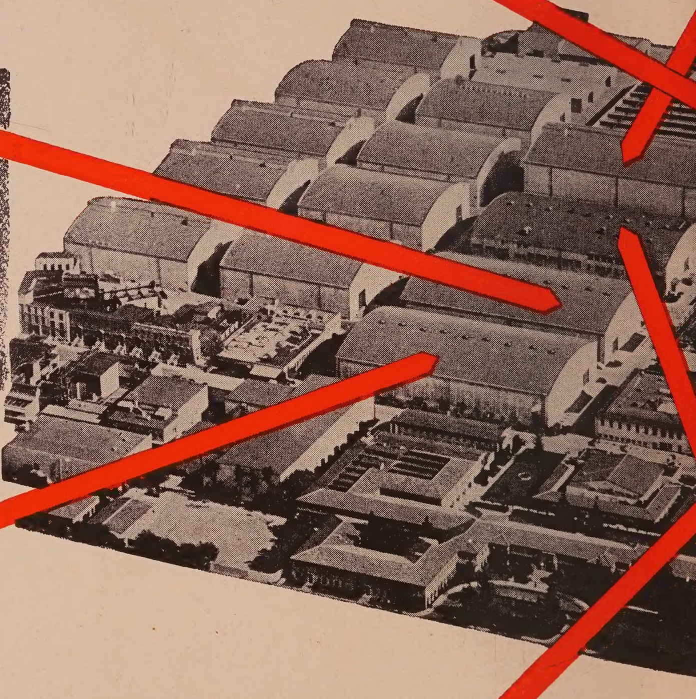
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

REPUBLIC WELCOMES MPTOA and PCCITO

A Bird's-Eye View of

GARY COOPER
in Howard Hawks' Production of
"SERGEANT YORK"

ERROL FLYNN
and
FRED MacMURRAY
in
"DIVE BOMBER"
with
Ralph Bellamy
Robert Armstrong

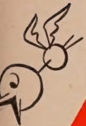


ANN SHERIDAN
JACK OAKIE
MARTHA RAYE
JACK HALEY
in
"NAVY BLUES"
with the
"Navy Blues Sextet"

EDW. G. ROBINSON
MARLENE DIETRICH
GEORGE RAFT
in
"MANPOWER"

JACK L. WARNER • **HAL B. WALLIS**
In Charge of Production • *Executive Producer*

our Immediate Future!



JAMES CAGNEY
and
BETTE DAVIS
in
"THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D."

"BAD MEN OF MISSOURI"
with
Dennis Morgan
Jane Wyman
Wayne Morris
Arthur Kennedy

WARNER BROS.

"UNDERGROUND"
The most timely picture ever produced!

THEY'RE ALL IN PRODUCTION RIGHT NOW!

...And coming to you
as fast as they are finished!
For example:

IDA LUPINO
JOHN GARFIELD
in
"OUT OF THE FOG"
(completed)

OUT OF THE FOG	JUNE 14th
UNDERGROUND	JUNE 28th
BRIDE CAME C. O. D.	JULY 12th
BAD MEN OF MISSOURI	JULY 26th
MANPOWER	AU
SERGEAN	

Week After Week–
WARNERS!

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD

Greetings

and

Best Wishes

COLUMBIA
PICTURES

ANNUAL PCCITO MPTOA CONVENTIO

WHAT GOES ON

...AT RKO-RADIO?

WELCOME, gentlemen of the PCCITO and MPTOA . . . we wish you a successful convention, hope you enjoy every moment of your stay in Hollywood. Uppermost in your minds, perhaps, is strong product for the weeks between now and Labor Day . . . the consent decree . . . the new buying season. You ask, "WHAT GOES ON AT RKO-RADIO?" You'll find our answer . . . a few highlights . . . on this page. Read on, noting as you read, that RKO RADIO IS ON THE BEAM with Boxoffice product scheduled for summer release, Boxoffice product ready now for early '41-'42 selling.

Director Garson Kanin maneuvers a trick-angle closeup of Ginger Rogers for "Tom, Dick and Harry," novel comedy-romance . . . Ginger's first film since winning the Academy Award. Ready in July . . . when you need it most.

Now Cutting . . . Adolphe Menjou and Gloria Swanson (above) in "Father Takes a Wife," a sparkling comedy.

Now Cutting .... (below) Ronald Colman in "My Life With Caroline," Introduces a new, exciting star, Anna Lee.

Now Cutting...(above) Cary Grant and Joan Fontaine in "Before the Fact," spine-tingling Alfred Hitchcock production.

Now Shooting. . Edgar Bergen & Charlie McCarthy and Fibber McGee & Molly, Lucille Ball, "Look Who's Laughing."

Now Cutting . First film about Uncle Sam's spectacular branch of service, sky troopers, "Parachute Battalion," was shot largely at Ft. Benning, with U.S. Army aid.

Now Shooting . William Dieterle shows Simone Simon how to work on James Craig in "The Devil and Daniel Webster." Edward Arnold, Walter Huston head cast.

HO

HAL ROACH presents

BROADWAY LIMITED

Victor **McLAGLEN** · Dennis **O'KEEFE** · Marjorie **WOODWORTH**

Patsy **KELLY** · Zasu **PITTS** · Leonid **KINSKEY** · George E. **STONE**

Original Screen Play by RIAN JAMES · Directed by GORDON DOUGLAS

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

T on the Tremendous Publicity That Preceded It, "BROADWAY LIMITED" Roars Into Hundreds of Theatres on LUCKY FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH!

Enthusiastic showmen everywhere are booking it smack on release date! They know that millions are eager to see MARJORIE WOODWORTH *now* when she's 1941's most publicized star! They want to set the big Pennsylvania Railroad exploitation rolling! (They've seen this high-powered campaign completely explained in the pressbook.) They're among these **LUCKY FIRST** to play it . . .

Aldine, Philadelphia
Great Lakes, Buffalo
Poli, New Haven
Orpheum, Montreal
Majestic, Bridgeport
Paramount, Baton Rouge
Capitol, Lawrence
Liberty, Zanesville, O.
State, Ithaca
Globe, Bethlehem, Pa.
Grand, Bradford, Pa.
Colonial, Harrisburg
Penn, Wilkes Barre
Kearse, Charleston, W. Va.
Embassy, Reading
Grand, Cincinnati
Grandin, Roanoke
Mohawk, North Adams, Mass.
Ben Ali, Lexington, Ky.
Plaza, Stamford
Entire Sparks Circuit, Florida
Scenic, Keene, N. H.
Grenada, Bluefield
Palace, Meriden, Conn.
Loew's, London, Ont.

State & Orpheum, Boston
Loew's, Rochester
Loew's Syracuse
Midland, Kansas City
State, Louisville
Rialto, Allentown
Shea's, Erie
Paramount, Jackson, Miss.
Paramount, Gulfport, Miss.
Capitol, Shenandoah
Regent, Elmira
Paramount, Texarkana, Tex.
Saenger, Pensacola
Saenger, Mobile
State, Altoona
Capitol, Binghamton
Strand, Gloucester, Mass.
Olympia, Portsmouth, N. H.
Indiana, Marian, Ind.
Victoria, Shamokin, Pa.
Ohio, Columbus
Union Square, Pittsfield
Lafayette, Lafayette, Ind.
Saenger, Biloxi, Miss.

Capitol, Washington
Ritz, Albany
Palace, Indianapolis
Loew's, Providence
Capitol, Scranton
National, Richmond
Strand. Shreveport
Palace, Huntington, W. Va.
Empire, Portland, Me.
Columbia, East Liverpool, O.
Paramount, Fort Wayne
Strand, Manchester, N. H.
Tremont, Nashua, N. H.
Boyd, Easton, Pa.
Granby, Norfolk
Poli, Hartford
Lawlor, Greenfield, Mass.
State, Raleigh, N. C.
Palace, Memphis
Trent, Lynchburg, Va.
Shea's, Fitchburg, Mass.
Magnet, Claremont, N. Y.
Grand, Terra Haute
Jefferson, Charlottesville, Va.

— and two hundred other theatres!

HOT is the word for the showmanship in the great Pennsylvania Railroad tie-up! Ads in Saturday Evening Post, Life and Collier's to 10,000,000 readers! Roto ads in 80 big cities! 3-sheets and 1-sheets in all railroad stations serviced by the Pennsylvania! Millions of menu-cards, time-tables and folders!

Greetings

AND BEST WISHES

M.P.T.O.A.

CONVENTIONEERS

★

WATCH FOR THESE

BIG ONES

FOR 1941-1942

★

20th CENTURY FOX

"SUN VALLEY SERENADE"
starring Sonja HENIE • John PAYNE with Glen MILLER & His Orchestra
Directed by H. Bruce Humberstone • Produced by Milton Sperling

★

"BELLE STARR"
Randolph SCOTT • with Gene TIERNEY • Dana ANDREWS
Directed by Irving Cummings
Produced by Kenneth Macgowan

★

"A YANK IN THE R.A.F."
starring Tyrone POWER • with Betty GRABLE • John SUTTON
Directed by Henry King • Produced by Darryl F. Zanuck
Associate Producer Lou Edelman

★

"CHARLEY'S AUNT"
starring Jack BENNY • with Kay FRANCIS
Directed by Archie Mayo
Produced by William Perlberg

★

"WILD GEESE CALLING"
starring Henry FONDA • Joan BENNETT • Warren WILLIAM
Directed by John Brahm • Produced by Harry Joe Brown

★

"HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY"
Walter PIDGEON • with Maureen O'HARA
Directed by John Ford • Produced by Darryl F. Zanuck

★

"WEEK END IN HAVANA"
starring Alice FAYE • John PAYNE • Carmen MIRANDA • Cesar ROMERO
Directed by Walter Lang • Produced by William Le Baron

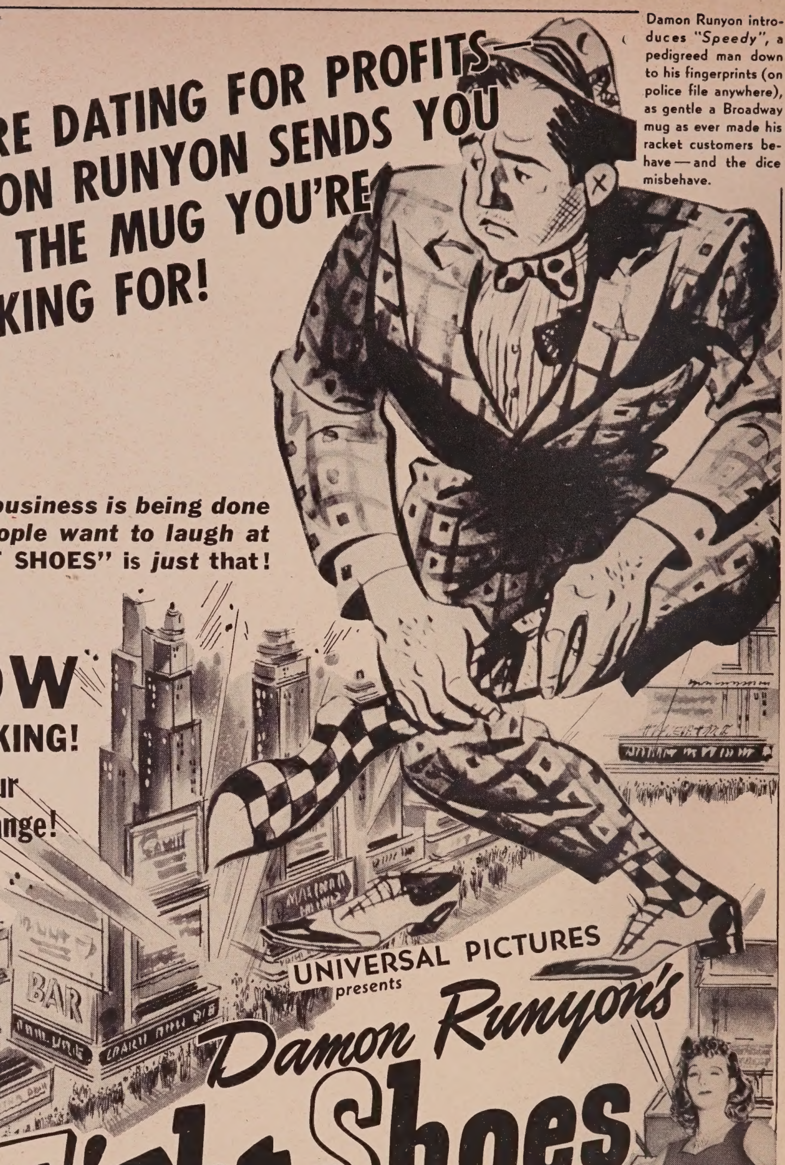
★

"BENJAMIN BLAKE" ★ "MOON TIDE"
"REMEMBER THE DAY" ★ "THE LIGHT OF HEART"
"BLIND MAN'S HOUSE" ★ "I WAKE UP SCREAMING"
★ "THE BLACK SWAN" ★ "CONFIRM OR DENY" ★
"BOWERY NIGHTINGALE" ★ "LAW AND ORDER, INC."
"MY GAL SAL" ★ "SIOUX CITY" ★ "CONEY ISLAND"
"FLIGHT SURGEON" ★ "DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS"
"SONG OF THE ISLANDS" ★ "THE NIGHT THE WORLD SHOOK"
"RISE AND SHINE" ★ "HELLO, FRISCO, HELLO"
"DELAYED ACTION" ★ "SWAMP WATER"

Written by DAMON RUNYON whose "Tight Shoes" follows a grand list of box-office pictures, which includes "Little Miss Marker", "A Slight Case of Murder" and "Lady for a Day"

If YOU'RE DATING FOR PROFITS— DAMON RUNYON SENDS YOU JUST THE MUG YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!

Damon Runyon introduces *"Speedy"*, a pedigreed man down to his fingerprints (on police file anywhere), as gentle a Broadway mug as ever made his racket customers behave — and the dice misbehave.

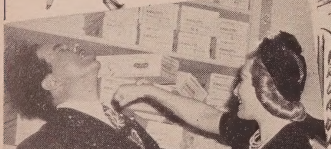


MR. EXHIBITOR! ***Today's business is being done by action-comedies . . . People want to laugh at slam-bang fun! . . .*** **"TIGHT SHOES"** ***is just that!***

DATE NOW

FOR IMMEDIATE BOOKING!

Prints in your Universal Exchange!



UNIVERSAL PICTURES
presents

Damon Runyon's Tight Shoes

with
JOHN HOWARD
BROD CRAWFORD
BINNIE BARNES
LEO CARRILLO
ANNE GWYNNE
SAMUEL S. HINDS
SHEMP HOWARD

Screenplay by Leonard Spigelgass and Art Arthur
Based on an Original Story by Damon Runyon

Directed by Albert S. Rogell

A MAYFAIR PRODUCTION

Greetings . . .

WILLIAM KEIGHLEY

DIRECTOR FOR

WARNER BROS.

"FIGHTING 69th"

"BROTHER RAT"

"TORRID ZONE"

"NO TIME FOR COMEDY"

and

To Be Released Soon

"THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D."

Greetings Conventioneers!

MONOGRAM PICTURES
OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
Howard W. Stubbins, President

PUBLIX-RICKARDS-NACE, INC.
Harry L. Nace

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Quality Service

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FILM EXCHANGE BUILDING
Washington and Vermont • Los Angeles

Greetings
from
PROJECTION EQUIPMENT
& MAINTENANCE CO.
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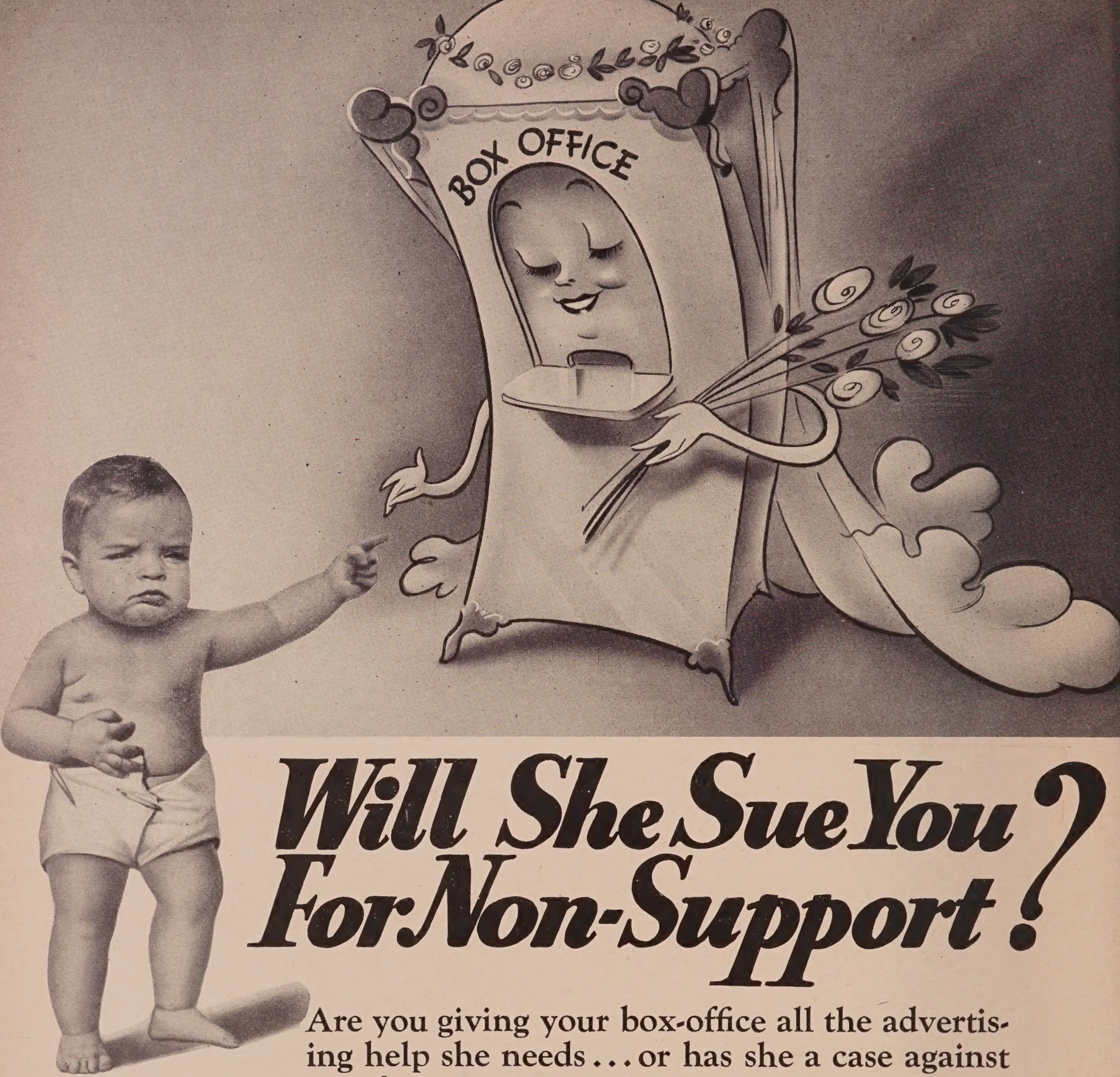
1975 S. Vermont Los Angeles
L. M. "Louie" Wutke
C. M. "Chuck" Fowler

MAJESTIC DISTRIBUTING CORP.
1928 So. Vermont

**Be Sure
and have our
Redheads
Take Care of Your
Popliteal**

**NATIONAL THEATRE
SUPPLY COMPANY**



Will She Sue You For Non-Support?

Are you giving your box-office all the advertising help she needs . . . or has she a case against you for non-support?

Even the best pictures need advertising. Even the biggest productions grab extra money with advertising support.

If that's true of big productions, imagine how planned showmanship advertising behind the weak sisters can help support your box-office in the style to which she *should* become accustomed!

Trailers on your screen will keep your box-office happy. Lobby Displays out front will keep your box-office happy. General accessories intelligently used will keep your box-office happy.

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE • NATIONAL *Screen* ACCESSORIES
ADVERTISING ACCESSORIES, INC.
will keep your box-office happy!

SHOWMEN REGISTERED FOR CONVENTION

ALABAMA

NAME	THEATRE CITY	STOPPING
Abrams, Luke & Mrs.	Princess, Florence	Ambassador 585
Orr, Mr. & Mrs. Thos. E. & Carol	Amusement Enterprises, Albertville	Ambassador 533
Rosenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. L.	Muscle Shoals Theatre, Florence	Ambassador 586

ARKANSAS

Belshe, Mrs. E. P.	Imperial, Forest City	Ambassador 521

CALIFORNIA

Aronson, Mr. & Mrs. A. J.	National Screen Serv., Los Angeles	
Brody, Steve	'Football This Week', Los Angeles	Ambassador 111-2
Berman, Mr. & Mrs. J. Y.	Eastland, Los Angeles	
Berman, Mrs. Pauline	Eastland, Los Angeles	
Bernstein, Ned C.	Bennett Cosmetics, Hollywood	Ambassador 453
Bronstein, Mr. & Mrs. B.	Kinna-Mission, Los Angeles	
Bruen, Mr. and Mrs. H. W.	Whittier-Wardman-Roxy, Whittier	Ambassador 485
Black, Peggy	Plaza, Hawthorne	
Calri, Ned	Plaza, Hawthorne	
Carlin, Irving & Lillian	Alvarado, Los Angeles	
Davis, Miss Bert J.	Guest, San Francisco	
Denehie, L. C.	Manlet, Inc., Exhibit, Los Angeles	Hotel Plaza 605
Dodge, Jennet	Dodge, Ventura	
Durst, Jack	IPC, Hollywood	
Francis, Lorraine	Los Angeles	
Frost, Jack	Seelee Theatres Corp., San Francisco	Ambassador 517
Goldberg, J.	Kinna-Mission, Los Angeles	
Gusick, George N.	Insurance, San Francisco	Ambassador 657
Handley, C. W.	Natl. Carbon Co., Los Angeles	Ambassador 581
Hardy, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald	Hardy's, Fresno	Ambassador 217
Harper, Ernest & Mrs.	Fontana, Fontana	Chancellor 322
Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn	Corona, Corona	Chancellor 322
Harper, Mr. & Mrs. Leslie	Corona, Corona	Chancellor 322
Harvey, Julian	Harvey Enterprises, San Francisco	LaPaula Hotel
Harvey, Mrs. Maude	Harvey Enterprises, San Francisco	Ambassador 214
Harvey, Rotus	Harvey Enterprises, San Francisco	Ambassador 214
Harvey, R. W.	Harvey Enterprises, San Francisco	Ambassador 230
Jacobs, J. Leslie	Broker, San Francisco	Ambassador 207
Karski, Mr. & Mrs. Gerald	Laurel, San Francisco	Ambassador 232
Levin, Ben	General Theatrical Co., San Francisco	Ambassador 233
Levin, Mrs. Ben	Roosevelt, San Francisco	Ambassador 233
Levin, Samuel C.	Seelee Theatre Co., San Francisco	Ambassador 517
Lemucchi, Mr. and Mrs. D.	Bakersfield, Bakersfield	
Lewis, Myke	'Football This Week', Los Angeles	Ambassador 111-2
McNerney, S. J.	San Francisco	Ambass'r 570-1-2
Metzger, Gus	Pacific Amusement Co., Los Angeles	
Oldknow, Oscar S.	Natl. Theatre Supply, Los Angeles	
Ownby, Lloyd C.	Natl. Theatre Supply, Los Angeles	Ambassador
Pease, C. E. & Iris	Exeter, Exeter	Ambassador 231
Snadow, Mr. & Mrs. A.	Central Ave. Theatres, Los Angeles	
Sobelman, Mr. & Mrs. W. A.	Victor, Los Angeles	
Schwarz, Harold N.	Alexander Film Co. Los Angeles	
Sinker, Mr. & Mrs. Max	Alvarado, Los Angeles	
Sper, Norman	'Football This Week', Los Angeles	Ambassador 111-2
Srere, Harry	Pacific Amusement Co., Los Angeles	
Stanford, Al M.	Alexander Film Co., San Francisco	Ambassador 468
Stein, Mr. & Mrs. H.	Kinna-Mission, Los Angeles	
Tegtmeier, Mr. & Mrs. H. I.	Vogue, Salinas	Ambassador 216
Valuskis, Frank	Valuskis, Beuna Park	
Vecchiarelli, Bruno A.	Strand, Gilroy	Ambassador 207
Whitson, Mr. and Mrs. R. D.	Vista, Los Angeles	

COLORADO

Alexander, J. Don	Colorado Springs, Colorado Springs	Ambassador 468
McInaney, M. J.	Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs	Ambassador 468-9
Turpie, W. H.	Manley Mfg. Exhibit, Denver	Hotel Plaza 920

CONNECTICUT

Levy, Herman & Mrs.	New Haven	Ambassador 680

IDAHO

Kenworthy, M. & Joyce	Moscow, Moscow	Rincon No. 1

KANSAS

Biechle, Richard R.	Pres., MPTO Western Mississippi & Kansas, Kansas City	Ambassador 473-4
Grantham, J. W.	New Baxter & Ritz, Baxter Springs	Ambassador 421

LOUISIANA

Chadick, Mr. & Mrs. A. E.	Picture Advertising, New Orleans	Ambassador 323

MASSACHUSETTS

Brennan, J. H.	Allied Theatres, Boston	Ambassador 348
Brown, Walter	Boston	
Lockwood, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur H.	MPTOA, Boston	Ambassador 679

MICHIGAN

Denniston, J. R.	Butterfield, Mich., Detroit	Ambassador 344
Kribbe, Miss Laura	Regent, Grand Rapids	Ambassador 437

MISSISSIPPI

Goodman, Mr. & Mrs. R. J.	Rex, Starkville	Ambassador 562
Kuykendall, Ed.	MPTOA President, Columbus	Ambas. 114-15-16
Williams, H. J.	Granada	Ambassador 575

MISSOURI

Ansell, Lewis K.	MPTOA Executive, St. Louis	Ambassador Siesta No. 7
Wehrenberg, Fred	MPTOA Board Chairman, St. Louis	Ambassador 265

MONTANA

Simons, Mrs. Edna Wilma	W. A. Simons Amuse. Co., Missoula	Ambassador 584

NEW YORK

Dembow, George F.	Natl. Screen Service, New York City	Ambassador Hue 6-7
Dembow, Samuel	Paramount Theatre Operations, New York City	Ambassador
Frantz, Mr. & Mrs. M.	Kinna-Mission, New York City	
Gould, Mr. & Mrs. F.	Kinna-Mission, New York City	
Goldenson, Leonard	Paramount Theatre Operations, New York City	Ambassador
Keough, Austin	Paramount General Counsel, New York City	Ambassador
Lee, Claude	Paramount Exchge. Contact, New York City	Ambassador
Lewis, Charles E. (Chick)	New York City	Ambassador 316
Meyer, A. E.	IPC, New York City	Ambassador 661
Neumade, D. S.	Neumade Prods. Corp., New York City	
New, Oscar F.	New York City	Ambassador 686
O'Toole, Helen C.	MPTOA, New York City	Ambassador 110
Palfreyman, David	MPPDA Exhibitor Contact, New York City	Ambassador 527-8
Raftery, Ed	Attorney, New York City	Ambassador 553
Richey, H. M.	Metro, New York City	Ambassador 422
Rodgers, W. R.	Metro Sales Head, New York City	Ambassador 314
Savini, Robert	Howard Hughes Rep., New York City	Ambassador
Sears, Gradwell	Warner Sales Head, New York City	
Williford, E. A.	V.P. & Gen. Sales Mgr., National Carbon, New York City	Ambass. 581-2-3

■ Continued on page 25 ■

Walters, Moore Join Dunlap Western For Monogram

Luana Walters and Dennis Moore join the cast of 'Rough Riders', first of a series of Buck Jones-Tim McCoy westerns to be produced by Scott R. Dunlap for Monogram. Jess Bowers has completed his script from the Oliver Drake original and Dunlap and Jones leave tonight for Prescott, where filming will sart Wednesday under the direction of Spencer G. Bennett. Robert Tansey will act as assistant producer to Dunlap on the picture.

Edgar Buchanan Set

Edgar Buchanan is set for top support spot in 'You Belong to Me' (formerly 'The Doctor's Husband'), which Wesley Ruggles produces and directs at Columbia.

Obituary

MARY KELLY

Mary 'Bubbles' Kelly, 46, vaudeville and radio comedienne, whom Gracie Allen credited with starting her on her professional career, died in her sleep here Saturday. Miss Kelly started in show business 30 years ago with a Chicago stock company and later appeared in vaudeville with Tom Swift, who also was from the stock troupe. She toured vaudeville houses for 15 years with the song and comedy routine. In recent years deceased turned to radio, appearing on programs with Jack Benny, Burns and Allen and Al Pearce. She was billed with Blanche Stewart as 'The Chicken Sisters' when appearing on many recent benefits with Jack Benny. Miss Kelly is survived by her husband, Ray Myers, onetime Orpheum booker in New York. Latter left via Challenger last night accompanying body to Chicago, where burial service has been tentatively set for Thursday.

GEORGE L. BICKELL

Remains of George L. Bickell, 78, vaudeville, musical comedy and motion picture player, are on the way to his birthplace, Saginaw, Mich., for interment. Bickell died here Thursday. Funeral services were held for him Saturday by the Elks. He is survived by his widow. He began his career at the age of 10 and, at 20, had formed the comedy team of Bickell and Watson. This later became Bickell, Watson and Roth. Bickell and Watson also appeared with the Ziegfeld Follies and the George White Scandals. In 1915 he entered films, to make comedies for Edison Feature Film Co. He was at one time under contract to Fox Studios. He retired in 1930.

CHAS. E. COOK

Charles Emerson Cook, playwright, died westerday in New York at the age of 71 years. Cook, once associated with David Belasco, wrote 'Rose of the Alhambra', 'Blind Youth', 'Remnant', 'The Walking Delegate' and collaborated on 'Red Feather', which Florenz Ziegfeld produced. He had been ill for several months.

CARTOONISTS IN NATIONWIDE DRIVE AGAINST DISNEY

With the Central Labor Council scheduled to place Walt Disney Studio on the American Federation of Labor unfair list today, the Screen Cartoonists Guild has launched a nationwide drive against Disney products. The SCG campaign has already resulted in driving Disney cartoons from several daily newspapers, and 800 District Councils of the Brotherhood of Painters throughout the country are being asked to boycott 'Fantasia' and 'Citizen Kane' when the latter is shown with a Disney short.

Guild leaders stated last night that picketing of the Disney plant may be extended to RKO, if the latter company persists in distributing Disney products. Sid Rogell, RKO studio manager in reply to a request from Herbert Sorrell that the company stop distributing Disney pictures, stated:

'RKO Radio Pictures, Inc. hav a distribution contract with Walt Disney Productions. Further we have contracts with exhibitors for these pictures. Despite our long and friendly contact with your organizations and our desire to continue on this basis with you, it must be obvious to you that we cannot accede to your request.' Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 and leader of the Disney strike, will confer with officials of the Central Labor Council today to determine what action is to be taken with reference to distribution of Disney films by RKO.

Practically all crafts in the film industry, in addition to many downtown unions, are voting financial and moral support to the striking cartoonists. The list was headed by Laboratory Technicians Local 683, which sent in a check for $500.

Charles Shaw, assistant animator at Disney, and Mary Ann De Pew, airbrush artist, were married Saturday and plan to spend their honeymoon on the picket line. Two other couples who are celebrating their marriage on the Disney picket line are Joe Rinaldi, story sketch artist, and Alice Orcutt, shadow painter, and John Hubley, sketch artist, and Claudia Sewell, color model supervisor.

Walt Disney issued the following statement over the weekend:

'We will never permit the dictates of a minority of our employes to control the majority. We are ready to, and will accept the verdict of a secret ballot fairly supervised and voted by all of our employes falling within the classifications embraced by the Screen Cartoonists Guild's claims. We believe that all those employes who have made possible the development of animation as a new art and entertainment form have the democratic right to vote fairly on their choice of a bargaining agent.'

Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney unit of the Guild, made the following reply to Disney's statement:

'It is gratifying that Mr. Disney has come to the recognition of the principle that a minority of his artists should not control the interests and well-being of the majority. The Guild has had 65% of Disney artists in its membership for more than five months. Twice the Guild prepared for an election; five times it proposed a cross-check of guild rolls and studio payroll. Each time such an impartial procedure was refused. Today the majority of the Disney employes who made possible the development of the screen animation art are picketing outside the studio in a stand for the recognition that Disney now suggests but has never agreed to. Today the Screen Cartoonists Guild represents 82% of the Disney artists. Democracy is knocking at the Disney gates.'

Disney's offer to recognize all AFofL crafts except the SCG was turned down by Central Labor Council leaders, since the unions have an agreement that one will not sign until all of them have reached an agreement. The SCG in the meantime is maintaining a 24-hour picket line in front of the studio.

NATIONAL CAPITAL BOOM CITED

Without a dual bill first or second run house in the Washington, D. C. territory, a couple of independent small-seat, subsequent run theatres excepted, A. E. Lichtman, operating approximately 25 houses in the national capital district, reports a box office boom which has brought a theatre building trend in its wake.

Within the Washington area, with a population which has been swelled from 450,000 to approximately 1,000,000 due to national defense activity, approximately 15 new houses have gone up within the past two years, or are currently under construction without any of the important operators resorting to double billing. Warners are now building a few theatres, while Lichtman has added four and has one under construction currently.

The single picture policy has been amply vindicated in the Washington district, showing that showmen can maintain certain price standards within the industry if determined to do so. Theatres in that territory are also free from giveaways and banknites. Admission prices for downtown Washington theatres have been kept at from 55 to 75 cents top, with neighborhood prices in proportion.

Par, Whelan in Deal

Paramount is dickering with Tim Whelan to direct 'The Remarkable Andrew', from the Dalton Trumbo original and screenplay which Richard Blumenthal will produce. Whelan is now at Edward Small's, directing 'International Lady.'

Berman's B'lyn Robbed

The Brooklyn theatre in East Los Angeles, operated by Jack Y. Berman, trustee of the Pacific Coast Conference, was held up late last night and robbed of about $2,000.

Raison On 'Wolf'

Milton Raison has been signed by Columbia to work on scripts for the 'Lone Wolf' series.

Scully, Heineman In For Universal Conferences

William Scully, sales head for Universal Pictures, arrives here today from New York, accompanied by his new assistant, Bill Heineman. Successor to latter as western divisional manager still is in the air, with Scully likely to reach a decision some time this week. Heineman, who has been traveling out of New York for the past year or more, will continue to make his headquarters in that city in the new post.

Root Heads to NY

Lynn Root leaves for New York Wednesday after taking in the opening of his play, 'Cabin in the Sky' here tonight, to join forces with Lorenz Hart to do a musical for fall production on Broadway.

Shapiro Opens Office

Vic Shapiro opens offices on Sunset boulevard today, transferring headquarters from the Screen Writers Guild office. Milt Watt is an associate.

Marquand Hies East

J. P. Marquand has returned to New York after completing work on his novel, 'H. M. Pulham, Esquire', which King Vidor will direct at Metro.

Option Herbert Stint

Paramount has taken an option on F. Hugh Herbert's original screen play, 'Special Delivery', and has set writter to work on a treatment.

'Kildare' Castings

Nils Asther, Charles Williams, and Horace MacMahon have been added to the cast of the curren 'Dr. Kildare' feature at Metro.

Carson with Schlesinger

Les Carson, former radio writer, has joined the Leon Schlesinger writing staff.

Title Changes

Universal's Frank Lloyd production, 'I, James Lewis', now titled 'This Girl Is Mine'. Other tentative title switches at the studio include 'Big House Blues' to 'Jail House Blues', 'Oh, Charlie, to 'Hold That Ghost', and 'Maid In Manhattan' back to its original handle of 'Sing Another Chorus'.

Monogram's 'Arizona Bound' now titled 'Rough Riders', and 'Murder By Appointment' now tagged 'Murder By Invitation'.

Republic's 'Under Fiesta Stars' now titled 'Sunset In Wyoming'.

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Guest Speaker Lineup For PCC-MPTOA Biz Sessions

Guest speaker lineup for the joint PCCITO-MPTOA convention will include executive heads of the various studios and general sales managers of the distributing companies, in addition to addresses by representatives of the talent guilds and United States governmental departments.

Heading the latter list will be Charles C. Pettijohn, general counsel of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., speaking for Will H. Hays, president, who was unable to attend convention because of illness. Pettijohn will talk on general industry problems. Francis Harmon, executive assistant to Hays and co-ordinator for the film industry's national defense committee, will explain the film setup in the U. S. defense to the convening exhibitors.

Y. Frank Freeman, president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers; Walter F. Wanger, prexy of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences; George Stevens, president of the Screen Directors Guild, speaking in place of Frank Capra; Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild, and Sheridan Gibney, prexy of the Screen Writers Guild, will all give talks.

Austin C. Keough, general counsel for Paramount; J. Noble Braden, executive secretary of the American Arbitration Association; J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; Hon. J. F. T. O'Connor, U. S. District court judge; John H. Harris, Chief Barker of the Variety Clubs of America; Nathan D. Golden, of the Motion Picture Bureau of the U. S. Department of Commerce, and Louella Parsons, are others slated to speak at the convention.

Others include Congressman J. M. Costello, Claude Lee, of Paramount; H. M. Richey, Metro exhibitor relations contact; Louis B. Mayer, W. F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief; Neil Agnew, Paramount sales chief, and Monroe Greenthal of United Artists.

Stevens on 'Bonanza'

Louis Stevens goes on the screen play of 'Big Bonanza', Armand Schaefer production at Republic. Other writer assignments on the lot include Don Ryan moving over to script 'From Rags to Riches' for Joe Kane after completing his screen play on 'Ten Nights in a Barroom' for George Sherman. Ivan Goff has finished his treatment on 'Prairie Serenade' and checked off the lot.

Barbara O'Neil Set

Barbara O'Neil has been signed at Warners to play the character role of Mrs. Gordon in 'Kings Row', which Sam Wood will direct. Sherry Shourds will assist Wood and Lyle Reifsnider will be property manager on the picture.

RKO Tags Ann Burr

Ann Burr, who plays the society girl in Orson Welles' play in New York, 'Native Son', reports to RKO on a term contract, signed over the weekend, when she finishes run of the play on Broadway.

Stress on Selling Industry Selling Point To Exhibitors

Less stress on selling pictures and more stress on selling the motion picture industry will be the watchword of the studios in their participation in the joint MPTOA and PCCITO convention this week. Committees have been appointed to give visiting exhibitors the facts on Hollywood so that they, in turn, will be able to present a different picture of the film capital when they return to their respective towns and cities.

Heretofore, theatre owners and operators convening in Hollywood have had little opportunity to find out what is 'right with Hollywood', and this time the studios are extending every effort to assure no one leaving town without having had the chance ot learn facts and figures on how and why the film capital operates, the people employed in the various phases of production work, payrolls and other pertinent data.

The largest single family group exhibitors the Nassers of San Francisco arrived late last night to attend the convention. Brothers were Bill, Al, Dick, Henry, George, Teddy and Warren Nasser, each of them an active exhibitor for the Nasser circuit. Also in the San Francisco delegation which arrived last night was George Mann, A. Blumenfeld, Max Morris, and Tom Gilboy.

Move is considered of utmost importance to film executives now that the time for operation under the consent decree is drawing near, which means there will no longer be a 'seller's market' but instead all selling will have to take place in a 'buyer's market' with the individual merchandising of small groups of pictures. By selling the industry as a whole with a 'what is right with Hollywood' campaign, instead of the side usually presented by gossip and other channels, studios figure merchandising will be easier and pictures bring better returns both to theatres and producing companies.

Complete statistical data on the picture business has been compiled and never less than two men will be stationed at the Ambassador hotel to answer questions on every phase of the industry that the conventioneers may ask. By this service studios hope to offset much of the former lack of interest in what makes the wheels go 'round and supply exhibitors with the correct answers to queries from hometown theatre patrons.

Morgan Gets 'Island'

William Morgan gets the director assignment on 'Mercy Island', Armand Schaefer production at Republic, and latter has delayed his plane trip to Key West, Fla., until tomorrow when Morgan completes direction on 'Sunset in Wyoming' and can accompany him on the location scouting jaunt.

Baugh In For Pic

Slinging Sammy Baugh arrives today from Texas to prepare for his role in 'King of the Texas Rangers', Republic serial which is scheduled to start shooting (16).

THREE INDIES SET ON EQUITY COUNCIL

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Hewitt and Myron McCormick were among 11 councilors elected. In addition, E. J. Kennedy, regarded as having independent leanings, was elected as replacement to serve until 1944. Margaret Webster, who, although on the regular slate, was supporting the independent ticket, also won.

The result is regarded as a clear cut victory for the independent group, first such in the organization's history. Those elected and the number of votes each received were:

Cornelia Otis Skinner, 561; Margaret Webster, 530; John Alexander, 502; Lewis Calhern, 443; Ethel Waters, 440; Richard Tabor, 407; Mady Christians, 398; Lillian Gish, 392; Alan Hewitt, 391; Myron McCormick, 385, and, as replacement, E. J. Kennedy, 549.

Defeated candidates included Robert T. Haines, Arthur Pierson, Maida Reade, James Siegle, Beverly Bayne, William Post, Jr., E. J. Blumkall, Philip Bourneuf, Joanna Ruths, Aline MacMahon, Theodore Newton, Reynolds Denniston and Jack Tyler.

Ethel Waters is the first Negro ever named to the Council. The tabulation of results shows that a total of 915 votes were cast, of which 434 were for the straight regular ticket; 249 for the straight independent slate; 232 split; 79 voided, and 15 individual write-ins. That the independents profited by having only eight candidates for 11 places open as against 15 nominees on the regular slate is shown by the fact that Miss Christians, topping the independent candidates with 398, received less than the number who voted the straight regular ticket. The 434 votes for the straight regular slate were split among 15 candidates, whereas nearly all the independent votes and split tickets were bunched for the eight independent nominees. The principal issue of the fight was the action of the regular nominating committee in refusing to renominate Hewitt to serve another term.

He was among those who had been accused by Congressman Lambertson of being communist, and although the committee admitted that the charge was unfounded it felt his presence on the Council would hurt the chances of Congress re-establishing the Federal Theatre.

Notified of his election last night, Hewitt expressed gratification and reiterated his desire to obtain a hearing on the Lamberston accusation.

Miss Christians had accused the nominating committee of refusing to name her on the regular ticket because she is not a native born American.

Others in the independent faction resented the nominating committee's action regarding Hewitt and Miss Christians and opposed what they regarded as the reactionary character of the regular ticket. Byron McGrath, member of the nominating committee, resigned in protest against the body's action regarding Hewitt and Miss Christians.

Friday's annual meeting, at which the balloting took place, was unusually tense, but the most orderly one in recent years.

Principal speeches were made by Hewitt and Florence Reed, the latter being chairman of the nominating committee.

Femme Owner Sees Good in Confabs

Mrs. Sue Perunko, Tacoma, Wash., one of the few women exhibs attending the MPTOA-PCCITO convention, finds that airing of industry problems in open meetings and thorough discussion with other operators has given her a better understanding of picture house operation. As femme operator of the Sunset and Kay St. theatres in Tacoma, Mrs. Perunko has eliminated the giveaway and pass evils without suffering any loss of business.

With a neighborhood and juvenile trade to cater to, Mrs. Perunko has switched her serial bookings to Saturday afternoons, leaving every evening in the week to adult attendance free from kid disturbances and aisle-walking. She has found that innovations, when sensible, are usually accepted by patrons after one or two beefs at the outset. A regulation whereby youngsters are now obliged to buy their refreshments before going into the theatres and the discontinuation of re-admission checks is one which has also worked out satisfactorily.

Mrs. Perunko, while assisting her husband for many years, assumed full operation of the two theatres following Louis Perunko's death several months ago.

Bogart, Astor Toppers For 'Falcon'

Humphrey Bogart will have the co-starring spot with Mary Astor in 'The Maltese Falcon' and Gladys George gets a featured assignment. John Huston puts the picture before the cameras today at Warners, directing from his own script. Others in the cast include Peter Lorre, Lee Patrick, Barton MacLane and Jerome Cowan.

Griffith Ties Yarn

Edward H. Griffith, currently producing and directing 'Bahama Passage' in Nassau, has taken personal option on 'There Is No Tomorrow', forthcoming novel by Mrs. Mary King. Story deals with life of an American girl who married a British aviator.

20th Keeps McDowall

20th-Fox has hoisted the option on its contract with Roddy McDowall, 12-year-old English actor, who is currently assigned to appear in 'How Green Was My Valley.'

Priscilla Lane to Par

Under deal just completed with Warners, Priscilla Lane comes to Paramount some time during next few months to star in one picture, probably a musical.

Convention Notes

Paramount Pictures is utilizing a 48-sheet painted board, just west of the automobile entrance to the hotel on Wilshire blvd., to convey its greetings both to the MPTOA and the PCCITO, and at the same time using its slogan, 'If It's a Paramount Picture It's the Best Show In Town'. Par got the location from a whisky concern.

Registration booth, being used jointly by both associations, is the largest of its kind ever erected in the Ambassador lobby. If any exhibitor fails to register it will be his own fault, because the booth overshadows anything in that immediate vicinity of the lobby.

J. R. Denniston, of the Butterfield circuit of Michigan, pulled in early Sunday from his home in Monroe. Denniston has been a constant attendant at all of the MPTOA conventions and was here last in 1934.

Alexander Film Co. and the Alexander Preview Co., with Don Alexander at the head, is looking after exhibitor interests in Suite 468.

Jim Schiller, Metro's Coast exploitation chief, brought a bevy of femmes to the convention headquarters early yesterday, and the word quickly spread that they were members of the Ziegfeld chorus.

Ed Kukyendall, Jr., better known as Sonny, is making his first trip to the Coast in seven years. He was five when last here, and now is 12, at the age where he is beginning to take a greater interest in life, particularly in living conditions here.

Helen O'Toole, for many years private sec to Ed Kuykendall, again is on the job, this time as Mrs. Dick Daley. She was married about a year ago to a barrister practicing on Staten Island.

Oscar Lam, Rome, Ga., is one of the veterans at the exhib gathering. He is accompanied by Mrs. Lam and four youngsters, this being the first Coast trip for the kids.

Quite a few of the early arrivals Sunday took advantage of the hotel golf grounds and were out bright and early trying their mashie and driver shots. The hotel course will be well worked over between now and the Thursday close of the conventions.

Arthur de Stefano came on from Dallas, where he is now located as manager for National Theatre Supply Co. He formerly was in charge of the Los Angeles offices of the company.

Leo, Metro's 'friendly lion' will move into the company's booth in the Fiesta room bright and early today, where he will be used to greet theatre operators during their sojourn.

Glenn Harper, veteran exhibitor from Corona, Calif., and former chief of the Southern California independents, renewed acquaintances in the lobby yesterday and made a lot of new friends.

Fred S. Meyer, for many years secretary of the MPTOA, who was stricken with illness during the 1934 convention here, and has since taken up his home in the cinema colony, arrived soon after noon yesterday to chew the fat with Association execs.

Benny Rubin will guide the speeches and entertainment as master of ceremonies at the joint exhibitors luncheon tomorrow in the Cocoanut Grove.

Morris Loewenstein, MPTOA secretary, insisted on decorating everybody yesterday with red, white and blue lapel buttons. He also dished out some anti-Nazi literature.

Ed Roy, executive secretary of the ITO of Northern California and Nevada, came down from Frisco to look after Association affairs and make himself generally useful.

Throughout the conventions each of the major studios will have representatives on hand to furnish the visiting firemen with statistical data, product lineups and otherwise help the exhibs who have gathered here.

Oscar Neu, head of Neumade booth equipment, having tie trouble through inability to find haberdashery to match his suits. Boys got him all dressed up in one of the shops and now he's one of the best dressed guys at the convention.

H. M. Richey, former independent exhib leader, now exhibitor relations head for Loew's, is allegric to trains. Some of his best friends, allergic to planes, can't travel with him.

Bill Kunzeman, National Carbon Co., and Arthur Meyer, sales manager for International Projector Corp., interested convention visitors.

Not generally known is the fact that William Koenig, presently general production manager at 20th-Fox, was for many years secretary of the Exhibitors Association of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Bill is renewing old friendships at the exhibitor powwow.

Cliff Lewis is in charge of publicity for both the MPTOA and PCC at the convention.

Sam Denbow hasn't forgotten 'The General Died at Dawn'.

Rotus Harvey has done a swell job so far as general convention chairman for the MPTOA. Located in Frisco, 500 miles from the convention grounds and some 3,000 miles from the association's New York offices, Harvey spent most of his time the past few months in long distance phone conversations.

M. A. Lightman's gin rummy playing is nothing to his incomparable bridge game and he's beefin' someone is jinxing him.

Bill Rodgers, with a tightened larynx, celebrated his 53rd birthday Saturday and was recipient of a birthday cake with one candle at an impromptu cocktail party tossed by George Dembow early yesterday morning.

REPS OF 10 LOCALS MEET TODAY ON IA PROCEDURE

Negotiating committees representing the 10 locals in the newly formed Federation of Studio Unions affiliated with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes meet today to decide on a joint policy for handling their negotiations with the Producers. It is understood a majority favor making the question of retroactive pay under the Wage-Hour Law a part of the negotiations, but deferring action on it until demands on wages and working conditions have been settled.

Representatives of the unions have already contacted Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, and asked that arrangements be made to start negotiations at the earliest possible date. Studio business representatives in the meantime have been preparing estimates on the cost of handling retroactive pay since the Wage-Hour became effective in 1938. Preliminary estimates were discussed Saturday at a meeting of studio business managers.

The back pay question also was mulled over by the Producers' labor relations committee at a meeting Friday. The committee also discussed the demands of the Actors, Writers, Directors and other film crafts. Meetings with representatives of the Screen Actors Guild and Screen Writers Guild will be arranged today. A deal has been tentatively set with the SAG, but the company executives and the SWG are still far apart on a new contract.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, Daily Variety,
Hollywood, California.

Referring to an article appearing in Variety on Thursday, June 5, under the heading, 'Film Stars In First AMG Camp Show at Ford Ord', I would greatly appreciate your publishing this letter in order to correct any erroneous impressions which might have been created by the article.

The project of providing entertainment in the training camps of the western area is in the hands of the Industry Defense Committee, headed by Frank Freeman, and the Entertainment Committee, headed by Edward Arnold. Certain agents have been requested to serve on the Entertainment Committee because their experience in booking shows would be invaluable in the organization of this entertainment. The agents who are serving on this committee are working as individuals and as part of this committee. They are serving the committee and acting on behalf of the actors who are providing the entertainment.

The actors are unselfishly giving an unlimited amount of time and effort in doing their duty to national defense, and are naturally looking to the agent for the work in which the agent is best qualified, namely, the organization of these shows.

The enterprise is in no way one undertaken by the Artists' Managers Guild. At the meeting of the Artists' Managers Guild which you mentioned in your article, the entertainment program was outlined to all agents; likewise the duties which would be required of them. They enthusiastically pledged their complete support and cooperation.

All factors have been pulling together for one common purpose, and no one group should be singled out for particular praise or commendation. It is the work of all, under the direction of the Defense and Entertainment Committees.

Thanking you for all the help you have given us and for your many offers of aid and cooperation, I remain, with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,
BERT ALLENBERG,

Golden Sees Harvest In Defense Spending

Picture houses will be the first to reap the harvest of increased spending from the heavy defense industries programs, according to Nathan D. Golden, industrial consultant of the Federal Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Washington, who will address the MPTOA-PCCITO convention tomorrow afternoon. Golden, who has several subjects of vital interest to both exhibitors and producers to discuss, believes that heavier payrolls must inevitably hypo box office receipts throughout the country before long as rearmament working and spending gathers momentum. The low unit price of motion picture entertainment recommends it as one of the first industries to benefit as new coin gets into circulation.

While the b.o. has not as yet been favorably affected in many territories this is largely attributed to the fact that many who have been out of work are now paying off debts incurred during periods of idleness. New earning power will likely be reflected at box offices throughout the country according to statistical indications.

RKO, Bergen, Fibber In Three-Year Deal

RKO has closed a deal with Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, Fibber McGee and Molly, to make one picture annually for three years. Combination is currently in 'Look Who's Laughing', and is figured by George Schaefer to be good for at least one repeat per year.

WB 'Blues' Southward

Warners starts six days of location shooting on 'Navy Blues' today at the Naval Training Station in San Diego under direction of Lloyd Bacon. In addition to principals Ann Sheridan, Jack Oakie, Martha Raye and Jack Haley and others, company includes 75 bit and extra players.

Hawks at Goldwyn

Director Howard Hawks has checked in with Samuel Goldwyn to begin preparations for the Gary Cooper starrer, 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen.' Charles Brackett and Billy Wilder are writing the screen play.

Wayne Morris Deferm't

Wayne Morris has been given deferment from service as an ensign in the Naval Reserve until June 26. Delay was granted at the request of Warners, to allow the actor to finish his current role in 'The Smiling Ghost.'

Holden Tops 'Admirals'

William Holden will star in Paramount's 'Tomorrow's Admirals', teaming with Stirling Hayden, co-star, and Ellen Drew and Brian Donlevy. Holden will appear first in 'The Remarkable Andrew.'

Pair Join 'Blind'

Gayle Mellott and Mildred Shay have been added to the cast of 'Flying Blind', which Bill Pine and Bill Thomas are producing for Paramount.

Kyser's 'Playmates'

'Playmates' has been chosen as the title for the Kay Kyser starrer which David Butler will produce and direct at RKO.

SHOWMEN REGISTERED FOR CONVENTION

Continued from page 21

NORTH CAROLINA

Arrington, C. H.	Cameo, Rocky Mount	Ambassador 343
Massie, J. E.	Waynesville	Ambass. 430-1-2

NORTH DAKOTA

Cubberley, J. Fred	Bismarck, Bismarck	Ambassador 907

OHIO

Kunzmann, W. C.	Natl. Carbon Co., Cleveland	Ambass. 571-2-3

OKLAHOMA

Fulgham, Mr. & Mrs. C. O.	Griffith Amuse. Co., Oklahoma City	Ambassador 308-9
Johnson, Miss Ona E.	Majestic, Oklahoma City	Ambassador 554
Kiper, Mary C.	Strand, Tulsa	Ambassador 641
Loewenstein, M.	Majestic, Oklahoma City	Ambassador 554
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Graefer, William	Egyptian, Portland	Ambassador 576
Hile, Art, Jr.	Alberta, Portland	Ambassador 250
Hibbert, Mr. & Mrs. W. H.	Hi Way, Sheridan	Ambassador
Hunt, George A.	Criterion, Medford	Ambassador 566
Jones, Mr. & Mrs. J. E. & Marguerite	St. Johns, Portland	Ambassador 274
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Butler, William E.	Philadelphia	Ambassador 243
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TENNESSEE

Lightman, M. A.	Mako Theatre Bldg., Memphis	Huerta No. 9

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Robb, Harold	Robb-Rowley Circuit, Dallas	Ambassador Rep. 1-2-3
Rowley, Ed	Robb-Rowley Circuit, Dallas	Ambassador Rep. 1-2-3
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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Golden, Nathan D.	Dept. of Comm., Washington, D. C.	Ambassador 322
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F-WC Refuses To Bicycle Films in Any Situations

Charging that the shortage of prints in the Los Angeles district has become progressively worse in the last few years, Fox West Coast Theatres will not 'tag' or bicycle films in any situations beginning this month. All exchanges have been advised that they must in future have sufficient prints clear for all bookings.

Circuit and independent operators alike have been affected by the limited print distribution in this district, with instances reported where as many as three theatres, chain or independent, have had only one print to cover a single day and date booking. It is claimed by exhibitors that exchanges have in recent years cut down on the number of prints because it has become a matter of accepted practice for exchanges and bookers to set up 'tags' automatically. With a considerable number of new houses opened in this territory during the last few years the shortage of prints to take care of requirements has become sufficiently serious for Fox West Coast to hand exchanges an ultimatum last week.

During the past year in particular there has been a constant flow of complaints from exhibitors regarding the situation, but despite all pressure no action has apparently been taken to increase the quota of prints to exchanges here.

Congestion in print distribution has resulted in theatres having screens dark in some instances for periods varying from five to 45 minutes due to traffic delays, accidents, or breakdown of cars and bicycles used in tagging prints from one theatre to another. Such delays have thrown theatre schedules out of balance, forcing houses to operate as late as 1:30 to 2 a.m.

Aside from the considerable expense to exhibitors involved in transporting prints back and forth, chain operators contend that grosses have suffered because patrons don't know at what time the film they want to see is going on.

Print shortages are considered primarily due to New York home office method of operation since exchange men here are governed by eastern decisions in this respect.

Despite strong protests from chain and independent operators, climaxed with the F-WC edict banning tagging, there is no indication among exchanges here that extra prints will be available. Cost of a print runs approximately 1.75 cents per foot, plus transportation and handling charges, or from $150 to $180 per film depending on footage. Exchanges generally point out that it wouldn't pay to run off say six or seven prints costing $1,000 to $1,200 when the additional dates involved might not yield that sum in revenue. F-WC officials are standing pat on the decree against tagging, saying that they would prefer to switch playdates on pictures rather than continue the troublesome practice now in vogue. For the time being exchanges in most cases believe that the regular number of prints on hand, approximately 10, will be sufficient to cover current requirements while average type of product is under distribution. A test of the new anti-tag order likely will come up with the first box office winner to be distributed when bookings run 40 to 50 cent higher than the number of prints available.

Major film exchanges here hold an average of 10 to 14 prints of each picture, the larger number usually reserved for top attractions only. Exchange men, in response to exhibitor complaints, claim that tagging is in many instances due to theatre booking methods which are determined by the relative drawing power of films. A film originally penciled in for a week may be pulled after three days, or vice versa, if doing business, with result that schedules are thrown out of gear and tagging has to be resorted to. In instances where the New York, Chicago or San Francisco offices have prints to spare the situation can sometimes be relieved here, but extra prints are unavailable when eastern and midwest key cities are being covered simultaneously.

Film Names Gun Anni Tennis Tournament

Gilbert Roland shared tennis honors with writer Larry Backman and ex-collegians Lloyd Hansen and Henry Uhl yesterday at the West Side Tennis Club where the annual motion picture net championships opened.

Roland advanced to the third round by winning a three-set men's singles match with Frank Dexter, 6-8, 6-3, 6-4.

Backman stayed in the championship running by downing Michael Hogan, 6-2, 6-1; Uhl lost the first set but rallied to defeat James Dodd, 3-6, 6-2, 6-0 and Hansen, defending tournament champion, eliminated Alex Darsie, 6-4, 6-3.

Darsie had previously eliminated John Howard, 6-8, 6-3, 8-6.

Rudy Vallee, paired with Lockwood Marshall in an exhibition men's doubles, losing to Frank Lossee and James Dodd, 6-4, 6-4.

George Murphy and Stan Briggs, brother of Virginia Bruce, gained the quarter finals of men's doubles by outstroking Dick Woodruff and Dick Virtel, 6-1, 6-3.

It's Major Now

It is now Maj. Karl A. Piper of the Camp Haan anti-aircraft artillery training center, it was disclosed yesterday in the list of War Department promotions. Maj. Piper, who is the theatre officer of the camp, was a member of the staff of the California Bank here 14 years.

First AGM Soldier Show Rates Tops At Camp Roberts

Camp Roberts, San Miguel, Cal., June 8.—Two bus loads of Hollywood lookers, singers, comics and assorted entertainers headed south late today, leaving in their wake the happiest lot of soldiers to be found anywhere in khaki. Such a show as the cinema town's pepper-uppers put on in the amphitheatre for this camp's 20,000 selectees won't be topped soon in any camp. The sprocket gang went all-out for cheering up the soldiery and never stinted one whit of the way. The show, it seemed, ran for hours and every act a headliner.

It was the first of the units framed by Hollywood's Artists Managers Guild to play the camps. Next week another aggregation pitches at Fort Ord, near Monterey. Other units also are being readied for camp calls to spread a little cheer among the soldiers - in - the - making. William Dover was in charge of today's troupe and the lads gave him and his troupe he brought along a reception that they won't soon forget.

Among the comics who really let go from way-down-there were 'Red' Skelton, as emcee of the show, Laurel and Hardy and Chico Marx. In the lineup of singers were Jane Withers, with Buddy Pepper at the piano, Ella Logan, Virginia O'Brien and Marita Farrell. On the instrumental side were Borrah Minnevich and his Harmonica Rascals, and Matt Young's orchestra of 14 men. The lookers, stock players from the picture studios, comprised Helen Parrish, Peggy Moran, Elaine Moray, Esther Fernandez, Frances Gifford and Donna Reed.

Every one of the performers made 20,000 new friends. As the busses pulled out of camp a rousing cheer went up for the Hollywood morale builder-uppers. Officers were assured that other performers would be routed to the camp at a later date. Private Paul Renay, former bit player in pictures, handled the local arrangements.

Rowland Brown Due in With Long Research

Rowland Brown is due in this week from New Orleans where he has been collecting material on the story of Huey Long's life which he and Joel McCrea, with their newly-formed New World Productions, will produce this fall.

Ruggles Directs Gable

First directorial assignment for Wesley Ruggles at Metro will be 'Somewhere I'll Find You', Clark Gable starrer. Ruggles is now working on the screen play of the Charles Hoffman novel, and goes back to Columbia temporarily after completing the script to finish up his old contract there. Pandro Berman will produce.

'Tarzan' to Florida

Cast and crew for the new 'Tarzan' picture at Metro leave today for Ocala, Fla., to do location filming. Company is headed by Director Richard Thorpe and Johnny Weissmuller.

Brown's 'Prairie'

Karl Brown has been assigned to do the screen play on 'Prairie Serenade', Gene Autry western to be produced by Harry Grey at Republic.

Play Reviews

WIZARD OF ORD

Highlighted by a music score that should develop several hit numbers, Seventh Division's 'Wizard of Ord' was back in camp today, hard by Monterey, Calif., after two performances in Hollywood Bowl. Opening Friday night was only sparsely attended despite one of the heaviest campaigns ever given a show via radio and the press. Turnout on the following night picked up appreciably, but the total attendance was disappointing to the camp impresarios. It rated capacity at both shows, for patriotic reasons and the high calibre of the production, considering the limitations of budget and professional attributes.

Score of 17 numbers, mostly penned by Private Colin MacDonald and 2nd Lieut. Carl Arnold, is lilting and was nicely executed by Paul Roberts and an A Cappella chorus of 50. MacDonald has been little known in civilian life other than for his original music for the Sonja Henie ice show. Arnold was a music instructor in high school here. Most likely of the ditties to land in the Broadcast Music or Ascap catalog are 'Twilight Melody', 'Life Is What You Make It' and 'Everybody Rates a Rainbow'. And most likely to succeed in show biz after his hitch is up is Roberts, a clean-cut juvenile with acting ability and a nice set of pipes for tenoring. Most of the action and singing revolves around his role.

Two-hour show is a take-off on 'Wizard of Oz', the old Montgomery and Stone musical fantasy. Short on story and plot, it overcomes these deficiencies with a robust production and a warm blending of voices in the singing group of 50. Yarn has to do with a trio of hoboes pitched on the camp's edge and taken in for rehabilitation by the Army. Gradually through the three acts they make the grade after much clowning.

Highly effective were two production touches, the sounding of taps from a spotlighted mountainside overlooking the Bowl, and the charge of mechanized units down the upper aisles of the ampitheatre with their guns popping. It was a stirring finale that brought the crowd to its feet cheering. Show was given over largely to military hijinks, with only one interlude of stiff camp routine, a precision drill number.

The men from Ord can well be proud of their first effort. There will be others to come and comparisons inevitably will be made with 'Wizard'. The lads from up Monterey way set a high standard for camp shows and the home guard will be looking forward to their next visit here.

Jessel in Town

George Jessel got to town Friday for ten day stay. Will work on his new musical which goes into rehearsal in New York around Aug. 1. Sophie Tucker goes into cast as featured lead.

Hearn In 'Hats'

Sam Hearn has been set to do the Bert Gordon role in the Al Jolson show, 'Hold On To Your Hats' when it reopens next month. Deal was agented by Leo Morrison.

NEW ORLEANS

St. Louis, June 8.—World premiere of the Sigmund Romberg-Oscar Hammerstein II musical concoction, 'New Orleans', drew a mob of more than 10,000, nearly SRO, at the Municipal Theatre Association's al fresco playhouse in Forest Park. Enthusiastic audience departed after having placed the OK stamp on the piece. Max Gordon, Laurence Schwab, John Shubert, Otto Harback and Howard Reinheimer, New York theatrical counsel; their collaborators and their wives all gave the piece the o.o.

Production is filled with lilting tunes and is destined for a Broadway appearance next fall. The piece is in three acts and eight scenes, and gave the natives a surprise when the first scene was presented in pantomime, something new in these parts.

Plot deals with a young lawyer, played by James Newill, who visits New Orleans in 1852. He falls in love with a cafe singer (Muriel Angeles) but is tricked out of marriage to her by Helen Claire, niece of his benefactor. Eight years later Newill discovers the trickery and the women, thrown together by a coincidence, once more are battling for his love. In a stirring epilog in which Newill's death is unfolded and the women bury their hatred for one another, an unusual finale is provided.

Tunes that should become hits are 'This Night Will Seem Long Ago', 'Observe the Bee', 'My Girl and I' and 'Let Me Live Today'.

Miss Angeles won the mob over right off the bat and did not let them down. Newill, a six foot, 3 inch stalwart, clicked in his role and exhibited a swell set of pipes. Ethel Levy was another click. Standouts among the support were Dorothy Lee, of the stage and films; Tom Ewell, a new comedian here; William O'Neal, tenor; Howard Freeman and Joseph Macaulay.

Romberg and Hammerstein appeared on the stage at the conclusion of the play, and after a five-minute ovation, bowed, but did not talk. Piece is in for a total of 11 consecutive nights.

Wayne Wins WB Golf

Bill Wayne, of the sound department outplayed 270 golfers to capture the Warners tournament yesterday at Altadena. Wayne and Bob McGoveney were tied with 73 each at the end of 18 holes. They were still even steven at the end of nine hole playoff, and a second nine was necessary to decide the winner. Wayne won out on the 18th hole of the playoff, finishing the final round with a 77 while McGoveney took a 78.

Mono Rolls 'Valley'

'Fugitive Valley', last of the 'Range Busters' westerns on Monogram's current program, starts shooting today near Chatsworth under the direction of S. Roy Luby. Company has eight more of the George W. Weeks productions scheduled for 1941-42. Julie Duncan has the femme lead in 'Fugitive Valley', opposite Ray Corrigan, John King and Max Terhune. Robert Cline will photograph.

Willie Bioff Checks Out for New York Surrender (12)

Willie Bioff, convicted pander and former labor hoodlum, was reported to have arrived in New York yesterday. He is scheduled to surrender there Thursday (12) on a Federal indictment charging him with extortion.

Bioff and George E. Browne are jointly accused of extorting $550,000 from four major film companies. Willie is at liberty in $50,000 bail, while Browne, currently prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, posted $20,000 bond in Chicago to guarantee his appearance in New York.

PCC TRUSTEES MAP CAMPAIGN

● Continued from page 1 ●

hearing a confidential report from Albert J. Law, general counsel, on his recent trip to Washington and of the contemplated suit on behalf of the Independent Exhibitors against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Law will address this morning's opening business session of the PCC and will report fully on plans by which one of the principal grievances of Coast exhibitors, it is hoped, will be overcome.

WB Asst. Directors Set

Assistant director assignments at Warners include Lee Katz to aid Anatole Litvak on 'Hot Nocturne', starting Wednesday; Russ Saunders as assistant to Raoul Walsh on 'They Died With Their Boots On', Jesse Hibbs, to aid Irving Rapper on 'One Foot in Heaven', and Frank Heath aiding William Keighley on 'Shadows of Their Wings'.

Schwartz's 'Heaven'

Arthur Schwartz has been assigned to work on the musical sequences in 'Two Steps to Heaven', Arthur Strawn-Jan Leman story, at Warners.

Ill in Pix

ARNOLD MacDONALD, head of men's wardrobe for Walter Wanger, on Friday fell down a flight of 30 steps in Samuel Goldwyn studio and was taken to Cedars of Lebanon with severely wrenched back and possibly other injuries which were being X-rayed over weekend.

GEORGE SMITH, former western district manager for Paramount, who now functions as eastern and southern divisional manager, is recuperating at his home in New York after a sojourn in a hospital there suffering a bad case of bronchial pneumonia.

JOHN MURRAY ANDERSON has checked out of Cedars of Lebanon hospital, following a minor operation which kept him at the institution for several weeks.

LUCIA CARROLL ill at home with appendicitis attack and has been taken out of the cast of 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough' at Warners.

ALAN MARSTEN, Metro flack, is in the Hollywood hospital for an appendix operation.

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DAVID O. SELZNICK

MAE WEST
BING CROSBY
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HENRY HATHAWAY
EDDIE SUTHERLAND
JO SWERLING
DORIS MALLOY

WILL ROGERS
JANET GAYNOR
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HUMPHREY BOGART
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EXHIB SCALDS DUAL BILLS

PETRILLO LAMBASTS ARNOLD

Seattle, June 9.—Thurman Arnold, assistant U. S. attorney general, 'is a menace, a bulldoze', and is 'intentionally and deliberately against the American Federation of Musicians', Prexy James C. Petrillo said today at the opening session of the 46th annual AFofM convention at the Olympic hotel. Reviewing the difficulties with Arnold around the AFofM's jurisdictional fight with the

● Continued on page 12 ●

Burns, Allen Deal On For Soapie Nod

Deal is reported near closing in New York for Burns and Allen to go under Lever Bros. (Swan soap) sponsorship on a network show. Young & Rubicam agency auditioned a dozen air turns for the new soap account and understood that B & A is favored for the nod.

Barney Rose Transfer

William Scully, general sales manager for Universal, last night announced the transfer of Barney Rose, branch manager at San Francisco, to head Universal's Chicago office. Rose has been with the company a great many years. His successor has not been named.

Chodorov's 'Dark'

Paramount has assigned Edward Chodorov to do the screen adaptation on the Moss Hart play, 'Lady in the Dark.'

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MEDIATOR CALLS DISNEY STRIKE CONFERENCE

Harold V. Smith, chairman of the Business Representatives Committee of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, has been asked by Walt Disney to act as a

☘ Continued on page 13 ☘

PREVIEWED

MAN HUNT
(20th-Fox)

(Preview on page 3)

L. O. LUKAN DENOUNCES NORTHWEST CIRCUITS

Charging that Fox West Coast and the Hamrick-Evergreen circuits of the Pacific Northwest were the greatest obstacles to the establishment of a single bill picture policy in that area, L. O. Lukan of Seattle delivered a scathing arraignment of dual programs in his talk before the opening convention session of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners yesterday.

Lukan, trustee to the PCCITO, representing the independents of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska, said that a petition to eliminate duals had been signed by every

◆ Continued on page 11 ◆

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	85
Major Studio Calls	340
FK Studio Service	33
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	458

MARY PICKFORD PLEADS FOR INDUSTRY UNITY

Voicing a plea for a united motion picture industry for national defense, and for the benefits of the film business itself, Mary Pickford spoke at yesterday morning's opening meeting of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, sounding the keynote of optimism and preparedness.

Miss Pickford spoke to the exhibitors on behalf of Hollywood, and as an owner-member of United Artists welcomed the conventioneers for the industry's good-will gathering. Her remarks recalled to many

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

UA DROPS ITS BLURB MEN

United Artists is dropping its entire force of field men, effective (21). Order to eliminate the exploitation men came out of the New York home offices and was in the nature of a surprise, even to district and sales managers. Move is at-

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

ELECT KUYKENDALL FOR EIGHTH TERM

Ed Kuykendall was re-elected president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America for his eighth term by the association's board of directors at its annual meeting at the Ambassador hotel last night, and the entire MPTOA slate of officers, with

■ Continued on page 12 ■

LEGIT OPENING

BOTTLENECKS OF 1941

Redbank, N. J., June 9.—'Bottlenecks of 1941', musical revue written and staged by Hollywood draftees at Fort Monmouth, N. J., Army Signal Corps headquarters near here, got topnotch response opening of five-night stand. Show is primed to be a successor to 'Yip, Yip, Yaphank', soldier production of 1918 in which Irving Berlin had a hand while at Camp Upton, Yaphank, L. I.

In this one men are assigned to training film laboratory, and sock of the show was an eight-minute reel labeled, 'Care and Peeling of 87mm Potato', burlesk on educational type of pix made here and now being made on Coast studios for Army. It was written and lensed by Franklin

★ Continued on page 11 ★

Universal Earnings Near $1,759,334

For the first half of the company's fiscal year, consolidated earnings of Universal Pictures Co., Inc., and subsidiary companies, amounted to $1,759,334, after deduction of all charges but federal income taxes and excess profits taxes. This sum was

♠ Continued on page 11 ♠

Reties Jack Carson

Warners yesterday took up its option on Jack Carson. Actor's first assignment under the new deal will be in 'Hot Nocturne.' Joyce Compton and Matt McHugh were handed roles in the picture, which will roll tomorrow, with Anatole Litvak directing.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Peto Gino**
Sequoia Sport
Speedway
2d RACE—**Gallant One**
Florencita
Redeem
3d RACE—**Bon Boots**
Ships Bells
Orra
4th RACE—**Defense**
Sir War
Hubbub
5th RACE—**Count Dean**
Easy Sailing
Timberland
6th RACE—**OVER DRIVE**
Caressante
Southern Jane
7th RACE—**U-Boat**
Plavin Entry
Heather Time
8th RACE—**Ezechias**
Friendly Paul
Day Dodger
Chance Bet—**Appeasement** (7th)
Selections consensus, page 11.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Al Pearce boats to Alaska Saturday for a month of fishing.

Sid Tomack and the Reis Bros. open at Slapsy Maxie's (16).

Cliff Nazarro guests on Tommy Riggs' Old Gold airer Thursday.

Jack Townley and his wife train out today for a New York vacation.

Artie Mehlinger up the coast for 10 days of biz for Broadcast Music.

Universal yesterday signed Thelma 'Babe' De Freest, stunt girl, to a term contract.

Ruth Gordon arrives today from New York to start her role in the Greta Garbo picture at Metro.

Anita Louise will do 'The Swan' and 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye' during her strawhat appearances in August in Maine.

Walter Lantz is making an Andy Panda insignia for use for the 3rd Reconnaissance Squad, U. S. Army, at Langley Field.

Meredith Willson checks in at the Sam Goldwyn studio today to score, compose and direct the music for 'The Little Foxes'.

Arthur Hunnicutt, who appeared in 'Time of Your Life', arrived from New York yesterday to discuss several picture deals.

When Victor Jory completes work in 'Timber Wolves' he will do a tour of the local army camps, doing his strong man act he did in vaudeville.

Dr. Karl Vollmoeller is collaborating with Director Josef von Sternberg on 'The Shanghai Gesture' script for Arnold Pressburger production.

Filming on dance numbers for Metro's 'Chocolate Soldier' directed by Arnst and Maria Matrays, was begun yesterday after extensive rehearsals by the dance directors.

Joseph Moskowitz, New York representative of 20th-Fox, has returned east to close deals on several story properties which were discussed here by Darryl F. Zanuck and other studio executives. Moskowitz returns here in two weeks.

Troupe and crew of 'Sundown' delayed its departure to location at Acoma Rock, N. M., yesterday, to give further time to line up a femme lead for the Walter Wanger-United Artists production. Entourage now expects to leave tomorrow and start filming Friday.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood has a shortage of leading men, according to the producers, but not according to the actors, who claim there is a shortage of leading producers.

Hollywood Inside

ALARMED over dwindling grosses on high budget musicals, major studios are striking out for a remedy in radio exploitation of studio-written music, denied an airing since the break between Ascap and the broadcasters. Studio heads are hopeful of some arrangement whereby the outstanding tunes of pictures will be ethered along the networks and set the millions of dialers to humming the ditties. Lack of such exploitation is said to be the real reason behind the drop-off in theatre attendance. With the government consent decree permitting Ascap writers to publish their tunes through Broadcast Music but assigning performance rights direct to the radio stations, there is some talk that this opens a wedge to a hitherto airtight situation. Understood that one of the majors will attempt to effect an arrangement whereby the music will be made available for network airing, regardless of writer affiliation. This would be in the nature of a test, both for the necessary implementing of the exploitation campaign and the crossing of composer party lines. It is held significant that all big musicals have failed to show a profit since first of the year, when all Ascap music was ruled off the major webs.

☆ ☆ ☆

DECISION has been handed down in Mexico City by government officials that any imported picture especially edited for Mexican distribution won't be licensed for distribution in that country. Ruling makes it mandatory that all pictures brought into Mexico for exhibition be exactly the same as shown elsewhere in the world. The order will have far-reaching effect because doubtlessly it will be copied by other Latin-American countries so that they get American films exactly as they are shown in the United States without any white-washing or sugar-coating for the Latin Americas. 20th-Fox's 'Blood and Sand' will undoubtedly be adversely hit by the ruling. RKO's 'They Met in Argentina', which is being altered to suit the tastes of South American audiences, will also be affected. To 'Blood and Sand' 20th-Fox is adding a great deal more footage on bull-fight scenes, making the picture different from the version readied for the United States. RKO, after the criticism that came to that studio for making a film offensive to Latin Americans, is doing a special Spanish version of the picture, with many changes.

☆ ☆ ☆

OUTFIT named Famous Stars Publicity Staff, under management of C. H. Carter, has set up business on Hollywood boulevard. Carter offers to sell copies of original photographs to stars in lots of 500 'at a price less than they can get it now.' All he needs to survive is a lot of customers, permission to reproduce and make copies of any photograph from the owner of the negative. Few customers are anticipated, in view of the fact that studio still departments handle all picture orders at present and because studios will be reluctant to give permission to outsiders to make and sell copies from their negatives. Famous Stars Publicity Staff office is on the boulevard between two nickel and dime stores. Walls are papered with picture pages clipped from fan magazines.

☆ ☆ ☆

NEW process of clarified focus for much extended area and referred to as 'revolutionary' at 20th-Fox will make its first demonstration in 'How Green Was My Valley.' Arthur Miller is the cameraman who is handling the new lenses and appurtenances in their initial use. Details of the invention are being closely guarded until all patents have been confirmed, but Dan Clark, head of 20th-Fox camera department, says a secondary element is employed in coordination with coated lenses and a 200-degree shutter, making possible a 100% universal focus.

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ALTHOUGH the show they put on in Hollywood Bowl last Friday and Saturday showed a deficit, the lads from Fort Ord will have the crimson erased by the time the last vestige of the troupe returns to the Monterey base. Upon learning of the loss to the camp's recreation fund, a local picture group set about to absorb the loss by 'buying' several blocks of tickets. Fort's 'Wizard of Ord' showed an $800 profit on its Frisco engagement but fell short of the $6,000 nut for the Bowl pitch.

☆ ☆ ☆

MORE than 100 stations off the main radio line will air the transcribed programs of Lum and Abner, now being broadcast over coast NBC network. Invasion by Alka Seltzer of small communities marks the first time that a national advertiser has used the Keystone network, which is said to service a 'neglected' area of 38,000,000 population. Plattered series starts (30) and within a few weeks will spin four times a week on the turntables of 120 stations.

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GOOD odds are being offered on the Universal lot that Bruce Manning will succeed Joe Pasternak as the producer of the Deanna Durbin pictures. Until he was promoted to a producer's berth Manning wrote most of the Durbin stories. Manning's first producing assignment was 'Back Street' and his second, now in preparation for the same two stars, Charles Boyer and Margaret Sullavan, will be 'Appointment for Love.'

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WARREN WILLIAM will accept the offer to star in 'Death Takes a Holiday' at $2,000 per week plus a percentage to start July 7 if he finishes 'Wild Geese Calling' in time. If picture work prevents starting time of play, another date will be arranged. Play is scheduled to open in Marblehead, Mass.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In June the Universities
Hand out their scholarly degrees
To movie guys
With dreamy eyes
And gals with photogenic knees.

★ ★ ★

'Somewhere I'll Find You' sounds like a G-Man yarn but isn't. It is a tale about a war correspondent who doesn't put on a lecture tour.

★ ★ ★

'Out of the Fog' deals with Brooklyn, which is also that way in the National League.

Rosemary Lane is going to New York to detour back to Hollywood via the legit route. It's a long Lane, etc.

Elkhorn, Wis., home of Kay Harris, wants the world premiere of 'Tillie the Toiler', and it wouldn't be a bad idea. Elkhorn is also the home of the Marathon County Fair, always an 'A' production on the trot-and-pace circuit.

★ ★ ★

A villain has a lowly job in motion picture shows,
But as his moral level sinks, his yearly income grows.
According to his nastiness, his salary is hiked.
The nastier a villain is, the better he is liked.

★ ★ ★

Double features began long before Tom Edison evolved the first flickering photo. Even in your grandpop's time, the good-looking date was accompanied by a 'B' production.

★ ★ ★

On the marquee at the Largo:
'Nice Girl?'
'Bad Man.'
Special Event.

★ ★ ★

'The Real Old West' has been filmed in hundreds of screen dramas, leading a youngster to believe that the territory beyond the Mississippi in those days was populated largely by crooked gamblers, crooked sheriffs and honest outlaws who took up that mode of living because their fathers had been knocked off by the crooked gamblers and sheriffs. There were thousands of pioneers who turned their toes westward across the prairies, unhonored and unsung. The pictures glorify the heels.

★ ★ ★

In addition to its value as a picture title, 'Miss Susie Slagle's' might also be used as a test for drunken drivers.

★ ★ ★

Theatre owners are taking a few days off to tell the world what they know about the show business. And what they know is plenty. Maybe they can explain why a set of dishes draws more customers than a colossal production.

Now and then an actor who wears a yachting cap actually owns a yacht.

Rita Hayworth has an ideal hot weather role in 'Eadie Was a Lady'. She plays a fan dancer.

★ ★ ★

'Flight From Youth' is coming to

+ Continued on page 11 +

Preview

★

Man Hunt

(*Melodrama*)

20th-Fox production. Cast: Walter Pidgeon, Joan Bennett, George Sanders, John Carradine, Roddy McDowall, Ludwig Stossel, Heather Thatcher, Frederick Worlock, Roger Imhof, Egon Brecher, Lester Matthews, Holmes Herbert, Eily Malyon, Arno Frey, Fredrik Vogeding, Lucien Prival, Herbert Evans, Keith Hitchcock. Directed by Fritz Lang. Associate producer, Kenneth Macgowan. Screenplay by Dudley Nichols. Based on novel by Geoffrey Household. Music, Alfred Newman. Photography, Arthur Miller. Art direction, Richard Day and Wiard B. Ihnen. Film editor, Allen McNeil. Previewed June 9. Running time: 95 mins.

Sheer melodrama, from title to tag, 'Man Hunt' makes its bid primarily for male audiences with a grim narrative competing with gun-stressing world news. It establishes instant suspense and a intense pitch when a big-game-shooting Briton becomes the object of a deadly hunt by the German military secret service after an aborted attempt to potshot Hitler in a forest retreat shortly before the present war started. For the generality of first runs the picture can fare profitably as good support. In the secondaries it will probably hold its own through its exciting timeliness and succession of thrills involved in the game of stealth and wits between the Gestapo and a lone and desperate Englishman.

The film has a strong sense of actuality throughout its greater part, due to the convincing performances by Walter Pidgeon and George Sanders in the opposing roles, and the assured and soundly skillful direction of Fritz Lang. There are a number of exceptionally well cast and well played supporting roles. Joan Bennett has been more aptly placed than she is here in the character of a Cockney girl who becomes instantly infatuated with the escaping Pidgeon when he takes refuge in her little London apartment, but she gives the role effort and sincerity. Interesting in his screen bow is the talented English lad, Roddy McDowall, intelligent, intense in manner, lively in understanding the requirements of his part as a ship's cabin boy who helps the refugee escape. John Carradine, stalker for the Gestapo; Roger Imhof, Egon Brecher, Ludwig Stossel, Fredrik Vogeding, Heather Thatcher and Frederick Worlock ably handle important support.

The story itself is of transcendant interest and has been given an exciting transcription most of the way by Dudley Nichols from the original novel, 'Rogue Male', by Geoffrey Household, although there is a noticeable letdown in quality and credibility. First scene gets the narrative off to swift running by Director Lang when the English dead-shot trains his telescope-sighted rifle to bear on the figure of Adolf Hitler in a remote forest resort patrolled by

Continued on page 13

EXHIBITORS, WIVES GIVEN GLAD HAND AT STUDIOS

Convening exhibitors, their wives and guests were given the glad hand yesterday afternoon by the various studios. Exhibs, split into three parties, toured the major lots, saw how pictures were made, met the stars and were cocktailed, dined and entertained. Difficulty in each studio staging a reception larger than just a tour was solved by having only a few of the film plants put on extra shindigs in honor of the theatre men.

Special programs were set up at 20th-Fox, Metro, RKO, Paramount and Warners while the other lots gave the visitors a first hand glimpse of pictures in the making by a tour of sets. Every contractee, producer, director and executive who could break away from their duties, extended the welcoming hand at the receptions. Studio affairs were arranged under the guidance of Fred Meyer, who acted as chairman of the arrangements committee for the industry, and nothing was left undone to present an educational as well as entertaining tour.

One group of around 250 was taken in busses to 20th-Fox, Hal Roach and Metro in that order. At the first stop Darryl F. Zanuck, William Goetz, William Koenig, Fred Metzler and every player of the 20th-Fox list with the exception of Alice Faye and Don Ameche, both out of town, were on hand to extend greetings and show visitors the Jack Benny 'Charley's Aunt' set. Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA prexy, paid a personal visit to Joseph M. Schenck while on the lot. Group then moved over to the Roach studio, where that producer made them welcome. Metro gave the visitors night club entertainment on Stage 18 after a tour of the lot and a looksee at 'Honky-Tonk' and 'Smilin' Through.' Louis B. Mayer introduced the talent for the brief entertainment — Kathryn Grayson, Connie Russell, Ray McDonald, Virginia Weidler, Jack Horner, Bobby Kelly and Richard Haydel. Delegates were introduced around on the sets by Sales Manager William F. Rodgers.

Group doing the Hollywood studios saw the Samuel Goldwyn lot and 'The Little Foxes' in action, with the producer doing the receiving. They then went to Paramount to watch Cecil B. DeMille direct a scene for 'Reap the Wild Wind' and then moved over to RKO for a reception and looksee at 'Mexican Spitfire's Baby' and 'Look Who's Laughing.' Later they gathered on Stage 5 to watch a special show given by Kay Kyser and RKO players. At 4:30 p.m. delegates moved back to Paramount for a buffet supper served in the studio commissary with Y. Frank Freeman hosting. Freeman introduced executives, producers, directors and the talent list for impromptu welcoming bits.

In the valley the third group were welcomed by Mischa Auer in his official capacity as mayor of Universal City and were taken on the Universal back lot to see how 'Raiders of the Desert' is being put together. Cliff Work, Nate Blumberg, W. A. Scully, W. J. Heinemann and other executives, plus producers, directors and players saw to it that the visitors were properly received. Group then moved over to Warners to be greeted by H. M. and J. L. Warner, Hal Wallis, Charles Einfeld, Bob Schless, European representative, and others. Warners gave the group a chance to rest the feet on Stage 2 where two big cocktail bars had been set up on the 'Navy Blues' set. Entertainment was furnished by Sol Hoppe's Hawaiian orchestra and two hula dancers, while the studio's players circulated around with greetings.

Only social activity planned for the conventioneers tonight is the barbecue and party to be tossed by Columbia at its ranch in North Hollywood. Red Skelton will function as emcee and Olsen and Johnson are definitely set to entertain. Other talent will be provided by Columbia today.

Edw. Robinson Lent Metro for Top Spot In 'N. Y. Story'

Edward G. Robinson goes to Metro on loan from Warners for top role in 'The New York Story', a tale relating the adventures of newspaper men who publish a tabloid. Edward Arnold also will have a prominent part.

Mervyn LeRoy will direct and Sam Marx produce from the screen play by Bartlett Cormack and Earl Baldwin. Feminine lead is still to be cast. Production is aimed to start in two weeks.

Autry Flies In

Gene Autry flew in yesterday from Salt Lake City and went back into Republic's 'Under Fiesta Stars.' Cowboy actor left Sunday night for Des Moines to make a personal appearance, but his ship was grounded at Salt Lake.

In from the East

Gene Autry
Harry Cohn
Arthur Hunnicutt
Ruth Gordon

Heading East

Natalie Kalmus
George Metaxa (AA)
Martha Tilton (AA)
Mr. and Mrs. J. Townley

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HARRY ENGEL, Coast head of Broadcast Music, is on a terrific pitch to spread the songwriting fame of Kent Cooper, head of Associated Press. Ditty, 'Dixie Girl', with words and music by Cooper, will get a heavy network play and is being spotted on several local network originations. . . Merle Oberon tossed party for cast and crew of 'Lydia' on set at conclusion of filming the formerly titled 'Illusions', for Alexander Korda at General Service studios. . . Dwight Franklin, artist authority on pirates and sea-scapes, has been engaged by Cecil B. DeMille to act as advisor on costumes and sets for 'Reap the Wild Wind' at Paramount. . . . Rudy Vallee dined Marie Windsor and guests at Leone's last night. . . . Bob Preston celebrated birthday with his family at Charlie Foy's Supper Club last night, cake and all.

Hedda Hopper will be mayor-for-a-day of Long Beach (24). She presides over the festivities of Surf, Sun and Sand Day.

FILM ACTOR GORDON JONES received a surprise last week which forced him to take a back seat for acting when it was discovered his brother, Lt. Paul L. Jones, was doing the title role in 'The Wizard of Ord', show staged at the Hollywood Bowl Friday and Saturday by soldiers from Fort Ord. . . . Mary Martin does an appearance on Bob Hope's broadcast from Camp Callan tonight and then goes over to the Naval Base at San Diego to sing a few songs from 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye' for the sailors. . . Framing of a Mutual network broadcast tying in with the 25th anniversary of the tune, 'Apple Blossom Time', is underway between Jack Kapp of Decca records, Grace Hayes, Neville Fleeson, who cleffed number, and the Andrews Sisters, who did the Decca recording of the number.

Eight oldtime western film players, Bud Osborne, Charley Murphy, Neal Hart, Buck Moultin, Eddie Cobb, Jack Plank, Bill Patton and Bud Ray, who appeared together in the first feature western filmed in 1910 by Thomas Ince, are working together again in the cast of 'Texas' at Columbia.

MARJORIE JOHNSON, 20, Nunnally Johnson's daughter, and Kenneth Carter, in Universal's publicity department, eloped and were married Sunday in Las Vegas. Daughter called up her associate producer dad at 20th-Fox early yesterday morning, broke the news and received the blessing.

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.

Represents . . .

RED SKELTON

"Flight Command"
"Lady Be Good"

Under contract
M-G-M

USO To Get Huge Sendoff In San Francisco

San Francisco, June 9. — United Service Organization work will get a dazzling send-off here if a plan proposed by Charles Schlaifer of the publicity committee is put into effect, and indications are that it will be.

Schlaifer has mapped a 'Lights On' stunt, which is to be Frisco's answer to blackouts throughout the world. For a period of 15 minutes or half hour, every single light in every home, office, building and factory in the city will be turned on, idea being to get the USO effort under way in a 'blaze of light'. Tentative date set for the 'Lights On' is June 18. USO drive here starts June 17, at which time merchants will be asked to include a USO slug, designed by Schlaifer, in their advertising.

Schlaifer, who is exploiteer for Herman Cohen's United Artists here, also has taken the 'home guard' under his wing, voluntarily organizing a publicity committee for the entire state which will serve without pay. Those induced by Schlaifer to cooperate include Phil Phillips, Fox West Coast advertising manager; William Pabst, manager of KFRC; Ted Huggins, Standard Oil ad manager; Gene Block, executive secretary of Jewish Survey Council and formerly with the Call-Bulletin, and Winthrop Martin, public relations counsel, plus an Oakland section headed by Phil Lasky of KROW and Clarence Laws, partner of Joe Blumenfeld in the Esquire theatre.

Schlaifer's volunteer efforts have already won praise of the State Guard and he is working in cooperation with Col. Alland A. Calkins of the First Regiment, who in civilian life is first v.p. of the Anglo-California bank.

Sorrell Spokesman

The Extras Advisory Council announced yesterday that Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, will speak at the Council meeting tonight at 5402 Hollywood boulevard.

Carol Nathan Here

Carol A. Nathan, who runs the Marina and the El Presidio theatres in San Francisco, is here for the MPTOA and PCCITO conventions, accompanied by his daughter, Alene Carroll.

'Jones' Headliners

Cast for Myron Dutton's new comedy serial, 'Judy Jones', initialing over NBC at 9:30 tonight, will be headed by Mercedes McCambridge, Ben Alexander and Marvel McInnis.

Hope at Callan

Bob Hope's Pepsodent airshow tonight will come from Camp Callan, near San Diego. An afterpiece will be given the selectees after the signoff.

Title Changes

Producers Releasing Corp., 'Motorcycle Squad' now titled 'Double Cross'.

MARY PICKFORD PLEADS FOR INDUSTRY UNITY

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

in the auditorium the Liberty Loan drives of more than 20 years ago when she was one of the World War leaders in this country.

'We as partners—you as exhibitors, and we as the motion picture industry', Miss Pickford said, 'must not be a house divided, but a house built on a firm foundation of onemindedness and of unity of purpose. And thus we shall be prepared when the call comes.

'We do not yet know specifically what parts we must play in the current world crisis, what we must do to preserve our liberty, and, if possible, our peace. But this we know is the time to be thinking of the things we can do and should do. No convention could be dedicated to any greater cause.

'When our country was at war 20 years ago, the entire motion picture industry—producers, exhibitors and distributors—performed an unselfish and far-flung service. We proved then, as we are prepared to prove again, that next to a free and honest press the motion picture is the most effective medium of unifying a nation.

'As for the prosperity of motion pictures, we need have no fear. You gentlemen, together with Hollywood, have developed the greatest form of mass entertainment ever created. The film standards of the public which rise even higher are the result of continued improvement in our product.

'There is no problem which cannot be defeated by our united efforts. There is no box office recession which will not yield to improved pictures, intelligently exhibited. In working for our country and in laboring for our industry we may apply the same good rule—let's pull together.'

UA DROPS ITS BLURB MEN

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

tributed to shortage of UA product and further fact that distribution company has few pictures lined up for early season release.

Order dismissing the field men two weeks hence came direct from David E. Weshner, head of the company's exploitation. Weshner has advised the men that due to the few releases UA will have between now and August it has become necessary to disband the permanent field force.

He states in his letters to the men that the force is supported both by producers and UA, and the producers 'naturally cannot support a field force when they are not releasing pictures. Therefore, this burden makes it necessary for us to return to our former policy of hiring exploitation men as dates spring up in the various fields.'

Weshner praised the men in his letters of dismissal, telling them of the great job they have done for UA, but expressing regret at the situation.

Prod. Meetings Set

The Producers announced yesterday that meetings with the Actors, Writers and Directors to talk contract revisions will be held this week. In the meantime, company executives were planning to meet daily, starting today, to consider the Wage-Hour question and other industry labor problems.

Frisco Chatter

The grapevine has it that the heat, which has been on these past months, will gradually be eased off, which has hard-pressed nitery ops heaving sighs of relief.

July 1 sounds the doom of the Capitol theatre, which is to be razed for parking space, following the fate of the old Orpheum and Capitol. Current occupants of the house, Eddie Skolak's Capitol burlesque, now looking for a new home.

Francis Lederer opens Thursday in 'No Time For Comedy' at Henry Duffy's Alcazar. The Curran will hold the current 'Chocolate Soldier' (John Charles Thomas) two weeks. 'Cabin In the Sky', following, will go two and possibly three.

Eddie House of KROW has word that his new ditty, 'I'm In Love With the Sound Effects Man' will be networked by the Kings Men on the Fibber McGee show June 17 and then Decca-ed. Kay Kyser also reported interested in the novelty.

Two new man-in-street shows start from theatre lobbies this week. Dean Maddox will do a 30-minute 'Under the Markee' gab from the Fox Tuesdays and Thursdays via KFRC, while KSAN has a line into the Golden Gate for a daily quarter hour with Jack Reed at the mike.

Linden's Stager

Eric Linden will appear in 'Golden Boy' at Ann Arbor, Mich., opening (16) on deal by Leo Morrison.

Edwards Top Commuter

San Francisco, June 9.—Champ commuters of this village are two lads who are now holding down dual radio assignments in Frisco and Hollywood. One is Jack Edwards, Jr., who is here on Wednesday, then hops south Sunday and Monday for 'One Man's Family' and 'I Love a Mystery'. His brother Sam is here Wednesday for the Edwards Family, in Hollywood Sunday for 'One Man's Family', then back here again Monday for 'Hawthorne House', in which his sister, Florida, also has a role as Marietta. Boys travel about 8,000 miles a month to fulfill air commitments.

Neil Agnew Arrives On Paramount Product O. O.

Neil Agnew, Paramount sales manager, arrives today from New York to look at completed product and discuss distribution and production matters with Y. Frank Freeman and B. G. DeSylva. Agnew, accompanied by Robert Gillham, eastern advertising and publicity director, will leave end of the week for Toronto to attend the Canadian sales meeting called for the (16) by Del Goodman, Canadian sales manager. Barney Balaban also will attend the Toronto session, coming on from New York.

Balaban, Agnew and Gillham will be back in New York for the annual stockholders' meeting the following day (17).

Shortly afterwards Balaban, Stanton Griffis, Adolph Zukor and Agnew leave for the Coast to talk over new pictures and consent decree operations.

Rosalind Russell Arbiter Award Upheld

Arbitration award to Rosalind Russell in the discharge of Myron Selznick as her agent was upheld yesterday in Superior court by Judge Frank G. Swain. Agency had sued to have the award vacated on the ground that Arbiter Julian Hazard was not qualified to serve on the board on account of his past legal association with the actress and asserted participation in her new agency deal with Frank Vincent. Judge Swain handed down his decision after having had the case under submission for a month. Simon and Garbus represented Miss Russell in the court action, and Barry Brannen acted for Selznick.

'Circle' Introduction

Frank Black and his NBC Symphony orchestra introduces Vi Bradley's 'Columbus Circle' symphony tonight on his New American Music broadcast. Airer emanates locally from KECA at 6 p.m. Bradley's 'symphony' was written for 75 piece orchestra and piano.

Joan Harrison Spotted

Joan Harrison yesterday completed screenplay of the novel 'Bucharest Ballerina Murders' for 20th-Fox and today starts untitled original story for David Selznick. Gordon Molson of the H. N. Swanson offices set the deal.

Lou Silvers Renewed

Lou Silvers, music director of Lux airshow, has been renewed to first of the year. He started his sixth year on the program last week.

Obituary

FRANK O. GRAVES

Funeral services for Frank O. Graves, 51, for 15 years head of the Universal studio electrical department and an employe on the lot for 25 years, will be held tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. at the North Hollywood Community church under the auspices of the Lankershim Masonic lodge. Graves, who is survived by his widow, Cora Graves, died Sunday at his North Hollywood home.

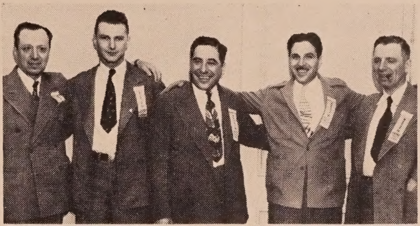
EXHIBS FROLIC AT CONVENTION

A. Julian Brylawski, Washington, D. C., vice-prexy of MPTOA, in a semi-happy mood with George A. Croutch, assistant zone manager for Warners in the nation's capital.

Helen O'Toole, for many years private secretary of the MPTOA prexy, pictured here with Ed Kuykendall, J. C. Shanklin of Roncerverte, W. Va., and Dave Palfreyman, Hays office contact.

Mary Pickford being greeted by Bob Poole upon her entrance to the PCCITO opening session yesterday.

Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis has been chairman of the MPTOA board for so many years that even he's lost track of the exact time. With him is Sidney Lust, veteran from Washington, and Louis K. Ansell of St. Louis.



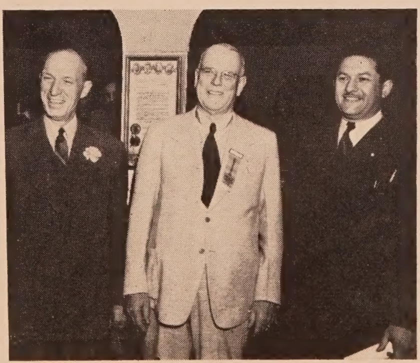
Five of the seven Nasser boys attending the convention from Frisco were finally rounded up. Left to right they are Bill, Warren, George, Ted and Al.

William Peters of Manteca, Cal., brought his two sons, George and Chris along with him. Center is Art Hile, Portland, Ore., and Edwin A. Halberg, Port Angeles, Wash., is on the right.

Just a jolly bunch of the Warner Brothers entourage. Grad Sears, general sales head, is flanked by Henry Herbel, western district manager on left and W. E. Calloway, LA branch manager on right.

JOINT CONVENTION

Newt (Red) Jacobs, with his wife, down from San Francisco, and Ned Calvi, one of the Los Angeles independent exhibs.



Glenn Harper, Corona, Cal., and former ITO chieftain; A. C. St. John, circuit operator of Chehalis, Wash., and Jack Y. Berman, Los Angeles operator.

Joel Bezahler, New York; Jack Goldberg, Los Angeles; Clayton Lynch, local branch manager for M-G, and Max Sinker, who also operates in Los Angeles.

Chas. Skouras Opens Negotiations With Stagehands 33

Charles P. Skouras, head of Fox West Coast Theatres, yesterday opened preliminary negotiations with Stagehands Local 33, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, who seek a five cents per hour wage increase. Following a discussion with the workers' committee, headed by Carl Cooper, business agent, powwow was adjourned until next Friday.

Fox West Coast prexy has concluded new working agreements with projectionists in San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Pomona and Ontario by which the booth men get a wage boost approximating five cents per hour. Their request for paid vacations was turned down by the circuit.

Rita Quigley, Boland Set for Strawhatter

Rita Quigley has been set to appear with Mary Boland in 'Meet the Wife', Lynn Starling's first play which opens a 10-week tour in the east, starting (23) at Maplewood, N.J. Miss Quigley, accompanied by her mother, motored east yesterday and Miss Boland leaves today. Music Corporation of America is handling the bookings on the show, which will do one week each in Maplewood, Marblehead, Cape Cod, Boston, Providence, Hartford. Last four weeks of the tour will be given over to the tryout presentation of a new Starling play. Cast of 'Meet the Wife' will include Chuck Gordon, John Roche, King Kennedy and Dannie Bracket. Play has been doing a series of one-nighters on the Pacific Coast for the past three weeks in preparation for the eastern tour. Russell Lewis and Howard Young are producing.

Flacks Sessioning

Hollywood correspondents meet today at the Brown Derby to discuss the recent deal arranged with the major companies calling for all pictures to be previewed here before being shown in New York and elsewhere.

Story Buys

'Twilight On the Trail', by Ellen Corby, Cecile Kramer and J. Benton Cheney, has been purchased by Harry Sherman as the sixth and last of the Hopalong Cassidy series of westerns on Paramount's 1941-42 program. Sherman already has completed two of the six and now is filming 'Timber Wolves' as the third. Fourth and fifth are 'Stick To Your Guns' and 'Hoppy's Holiday'.

Lee Marcus, who recently produced 'Father Takes a Wife', the Gloria Swanson production for RKO, yesterday acquired the rights to Herbert Moffitt's magazine story, 'The Corporal's Girl Friend.' Marcus will shortly announce his new affiliation.

BOXING TONIGHT
Jackie WILSON VS. Norment QUARLES
OLYMPIC
AUDITORIUM

TODAY'S EXHIBITOR PROGRAM

PCCITO Convention

10:00 a.m.—Meeting convenes. Ed Kuykendall, president of MPTOA introduced to Coast Exhibitors by Bob Poole, Executive Secretary
10:15 a.m.—Open Forum..............................Rotus Harvey, Chairman
11:55 a.m.—Announcements
12 Noon—Adjournment

MPTOA Convention

H. V. (Rotus) Harvey, Chairman

10:00 a.m.—Convention called to order
10:02 a.m.—'Star Spangled Banner', Sung by Susanna Foster, accompanied by Dolly Loehr, pianist.
10:05 a.m.—Invocation, Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher, Jr.
10:10 a.m.—Industry Welcome by Mary Pickford
Welcome Address, Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles
Response, Mitchell Wolfson, Miami, Fla., v.p. MPTOA
Annual Report of Ed Kuykendall, President
Annual Report of Morris Loewenstein, Secretary
Address by Nathan D. Golden of the U. S. Department of Commerce Motion Picture Division
Address, William F. Rodgers, General Sales Head for Loew's, Inc.
Address, Y. Frank Freeman, of Paramount
5:00 p.m.—Adjournment
6:00 p.m.—Leave hotel in busses for 'A Night in Hollywood' Barbecue and Entertainment at Columbia Ranch

MPTOA 1941 CONVENTION PARALLELS 1934 MEETING

Showmen attending the MPTOA convention at the Ambassador see little difference in conditions to what they were when the national exhibitor group last met here, back in 1934.

An emergency existed at that time, President Roosevelt having only recently assumed office; dual bills were a thorn in the side of many of the independents, and the NRA code took up about as much time as does the new government consent decree, now peeving the theatre operators.

True, the eastern, midwestern, southern and Pacific Coast exhibs who attended traveled mostly to Los Angeles via special train at the last conclave. But in the main the present bunch of exhibs is just as enthusiastic a bunch as whooped it up at the Ambassador seven years ago last April.

Quite a few exhibitor leaders who came west at that time are missing from today's lineup, particularly among the association execs. Ed Kuykendall is still president of the organization, but Morris Loewenstein has succeeded Fred Meyer as secretary, the latter being stricken with illness during the closing days of the convention and forced to remain here many weeks before he fully recovered. Shortly thereafter, Meyer migrated from Milwaukee to Hollywood, and he is now ensconsed at 20th-Fox studio.

Mike Comerford, since deceased, and Ed G. Levy were among the veterans who trekked to the Coast for the 14th annual powwow, but are missing from the ranks today, as are also Ben N. Berinstein, Los Angeles indie leader who functioned as general chairman of the convention, and Charlie Williams, Omaha veteran, both of whom have since died.

Jenne Dodge of Ventura is the only member of the original 'reception' committee who is functioning at the present convention, but Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis has continued to hold down the office of chairman of the MPTOA board through all these years.

Femme exhibs in 1934, just as today, objected strenuously to block-booking, which has since been outlawed by the government consent decree, and the Texas Rangers, Harold Robb and Ed Rowley, were very much in evidence.

Variety, ever alert to serve the best interests of the exhibitors, occupied the same suite at the Ambassador that houses it for the current convention, and M. A. Lightman, from Memphis, continued to be one of the official cutups of the meet.

Prexy Kuykendall, in his opening address to the convention in 1934 drew from the exhibitor body a pledge to support the President in his move for national recovery, just as he will exact a pledge from the theatre operators at this afternoon's initial session of the 1941 convention to lend every aid to national defense.

All-in-all there was very little difference between the two exhibitor conventions. Theatre operators came here seven years ago with one object uppermost in their minds, the remedying of many situations which they considered detrimental to the exhibition end of the industry, and today they are here for a similar purpose. They hope to accomplish many things as a result of their current trek westward and if they fail they will at least have had the satisfaction of going on record for these improvements and will return to their respective homes, satisfied they have done the best they could under the circumstances.

Anderson's Duet

James Anderson will be assistant to Tay Garnett on the production of 'Weekend For Three' and 'Unexpected Uncle' at RKO.

SWG, Prod. Session Scheduled Latter Part of Week

The executive board of the Screen Writers Guild at its meeting last night announced that the SWG negotiating committee will meet with Producers the last of this week. It also was stated that a bulletin is being sent to the SWG members notifying them to be in readiness for a general membership meeting to be called on 48 hours notice to consider counter proposals of the companies.

A report on the Guild war chest will be made at the membership meeting.

Will Hays May Leave Hospital Today

Word was received here that Will Hays, president of Motion Picture and Distributors of America, may leave St. Luke's hospital in Chicago today. He has been there receiving treatments for several weeks. It is understood that he would visit his home town, Sullivan, Ind., thence to New York before returning to Hollywood.

Marlow Warbles

Nancy Marlow is warbling at Bee Carson's Valley Hunt Club.

a.m. Dailies

Ike Lewin Tragedy—

Ike Lewin, 51, film stunt man, shot and killed his mother, Mrs. Tena Lewin, 78, who had been partially paralyzed for six years, and then ended his own life early yesterday. Ike Lewin was known as the 'Jewish cowboy clown' in rodeos and circuses.

Bob Murphy
Suggests to the PCCITO and MPTOA the following theme song for the Convention.
(Sung to the tune of 'Tammany')

Double bills, double bills,
Lasts three hours that we know,
Lots of film but no show.

Double bills, treble bills,
Good for dead heads,
Likewise lead heads—
Double bills.

House of Murphy
CR. 50191
The only New York Chop House in California

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD

Coming—

●

THE OUTLAW

ANNUAL PCCITO MPTOA CONVENTION

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD

BANNER
PICTURES CORP.

Presenting

EAST SIDE KIDS
Series

BELA LUGOSI
Series

SAM KATZMAN
Producer

PETE MAYER
Associate Producer

STERLING
PRODUCTIONS, INC.

LINDSLEY PARSONS

Producer

PRESCOTT
PICTURES, INC.

ROBERT TANSEY

Producer

TOM KEENE

Starring in

"WANDERERS OF THE WEST"

SUPREME
PICTURES, CORP.

A. W. HACKEL

Producer

Completed
"MURDER BY INVITATION"
Starring
WALLACE FORD
MARIAN MARSH
SARAH PADDEN

For ***MONOGRAM*** *Release*

ANNUAL PCCITO MPTOA CONVENTIO

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD

Congratulations

to

ED KUYKENDALL

and the

EXHIBITORS IN CONVENTION

from

THE RANGE BUSTERS

RAY "CRASH" CORRIGAN
JOHN "DUSTY" KING
MAX "ALIBI" TERHUNE

Produced by GEORGE W. WEEKS

Just Completed
"WRANGLERS' ROOST"

In Preparation
"FUGITIVE VALLEY"

Released thru MONOGRAM PICTURES CORP.

ANNUAL PCCITO MPTOA CONVENTIO

WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD

Greetings to Each and Every One of You from

GEORGE PAL

Producer of Animated PUPPETOONS in Technicolor

Paramount Release

"WESTERN DAZE" and "DIPSY GYPSY"
Music by Andre Kostelanetz

"HOOLA BOOLA"
Just Completed

In Production:
"THE GAY KNIGHTIES"

VISITING EXHIBITORS WELCOME!

at
1041 NORTH McCADDEN PLACE

Welcome Exhibitors

from

LEON SCHLESINGER

"Bugs" Bunny

Porky Pig

Producer of
"Merrie Melodies" and "Looney Tunes"
For WARNER BROTHERS

ANNUAL PCCITO MPTOA CONVENTI

Universal Earnings Near $1,759,334

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

the take during the 26 weeks ended May 3, 1941.

Net income for the second quarter, according to J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, who made the announcement, was $1,056,000. This is the first time in the history of the company that quarterly earnings reached the million dollar mark, according to Cowdin's announcement.

Profits for the first half of the year compare with a profit, computed similarly (but after provision of $208,000 as a special amortization reserve), of $1,173,002 in the 26 weeks ended April 27, 1940. Cowdin said that no reserve for amortization was deemed necessary this year.

Earnings for the 26 weeks ended May 3, 1941, after providing a reserve of $390,000 to cover current normal federal income taxes for the period, amounted to $1,369,334. It was impossible, Cowdin said, to estimate size of the excess profits tax until the year's profits are known, and for that reason this tax was not provided for.

Universal also has revenue amounting to $188,250 held up in Great Britain, which is included in the profit for the first half of the year. Figure of $188,250 is based on the official rate of exchange. Cowdin said that revenues accruing to Universal in Great Britain for the balance of the year will be blocked in accordance with currency restrictions obtaining in that country because the company has already received the entire cash allocation from England for the year.

Quine Due Monday

Richard Quine, leading man with the Broadway show, 'My Sister Eileen', reports here next Monday on hurry-up call to assume his term deal at Metro in the new Judy Garland musical starrer. Deal set by Doland and Doane. Permission to withdraw from play was stepped up a month.

Bond Joins 'Falcon'

Ward Bond went into the cast of Warners 'The Maltese Falcon' yesterday as the picture rolled under direction of John Huston. Thomas Richards was set yesterday as film editor on the picture.

Ill in Pix

GERRY KELLER, private sec to Henry Herbel at Warners exchange, suffered minor bruises in an auto accident early yesterday. After being given treatment at Emergency hospital she was taken to her home, where she will be confined for several days.

NATALIE KALMUS leaves today for her Cape Cod farm to spend three weeks recuperating from severe influenza attack.

BEN FISH, western district manager for United Artists, is recuperating at his home following a bronchial ailment.

HARRY WARREN, song writer, in Cedars of Lebanon with threatened pneumonia.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Sequoia Sport Al Greenock Peto Gino	1—Sequoia Sport Peto Gino Lichema	1—Sequoia Sport Peto Gino Blue Streak	1—Lady Silver Peto Gino Sequoia Sport	1—Peto Gino Sequoia Sport Al Greenock	1—Sequoia Sport Peto Gino Speedway
2—Gallant One Double A. Redeem	2—Gallant One Redeem Florencita	2—Redeem Gallant One Double A.	2—Florencita Gallant One Pot Shot	2—Double A. Gallant One Florencita	2—Redeem Florencita Gallant One
3—Ships Bells Orra Frat Boy	3—Bon Boots Ships Bells Orra	3—Ships Bells Yankee Colonel Bon Boots	3—Ships Bells Watussi Bon Boots	3—Ships Bells Orra Yankee Colonel	3—Listowel Orra Bon Boots
4—Put In Defense Sir War	4—Defense Sir War Saku	4—Sir War Defense Put In	4—Defense Sir War Pocket o' Gold	4—Defense Sir War Saku	4—Defense Sir War Praiseworthy
5—Count Dean Timberland Foxster	5—Count Dean Easy Sailing Timberland	5—Timberland Alsang Count Dean	5—Count Dean Timberland Scotch High	5—Count Dean Richlein Alsang	5—Scotch High Count Dean Timberland
6—Over Drive Caressante Southern Jane	6—Over Drive Caressante Southern Jane	6—Over Drive Southern Jane Valdina Eterno	6—Southern Jane Over Drive Caressante	6—Over Drive Caressante Royal Marlb'ro	6—Southern Jane Caressante Over Drive
7—Appeasement Transient Kay-Diane	7—Heather Time Kay-Diane U-Boat	7—U-Boat Kay-Diane Urge Me	7—U-Boat Urge Me Heather Time	7—Appeasement Kay-Diane U-Boat	7—Appeasement Kay-Diane Urge Me
8—Friendly Paul Aranmore Ezechias	8—Ezechias Praetorian Good Taste	8—Spanish Main Good Taste Ezechias	8—Ezechias Friendly Paul Aranmore	8—Ezechias Spanish Main Friendly Paul	8—Friendly Paul Praetorian Ezechias

Retakes

+ Continued from page 2 +

Hollywood where the players are more concerned with flight from age.

★ ★ ★

Hollywood, as well as London, has its war sufferers. The price of toupees is going sky-high.

★ ★ ★

A knight of old on a picture set
Puffed on a modern cigaret
Which hadn't been invented yet.

Castings for 'Uncle'

Russell Gleason, Astrid Allwyn, Richard Carle, Mary Gordon, Jack Mulhall, Matt Moore and Renee Haal get roles in 'Unexpected Uncle' at RKO. Studio has taken option on Miss Haal, formerly under contract there until several months ago, for possible new term ticket. Picture starts Friday with Peter Godfrey directing and Clem Beauchamp assisting.

Option Stephenson

Warners yesterday picked up option of James Stephenson, whose next assignment is in 'Kings Row.'

NORTHWEST EXHIBITOR DENOUNCES DUAL BILLS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

exhibitor in his territory with the exception of the F-WC affiliates, and he called upon these circuit heads to help banish the widespread evils that double billing is claimed by many to produce.

The speaker strongly advocated that Hamrick-Evergreen and F-WC should become a definite, active party to the widespread movement to eliminate duals, and stated that since he had first spoken on the subject at last year's PCC convention, a new and vitally important factor had developed in the increased cost of operation which, he said, further added to the double feature burden.

Present decline of the picture box office, in many instances, was attributed by Lukan directly to duals, he openly charging that double bills continue to drive patrons away from the theatre. He further charged that reluctance on the part of the National Theatre Corp. subsidiaries was the strongest deterrent to the single bill policy so far encountered.

Lukan followed Albert J. Law, general counsel of the PCC, who in turn followed Mary Pickford to the rostrum. Bob White, Portland, Ore., trustee, presided.

A resume of PCCITO activities and its trustees during the past year was given by Poole, who asked for the continued support of all members of the organization in order that unity could be achieved in correcting problems facing theatre owners individually and collectively.

POOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Poole recalled that a 15-point plan which the PCCITO adopted at its convention last year had been stymied by the government's consent decree, and announced that a committee had been named to receive resolutions from exhibitors throughout today for presentation before the convention at the Thursday closing session.

This committee, Poole stated, is made up of Bob White, L. O. Lukan, Ben Levin of San Francisco and Law. The PCC executive secretary said that other subjects to be discussed during the remainder of the convention included the somewhat recent introduction of student admission prices, an analysis of the slump in b.o. receipts, the dearth of good films, prevalence of moveovers, wrong allocation of pictures due to false grosses quoted by distributors, and army camp clearance.

Hugh Bruen of Whittier, one of the two Los Angeles trustees to the conference, and the last speaker of the session, forecast a trying period ahead for small theatre owners particularly. He declared himself profoundly concerned for independent exhibs everywhere, due to increased costs, hardships under the consent decree, and quality of the product soon to be released.

PCC conventioneers today start a two-morning program of open forum meetings, at which time exhibitors will be permitted to let their hair down and discuss any and all subjects against which they hold grievances. This morning's meeting will be opened by Poole introducing Ed Kuykendall, MPTOA prexy, and will conclude at noon with the reading of various announcements.

LEGIT OPENING

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Coen and Robert Churchill, the latter an ex-scripter and cameraman on documentaries. Churchill also scored personal smash with an army sex lecture monolog and chemical warfare lecture in which he donned a gas mask and dived into footlights, coming up with short and long ciggies, a la Pall Mall ads.

Best of the laugh-grabbing skits was takeoff on pigeon training center, labeled 'Squabs Right', scripted by Edmund North, who served a year as Samuel Goldwyn's assistant and is the son of Robert North, producer at Republic studios on Coast. He wrote a number of sketches and lyrics and directed the entire show at speedy Broadway pace, despite technical difficulties. He was assisted by William Bloom and Sol Shore.

Douglas Kennedy, Hollywood's 'Keith Douglas', handled the romantic and singing roles solidly. Opposite was Nan Iverson, a Powers model who lives in Redbank and was one of half a dozen local gals in the lineup, giving the show plenty S.A.

Lighting was by Harry Redmond, former Warners special effects man, and Robert Koskoff, also from the Coast; scenery by Robert Majors and Victor Mishonsky, formerly Disney animators, Paul Fanning, ex-Harmon-Ising, and John Vita from the Leon Schlesinger — professional jobs in both departments.

In its present form it is no entry for Broadway but is easily the top camp production of the present era. Loaded with funny skits which appealed to non-audience, good tunes, good lyrics, and having the benefit of several talented performers, it scores easily with some 600 townsfolk and soldiers packed into Elks Hall, done in 'Hellzapoppin' roughhouse style.

Doubt Ben Cohen Safety

New York, June 9.—Anxiety is felt here for the safety of Ben Cohen, Metro's South African manager, and his wife, on reports that the S.S. Robert Moore, ship on which they were traveling, had floundered May 20 with only 11 survivors being picked up by a Brazilian vessel. Cohen sailed May 6 after being reassigned from the post of India manager.

Demands of 10,000 Workers Go To Producers Today

Demands for contract revisions covering wages, hours and conditions for 10,000 film technicians will be presented to Producers today when committees representing the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes huddle with Pat Casey, Producer labor contact. Demands of the unions for immediate opening of negotiations, as well as the question of retroactive pay under the Wage-Hour Law, were mulled last night at a conference between Casey and the Producers Labor Relations Committee headed by Y. Frank Freeman.

While the Freeman committee was meeting, the IATSE locals' negotiating committees also were in session, mapping final plans for approaching their negotiations with the major companies. It is understood that a majority of the union representatives are anxious to get their negotiations on wages and conditions out of the way before taking up the question of back pay.

Several of the business representatives stated that the question of back pay affected only a small percentage of the membership, while the question of wages, hours and conditions would affect them all. They said they did not anticipate any trouble on getting together with the Producers on the back pay matter, and for that reason planned to push the other negotiations first.

The Producers, in the meantime, were reported planning to demand an eight-hour day, instead of the current six-hour shifts. They contend the short day was adopted to spread work, but that with hundreds of workers leaving the industry for military service and to work on Defense Program projects, there is no longer any necessity for spreading the work via a short day.

The first meeting between Casey and the IATSE groups probably will be devoted to a preliminary discussion of how to proceed with the negotiations. It is understood that the individual demands of each union will be presented separately, but that no deals will be signed until an agreement has been reached with all the locals now united in a Federation.

Casey was recalled from the east to handle the negotiations after the locals had notified the Producers that they would handle their own deals, without any aid or interference from the IA International.

Lloyd Crew Returning

Frank Lloyd, Jack Skirball and a troupe of 110 will return late this week from Lake Tahoe location, where they are berthed for exteriors on 'This Girl Is Mine.' Company is headed by Franchot Tone, Walter Brennan, John Carroll and Carol Bruce.

RKO Terms Anna Lee

Anna Lee has been signed to a term contract at RKO, starting as soon as she completes her current assignment at 20th-Fox in 'How Green Was My Valley.' Her first picture under the new pact will be 'Three Rogues.'

AFM PETRILLO LAMBASTS ASST. U.S. ATTY. ARNOLD

● Continued from page 1 ●

American Guild of Musical Artists, Petrillo stated that Arnold had used unethical methods in his campaign against the AFofM.

Petrillo declared that Arnold had said that jurisdictional disputes have nothing to do with the hours, wages or working conditions of union members, but are merely contests as to which union leader will own the members. 'When I am what Arnold calls me', said Petrillo, 'throw me out in the alley, because that's where I'll belong.'

In a review of the calling out of AForM members from feeding remote broadcasts to stations where the AFofM in on strike, Petrillo declared that no AFofM members would play for any remote control broadcasts that would be fed to struck stations.

The first session was given over mostly to routine business with welcoming addresses from Lieutenant-Governor Victor Meyers, President James A. Taylor, of the Washington State Federation of Labor, and others leading off. The reading of the roll call and the appointment of committees preceded talks by AFofM leaders, including honorary President Joseph N. Weber, who said that in these momentous times individual interests must take second place to the general welfare and that the AFofM was ready to make any sacrifices to guard democracy and freedom. A hint of future action may have prompted his remark that 'we have subversive elements in the AForM, also, and I can prove it when necessary.'

A motion allowing the president of the AFofM to hold office in a local was passed after Petrillo explained the situation at present and asked the convention to act. He is currently head of the Chicago AFofM local in addition to being national prexy.

The convention will reconvene tomorrow for a morning session, with the afternoon given over to a cruise.

CONVENTION NOTES

Nobel Braden, executive secretary of the American Arbitration Association, New York, is an interested spectator at the convention sessions and is expected to address the MPTOA delegates between now and Thursday.

Charlie Holtz, who operates the Colonial theatre at Sacramento, and his associate, Noble Barton, are here for the convention, accompanied by their wives. They plan to remain over until sometime Friday.

A signal honor was accorded Fred S. Meyer, 20th-Fox exec, when Ed Kuykendall invited the former national secretary to sit in (and he did) throughout the annual meeting of the MPTOA board of directors last night. The boys just feel that Fred is still one of them.

George Hickey, Metro's sheriff, has been in almost constant attendance at the Ambassador, meeting his loads of exhibitor friends.

Fred Wehrenberg arrived Sunday but did not register his appearance until early yesterday.

Sidney Lust, Washington, D. C. director of MPTOA, with his wife tried to crash the registration desk before it opened yesterday, but finally compromised and had breakfast first.

John Rugar, prexy of the Intermountain Theatre Owners, with headquarters in Salt Lake City, headed a delegation of exhibs from that area to the convention.

'Red' Jacobs came down from Frisco, where he now is located as branch manager for RKO.

Mike Naify of San Francisco is accompanied by his son, Marshall. And as usual Mike is eagerly sought after by every one at the convention.

'Peaceful picketing' broke out yesterday in front of the National Theatre Supply booth. Placard carried by the picket read on one side that National Theatre Supply background was unfavorable to Wagner, and the reverse side read that Wagner's background was likewise unfair to NTS.

Ben Levin of Frisco was photographed with Metro's lion yesterday and immediately became filled with so much courage he started ordering his wife around.

Neil Agnew was again delayed and now is due to arrive here some time this morning.

Fox West Coast Theatres has an attractive cutout bedecked with flowers extending a welcome to the exhibs in the hotel lobby, and also is giving courtesy passes to all local theatres to each of the registrants.

United Artists cashed in on a lot of publicity yesterday when it distributed bottles of sherry wine as an advance bally for 'New Wine', which it will shortly distribute. Lew Marin of the UA exploitation staff, and Guy Gunderson, of the local exchange, have headquarters in Room 460 at the Ambassador and from here the libation, in unopened bottles, was dished out. A card, which accompanied each gift, bore a greeting to the showmen from Ilona Massey, who is featured in the picture.

Although Max Sinker registered for his partner, Irving Carlin, latter was too busy at the Hollywood bowling alleys to visit convention headquarters until just in time to horn in on the studio trip.

Mrs. Jenne Dodge of Ventura is doing a swell job as official hostess for the ITO of Southern California.

The National Theatre Supply exhibit features a new type of Hy-Candescent lamp. Projector, equipped with F-2 condensers and F-2 lenses, furnishes double the light formerly achieved by the same amperage. Henry G. Schick, in charge of the National Theatre Supply display booth, also is demonstrating effectiveness of fluorescent carpets, under black lights, which are most useful along aisles and dimly lighted parts of the theatre.

National Screen Service has an attractive exhibit plugging the value of advertising to show business. Likeness of a circus strong man is pictured as the God of Advertising.

Kuykendall Elected By MPTOA For Eighth Term

■ Continued from page 1 ■

one exception, was re-elected with him.

Frank C. Walker was again named as a vice-president, but has retired as general counsel, his duties as postmaster general making it imperative that he relinquish his exhibitor duties as far as the legal end is concerned.

Other officers include M. A. Lightman of Memphis, Mitchell Wolfson, Miami, Fla., E. C. Beatty, Detroit, Mich., and A. Julian Brylawski, Washington, D. C., as vice-presidents; Morris Loewenstein, Oklahoma City, secretary; Walter Vincent, New York, treasurer; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, chairman of the board, and Aarons, associate general counsel.

'Singapore' Rolling

Florence Rice and Leif Erikson will head the cast in 'The Blonde From Singapore', which starts shooting tomorrow at Columbia under the direction of Edward Dmytryk. Gordon Jones and Don Beddoe have feature parts. Seymour Friedman will be assistant director.

Connolly Direction

Bobby Connolly has drawn the directing assignment on Warners 'West of the Rockies', short subject to feature William Justice. Studio yesterday wound up shooting on 'Minstrel Days', short which Connolly directed.

Ansen on Smither

Joseph Ansen has been assigned to write script for the fifth Quiz short to be made by Pete Smith at Metro. Smith is starting 'How to Hold Your Husband — Back' this week. John Hines will direct.

Chas. Quigley Set

Charles Quigley has been signed by Larry Darmour to play the lead in 'The Iron Claw', serial latter will produce for Columbia. Chapter play goes into work Monday with James Horne directing.

Totman Ends 'Game'

Wellyn Totman has turned in his script on 'The Deadly Game' to Dixon Harwin and Barney Sarecky, who will produce at Monogram. Picture is tentatively scheduled to start Friday if casting is completed.

Added to 'Heaven'

Leah Baird and Vera Lewis yesterday were added to the cast of Warners 'One Foot in Heaven.' Jesse Hibbs has been made assistant to Irving Rapper, who directs.

Williams in 'Rich'

Guinn Williams joins the supporting players in 'You'll Never Get Rich' at Columbia.

Mediator Calls Disney Strike Conference

Continued from page 1

mediator in the strike at the Disney Studio. Smith called a meeting last night of business representatives of IATSE studio locals to discuss the situation, and is to confer today with Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 and leader of the Screen Cartoonists Guild walkout.

In the meantime, the Central Labor Council appointed a committee with power to act to consider the request that Disney products be placed on the American Federation of Labor unfair list. It was understood the Committee planned to defer action until today because of the meeting of the board of directors of the Disney company scheduled for last night, and with the idea of continuing negotiations before banning Disney products.

The Screen Actors Guild board of directors at its meeting last night pledged moral and financial support to the Disney strikers. The following wire, signed by prexy Edward Arnold for the executive board, was sent to Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney unit of the Screen Cartoonists Guild:

'The SAG pledges its moral and financial support to the Screen Cartoonists Guild in the present strike action forced by the anti-labor tactics of the Walt Disney studio. The Disney company's activities in disregard of National Labor Relations Board decisions, together with the other facts make it clear that you had no other recourse than to strike and preserve your rights to bargain collectively. To the loyal members of the SCG we extend our sympathy because of the personal sacrifices which are necessary and our congratulations that your members have demonstrated the courage necessary to make such sacrifices.'

The following letter asking Smith to act as a mediator was received yesterday from Walt Disney:

'Pursuant to the discussion you had with our Mr. Garity on June 2 and June 7 wherein you stated you would not permit soundmen to cross an AFofL picket line at our studio and make recordings, you evidenced interest in using your good offices to the end of attempting an amicable settlement of the present strike at our studio to the mutual satisfaction of all concerned.

'As a result of that interest expressed we now ask you to enter this situation and attempt to bring about an early agreement mutually satisfactory to the company, the IATSE unions and other AFofL unions and guilds involved.

'It is not to our best interests or that of your members and the other allied crafts and organizations that this become a long drawn out controversy. Therefore, your intercession and cooperation as a mediator will be appreciated.

'It is understood that this letter represents our desire to settle our dispute, but will not be interpreted that the company has weakened or will change the position originally taken for fair play relative to all of its employes involved.'

The National Labor Relations Board has not yet taken any action on the Disney position for an election of employes, or on the Screen Cartoonists Guild complaint charging the company with unfair labor practices. The difficulty of securing witnesses at this time is understood to have delayed the matters.

A meeting of the strategy board of the strikers is scheduled for tonight. The board includes representatives from all crafts cooperating with the cartoonists, including the sound technicians, laboratory technicians, teamsters, laborers, cutters, etc.

LAW COUNSELS OBSERVANCE OF U. S. CONSENT DECREE

Albert J. Law, general counsel for the PCCITO, at the opening session of the association's convention yesterday morning urged exhibitors to report every infringement or violation of the consent decree to their local association in order that questionable practices might be taken up by him directly with Thurman Arnold, Department of Justice trustbuster in Washington.

In his report on efforts to have the consent decree modified and other action on problems confronting exhibitors, Law said that Arnold had agreed to consider exhibitor complaints forwarded to him in Washington and that he would take up serious questions with any distributors involved by direct contact with their New York headquarters.

Law stated that in his talks with Arnold in Washington recently he had broached the subject of modifying the decree so as to permit exhibitors to buy as in the past, with enforcement of the 20% cancellation clause. Arnold admitted that the decree is regarded as an experiment which will probably be in effect only for a year in its present form. But he declared himself unalterably opposed to any modification of the decree at this time and stated that the provisions of the law must be rigidly adhered to until such time as practical experience with the workings of the legislation indicates what, if any, changes should be made.

During his conversations with Arnold, Law pointed out that there were many situations which are not covered by the decree. Arnold replied that the Sherman anti-trust laws were still in force to cover any loophole.

POLICE REGULATIONS

Proceeding on the assumption that the consent decree is on trial for a period of approximately one year, Law advised exhibitors to make sure that the regulations are meanwhile enforced and policed. He suggested that if pressure methods are adopted by any distributor, this should be referred to the local exhibitor association which would then send the complaints along to him and in turn be forwarded to Arnold in Washington.

In order to establish a record upon which any re-examination of the decree can take place at the end of the year, Law warned exhibitors that they must call attention to all cases of decree violation. Law referred specifically to any attempted forcing of short subjects and newsreels upon exhibitors and suggested that such practices be called to his attention for submission to the Department of Justice. In this way a record will be created so that when exhibitors go into court they will be able to show where the decree has helped or hindered them and ask for modifications based on facts.

Turning next to the proposed tax on motion picture film and the reduction of exemption on admission taxes, Law said that from his talks with various members of the Ways and Means Committee in Washington he had gathered the impression that a tax on film would not be levied by Congress, but that the admission tax exemption would likely be reduced to nine cents so that there would be a one cent tax on every 10c admission ticket. The legislators had originally planned to place a tax on film because they had been under the impression that this tax would be absorbed by the distributors. Since they learned that the tax would be passed on to exhibitors sentiment has veered away from a tax of this nature.

ASCAP PROPOSAL

With regard to the proposed action against Ascap, Law stated that he was ready to go into court, but asked all exhibitors who haven't already sent in letters giving all necessary information to do so by June 20, as suit is to be filed shortly thereafter. Law revealed that while in Washington he had gone over the Florida and Nebraska cases against Ascap with the attorney-general of each of those two states. He stated that the objective on the west coast is to sell the courts the idea that Ascap is an illegal combination fixing prices and operating in restraint of trade. He contended that the Supreme court ruling in the Florida and Nebraska cases so defines the association.

Referring briefly to the small number of arbitration cases filed so far, Law condemned hesitation on the part of exhibitors to take action where it was warranted and said that fear of reprisals from distributors should not deter theatre operators from making themselves heard. He reiterated his warning that exhibitors must submit cases of attempted intimidation and all other pertinent data in order to establish a record before alleviation can be applied for. He cautioned that it would be illogical to say that the consent decree was no good before it was given a fair trial.

Law concluded his address with a report that PCCITO has been incorporated, proper documents having been filed with the Secretary of State of California.

Farmer's 'Yearling'

Frances Farmer is being tested at Metro for the role of the mother in 'The Yearling.'

Set Llewellyn Miller Play for Strawhat Opening in East

'Final Answer', play by Llewellyn Miller, former LA newspaper reporter and now editor of Fawcett's Screen Life in New York, will be the third summer presentation at Robert Elwyn's Woodstock, N. Y. playhouse. Opening the season there is 'The Shining Hour' with Elissa Landi. Second will be 'Concert Tour', by Frank Thomas, Sr., and Henry Moritz, with Thomas, Sr. and Jr., in the cast. Dickers are now on for a film name to do the lead in Miss Miller's play.

Preview

Continued from page 3

vigilant guards, and pulls the trigger. The hammer snaps down on an empty chamber. The hunter, captured as he is about to repeat with a charged rifle, explains to the Gestapo that he had no intention of assassinating the German fuehrer, much less of doing so at the behest of high British officials; that he had merely made a 'sporting stalk' of the big 'human game' for the sheer pride of being able to get so close to the guarded Nazi head. This takes place before war is joined between the two countries, and the sportsman's act is still a matter to be measured and qualified by international laws. At the last, Pidgeon admits that it was his intention actually, to kill Hitler. In between the melodrama twists and mounts through many close escapades after Pidgeon has evaded the custody of Sanders, Gestapo chief, who seeks to have him blame official England for his act.

Director Lang shows himself a master at maintaining high suspense and holding a tale with possibilities of getting out of hand thoroughly in check to winnow its every passion. Shock and thrill punctuate the running narrative, which is dressed in eloquent photography by Arthur Miller and given the benefit of top notch musical score by Alfred Newman.

Kenneth Macgowan presided as associate producer.

Planted

Metro

John T. Murray, Johnnie Morris, Mitchell Ingraham, 'Dr. Kildare'.

George Ovey, 'Andy Hardy'.

Frederic Worlock, 'Young Americans'.

20th-Fox

Leonid Kinskey, 'Weekend in Havana'.

Edmund Gween, 'Confirm or Deny'.

Paramount

Hal Talliaferro, 'Timber Wolves'.

Warners

George Lloyd, 'Hot Nocturne'.

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Allen, J. H.	Salem, Ill.	Ambassador 386
Ames, K. E.	Portland, Ore.	Chap. Park 316
Ames, Mrs. K. E.	Portland, Ore.	Chap. Park 316
Abbott, Miss Louise	Chicago, Ill.	Ambassador 211
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Abbott, Les	Chicago, Ill.	Ambassador 211
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Berman, I.	Los Angeles	
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Barovie, Mike	Tacoma, Wash.	Ambassador 338
Barovie, Mrs. M.	Tacoma, Wash.	
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Brock, Mrs. Max	Lawton, Okla.	
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Cluster, Mrs. R. C.	Salem, Ill.	Ambassador 384
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Fay, Edw. M.	Providence, R. I.	
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Jacobson, Margaret	Springfield, Ore.	Priv. Res.
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Lam, Ralph	Rome, Ga.	Ambassador 759
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Rodgers, Mrs. I. W.	Cairo, Ill.	Ambassador
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Robbins, Al & Mrs.	Los Angeles	
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Rector, David	Los Angeles	
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Slipper, Mrs. Glenn	Los Angeles	
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Swan, Mrs. H. E.	Los Angeles	
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Torihin, Gloria	Sebastopol, Calif.	Gaylord 801
Torihin, Thelma	Sebastopol, Calif.	Gaylord 801
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Tisakoff, Beatrice	Rochester, N. Y.	Priv. Res.
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Tresslar, Fred & Mrs.	Salem, Ill.	Ambassador 385
Ullman, Mrs. Shirley	El Centro, Calif.	Ambassador 408
Valkes, Mrs. A.	Los Angeles	
Witzenhoffer, Aaron M. & Mrs.	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Ambassador 109
Walker, Beverly	University, Ala.	Priv. Res.
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Woods, Frances	Rome, Ga.	Ambassador 578
Woods, Elizabeth	Rome, Ga.	Ambassador 578
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Wolf, Furman & Mrs.	Clarksville, Texas	Ambassador 450
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Williams, R. X. & Mrs.	Oxford, Miss.	Ambassador 439
Williams, Xondis	Oxford, Miss.	Ambassador 438
Zabel, Arthur	Olympia, Wash.	Calif. Apt.
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AUGURY HEADS ENTRIES FOR SEQUOIA HANDICAP

By DOC BAKER

Hollywood Park on Saturday ends its third full week of the current meeting with an all-star cast of fillies and mares, three years old and older, vieing for the honor of winning the Sequoia Handicap and a purse of $10,000. The Sequoia, feature race for this Saturday, gives the ladies their first chance of the meeting to have at each other. Fourteen of the best mares and fillies at the track have been named for the seven furlong event, and since nominations, which closed last Saturday, were made so close to the running of the race, it is logical to expect that most, if not all of them, will accept the issue.

Augury, because of her recent debut in defeating Hysterical, appears to be the pre-race favorite at this writing, although Mrs. Vera S. Bragg's Cute Trick, Louis B. Mayer's Appeasement and Painted Veil, R. A. Coward's U-Boat, the Vegas Stock Farm's Omelet, J. D. Weil's Flying Streak and Northway Stud's Sweet Nancy all figure to give Neil S. McCarthy's champ a run for it.

CUTE TRICK TOUGH

Cute Trick probably will offer Augury her principal contention. The latter has been racing here recently in splendid fashion. The Bragg filly, winner of the Santa Susana Stakes at Santa Anita last winter, won the mile Dorimond Handicap here last Friday, and in her previous engagement she accounted for the six furlong Community Chest Handicap. In the latter event she turned back a field of her own sex, including Louis B. Mayer's Torch Betty and R. C. Ellsworth's Heather Time, also named for the Sequoia. In the Dorimond, Cute Trick whipped a field of masculine rivals.

Another lady expected to be heard from is Omelet, who covered herself with some glory last winter at Santa Anita when she ran through slop to win the $10,000 Santa Marguerita Stakes, with Westrope in the irons. Augury took it on the chin in that race.

The unknown quantity and quality in the Sequoia is Maicena, a South American importation, belonging to the Binglin outfit. She has worked excellently for this spot, and she figures, if she runs her best race, to make it hot for the top ones.

The Sequoia is the first of two important stakes for fillies and mares to be run at Hollywood Park this summer. The other is the $10,000 Vanity Handicap, which will be run on June 28 at a mile and a sixteenth. These races have been arranged in response to the plea of the breeders for more added money events for fillies and mares. It is such events that increase the value of feminine thoroughbreds as prospective broodmares.

'Cabin' Opens

'Cabin in the Sky', with Ethel Waters heading the original New York cast, opened a week's engagement last night at Philharmonic auditorium. Negro spiritual winds up four-week light opera festival season. Show goes to Frisco for two or three-week run following its local stand. Featured in the George Balanchine production are Todd Duncan, Rex Ingram, Katherine Dunham and her dancers.

Team for 'Murder'

Ellen Drew and Robert Preston will be teamed in 'Mardis Gras Murder', James R. Langham-Jonathan Latimer mystery story which goes into production at Paramount in August.

Heisler's 'Andrew'

Director assignment on 'The Remarkable Andrew' goes to Stuart Heisler. Brian Donlevy, William Holden and Ellen Drew head the cast in the Paramount production.

Cameron's 'Homicide'

Rod Cameron will do the romantic lead opposite Betty Jane Rhodes in 'Sing a Song of Homicide' at Paramount, which co-stars Eddie Bracken and June Preisser.

New Our Ganger

New Our Gang comedy at Metro will be 'Going to Press', for which Hal Law and Robert McGowan are writing script. Edward Cahn is assigned to direct.

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Screen Play by Casey Robinson, Richard Macaulay and Jerry Wald • From a Story by Leonard Spigelglass

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EXHIBITORS GO LA-TE-DA

UNIONS HIT $3,000,000 JACKPOT

Studio unions hit the '$3,000,000 back pay jackpot' yesterday. Pat Casey, at a conference with business representatives of 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, advised the unionists that the major companies will pass out retroactive pay plums to all workers affected since passage of the Wage-Hour Law in 1938. Estimates of the amount to be paid

◆ Continued on page 14 ◆

20th Will Hold Annual Meet Here July 16

20th-Fox will hold its annual sales convention here July 16-19, with sessions at the Ambassador hotel. Company is sending a special train from the east, picking up sales reps en route, for a total attendance of around 250. Annual powwow had originally been scheduled to be held in New York late this month.

Lindsay Motors West

New York, June 10.—Margaret Lindsay, currently in the east for radio dates, will head for the Coast by motor at the end of next week. She starts work on the next Ellery Queen picture at Columbia about July 1.

Baugh at Republic

Sammy Baugh from Texas has reported at Republic for preliminary tests for his initial starrer, the cliff-hanger, 'King of the Texas Rangers'. Twelve-chapter serial starts next Monday.

Michael Ames Retied

Michael Ames, brought to Warners from Broadway stage show, 'My Sister Eileen', has been re-optioned after 'The Flight Patrol', to appear in featured role in 'Law of the Tropics.'

PREVIEWED

THE GET-AWAY
(MG)

(Preview on page 3)

KELLY SAYS UA MUST LEARN NEW TRICKS

New York, June 10. — 'United Artists must learn new tricks to survive', Vice-President Arthur Kelly, who recently succeeded Murray Silverstone as operating head, said yes-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Green Gets 'Dakota'

Director Alfred E. Green will pilot Universal's 'Bad Lands of Dakota', and yesterday checked in at the studio to begin preparations. George Waggner will handle the producer assignment. Harold Shumate wrote the script. Picture, ample budgeted melodrama, is slated to start end of this month.

CONVENTION COLLAPSE SEEN IN TRAIPSING

Reluctance of a majority of the out-of-town exhibitors gathered here for the annual MPTOA convention to attend the business sessions, and their seeming preference to spend most of their time at the various studios hob-nobbing with the film players, is proving disastrous and may result in the complete collapse of the convention.

At the opening session of the MPTOA yesterday afternoon, only a handful of theatre operators were present to hear the various talks and reports of executive officers. So

★ Continued on page 15 ★

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	432
Major studio calls	313
FK Studio Service	29
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	774

Golden Urges Pic Biz Setup on Baseball Lines

Speaking before the MPTOA convention at the Ambassador hotel yesterday, Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant with the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington, said that the film industry, in looking to domestic patronage to take up the void caused by the virtual disappearance of the foreign market, should develop a program for the motion picture industry similar to that employed by the major baseball leagues in the United States. He said that just as organized baseball, assisted by amateur leagues and

♣ Continued on page 13 ♣

Thompson, Spitzer West

New York, June 10. — Harlan Thompson and Marian Spitzer next week return to Hollywood for the summer. Former Warners producer is now working on a farce for Broadway production, and his wife has been scripting for radio.

Col Seeks Fritz Lang To Direct 'Rock'

Columbia is trying to borrow Fritz Lang from 20th-Fox to direct 'Brighton Rock', which Lester Cowan will produce. Ida Lupino will have the top femme role and Columbia is also trying to get Louis Hayward from Edward Small to play opposite her.

Cathy Lewis Bow

Cathy Lewis, Pasadena Community Playhouse player, gets her first film role at Metro in the untitled 'Dr. Kildare' feature. Miles Mander also joins the cast for a feature assignment, along with Joe Devlin and Selmer Jackson.

Cartoonists Vote Today On Disney Representation

Members of the Screen Cartoonists Guild vote this morning on the question of agreeing to an election of Walt Disney employes to determine whether the Guild represents a majority. The decision to submit the proposal to a vote of the workers was reached yesterday at a conference between Walt Disney and a Guild committee headed by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644. The session was held in the offices of Harold V. Smith, who has been asked by the company to act as mediator in the two-weeks-old studio strike.

It was pretty generally agreed that

♠ Continued on page 14 ♠

Swerling's 'Hello'

Jo Swerling has been assigned to do the screen play on 'Hello, Frisco, Hello' at 20th-Fox after completing the script for 'Confirm or Deny.' Milton Sperling will be associate producer on 'Hello', an original by Robert Hopkins. Sperling also has Maurice Rapf and Jack Jungmeyer, Jr. scripting 'Whispering Wires.'

Sklar, Moritz Teamed

George Sklar and Henry Moritz have been assigned at Columbia to develop the screenplay for Columbia's 'Hurrah for Music', which Irving Starr will produce.

Join 'Sullivan's'

Victor Potel and Harry Rosenthal yesterday were added to the cast of Paramount's 'Sullivan's Travels.'

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Conejo**
Flying Tartar
Miss Boxthorn
2d RACE—**Valdina Minx**
Heel In
Tonas
3d RACE—**Milk Route**
Islam Girl
Okoole Maluna
4th RACE—**Brodea**
Congressman
Gridine
5th RACE—**Wise Barrister**
Billie Bane
Sumatra III
6th RACE—**Paperboy**
Nicogold
Creakle
7th RACE—**CUTE TRICK**
Lassator
Wilton
8th RACE—**West Acre**
Star Struck
Sweet Leilani
CHANCE BET—**Molasses Mibs** (4th)
Selections consensus, page 15.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Milton Cashy back from New York.

H. H. Van Loan one year older today.

Don Wilson Texas-bound as honor guest at Pampa Fiesta.

Abe Lyman planes in today for engagement at Palladium starting (20).

Tommy Reilly plans to open a talent agency for night club entertainers.

Kay Kyser's band and NBC worthies square off at softball Monday night.

Marian Manners canaries at Charlie Foy's valley nitery starting tomorrow night.

Hyman Bushel planed in on legal biz with Rudy Vallee and airs back to NY today.

Art La Shelle is garnering the film sailors every weekend at Christian's Hut, Newport.

Edward G. Robinson plays host to 300 theatre owners at his 'Big Town' broadcast today.

Opening of Tin Pan Alley nitery in the Valley has been postponed to Wednesday (18).

Donald W. Thornburgh, CBS Coast topper, to the high Sierras on a fishing expedition.

Jimmie Fidler flies to Galveston, Tex., Friday to address Texas Newspaper Publishers convention.

Harold V. Cohen, film ed of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, due in Saturday for a month of studio rounds.

George Woolsey, Paramount truck driver recently put into Harry Sherman's Hopalong pictures, will have the screen name of Norman Russell.

Michael Whalen leaves today for Cape May, N. J., where he will do 10 weeks of summer stock. Actor will open there in 'Out of the Frying Pan' on June 23.

John Murray has been named manager of the Ambassador hotel theatre. He replaces Dick Pritchard, who has been upped to promotional activities for the hostelry.

Film editor assignments at Warners have Jack Killifer on 'The Smiling Ghost', Doug Gould on 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough', and Thomas Richards on 'The Maltese Falcon'.

Helen Craig, forced out of the cast of 'Johnny Belinda', New York legiter, by illness recently, trained in yesterday for a vacation and rest here with her husband, John Beal.

Benny the Gouge sez — Every speaker at a film convention is strong for unity, even if he has to tear somebody apart to get unified.

Hollywood Inside

DONALD WOODS aired for Denver yesterday leaving the producers of CBS air show, 'Those We Love', in a dilemma as to what to do with the two remaining broadcasts of the season (16-23). Woods, who has been doing the lead on the program, obtained permission to jump the last two airings several weeks ago in order to return for five weeks of summer stock at the Elitch's Garden in Denver. Producers figured on writing Woods out of program for last two broadcasts but story development failed to make a loophole for the removal. It will be impossible to fly Woods back next Monday (16) for that show as he opens the same date in 'Skylark'. The following Monday (23), he begins his role in 'The Male Animal', leaving ether producers with the necessity of finding a substitute. Other Elitch's Gardens plays to be presented are 'Philadelphia Story', 'Golden Boy' and 'The Guardsman.'

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M. H. HOFFMAN is expected back from New York shortly to line up studio production space for the 26 features to be turned out by Liberty National Pictures Corp. during 1941-42. Hoffman has been east for some time, completing financial details and setting distribution for the program. Schedule will include action, melodrama, mystery and western pictures, plus a contemplated 12 to 18 additional features to be produced by independent producers under franchises. Coast headquarters, now on the Sunset Strip, will probably be at the RKO-Pathe lot, where Hoffman was previously located. New York offices will be maintained in the RKO building, in charge of Liberty National's sales manager.

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WHEN Stirling Hayden got a job in pictures at Paramount he brought to the Coast with him a friend, Jack Dixon, newspaper photographer from Boston. Dixon tried to land a job in the business, first as a still camera man, then as a publicity writer. Both attempts failed. He made some stills of himself in character and got a bit in Cecil B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind.' Then he played in 'Timber Wolves' and will go into 'American Empire' and 'Sullivan's Travels', all Paramount films. Hayden is away on location for 'Bahama Passage' and when he gets back Dixon will have been in more roles than he has played.

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SO FAR, Paramount is the only studio that has established a practical system of cutting out, in advance, those scenes, characters and situations in its pictures that may prove offensive to audiences in Latin America. Luigi Luraschi, of the studio's foreign department, has been installed as the official censor. Luraschi has more than a desk job, for his suggestions go directly to studio heads and are acted upon more quickly than those made by the ordinary technical advisor. His work comprises reading of scripts and dialog and gandering scenes as they go before the cameras.

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CECIL B. DeMILLE has blossomed out with a portable dressing-room for himself that, for sheer munificence puts to shame those used by many stars. Director makes use of it to change from his boots and riding pants into mufti when he goes for his Monday afternoon radio broadcasts. It is no bigger than a small trailer, but it has flourescent lighting and a modern white Chinese rug; full-length mirrors; three closets; a couch upholstered in rough white wool trimmed with red; a mahogany desk; hidden ventilation and an electric heater.

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PUBLICITY men from all the major studios are working in relays on the reception committee for the PCCITO-MPTOA convention at the Ambassador hotel. Sam Clark, from Warners, and Bob Doman, 20th-Fox, are on duty full days. Those alternating are John Del Valle, Paramount; Jimmy O'Toole, Earle Hampton, Columbia; Louis Blaine, Ray Hoadley, Universal; Johnny Meyers, Warners; Al Rankin, Connie Krebs, RKO; Teddy Weiss, Chuck Cochard, Metro; George Weiss, 20th-Fox.

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FRANK C. WALKER, one of the MPTOA vice prexys, and retiring as general counsel of the association to devote his interests to his new job as postmaster general of the United States, yesterday wired Ed Kuykendall, expressing his regrets at being unable to attend the Los Angeles convention, but conveying his good wishes to all exhibitors. Kuykendall read the wire at the opening session of MPTOA yesterday and it was received with a wave of enthusiasm for Walker.

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THEATRE PROJECTIONISTS, Local 150, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, yesterday voted to invest $10,000 in national defense bonds. Money will come from the union's general treasury. R. L. MacDonald, business agent for the union, said that the workers hoped, by their action, to encourage other unions to use their funds for defense bonds and also to show publicly that labor was behind the defense program.

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SIMPLIFICATION of RKO's corporate setup will near consummation Thursday when Keith-Albee-Orpheum stockholders will vote on a capitalization revamp in New York. Money involved is about $8,000,000, slightly under the amount recently estimated as needed to recall Keith bonds and regain possession of additional Keith-Albee-Orpheum preferred shares outstanding, including the Mike Meehan block.

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WITH 20th-Fox, Metro, RKO and Warners laying off selling in Minnesota because of the state's anti-consent decree law, Columbia, Universal, United Artists and independent distributors are harvesting heavy business. These companies are intensifying sales campaigns, while exhibitors, fearful of a product shortage, are grabbing everything available.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

They ramble east in the strawhat days, a numerous caravan,
With many a glamorous, gammorous femme and many a leading man,
Fed up with the films of Hollywood, but they all come back if they can.

★ ★ ★

A study of the contract lists of the film studios would reveal a big percentage of players who once deserted the pictures forever and forever. They left Hollywood flat on its spine until somebody made a noise like a contract.

★ ★ ★

Edgar Buchanan, who was a dentist before he became an actor, sang for the first time in 'Texas', and the rest of the cast on the Columbia set demanded novocaine.

Cecil B. DeMille's new portable dressing room is the dernier cri in portable dressing rooms except for one last word. You can't tow a swimming pool.

'Underground' is not going to be premiered in the Carlsbad Caverns because the caverns are all wet. So was cavernous preem idea, but it was hot when the flacks first thought of it. It got a cavernful of publicity.

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Speaking of heat, Republic is maintaining a balanced temperature, with 'Ten Nights in a Bar Room' on one set and 'Ice Capades' on another.

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All this talk about sweaters was solved simply in Wellesly, or was it Vassar? Anyway the dictum was 'Animals sweat, gentlemen perspire and ladies glow.'

Milton Berle, who is fed up with celluloid six-guns, sends word that he is dickering with a bicarbonate sponsor to put on 'Bilious the Kid'.

Bob Feller, according to his agent, is coming out here next Autumn to take a shot at pictures. Throwing strikes at a lens is different.

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When a Hollywood columnist asks: 'Are Lizzie McTish and Joe Zilch married?' it is neither curiosity nor friendship.

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Up comes a problem in the film industry, and the master minds get together and organize a committee.

And the committee organizes a sub-committee, which organizes a sub-sub-committee, which organizes a sub - sub - sub - committee, which passes the buck to a clerk.

P.S.—The clerk does all the work.

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One actor in Hollywood who doesn't need a mirror is Fortunio Bonanova, who can see himself in four pictures without the use of a motorcycle. Screening on the boulevard are 'Blood and Sand', 'Citizen Kane', 'That Night in Rio' and 'They Met in Argentina', with Fortunio fortunate enough to be playing in all of them. Old Man Shakespeare said there was something in a name.

Preview

★

The Get-Away

(*Melodrama*)

Metro production. Features Robert Sterling, Charles Winninger, Donna Reed, Henry O'Neill, Dan Dailey, Jr. Supporting players: Don Douglas, Ernest Whitman, Grant Withers, Chester Gan, Charles Wagenheim, Guy Kingsford, Matty Fain. Director, Edward Buzzell. Producer, J. Walter Ruben. Screenplay, Wells Root and W. R. Burnett. Story by J. Walter Ruben and Wells Root. Photography, Sidney Wagner. Musical score, Daniele Amfitheatrof. Recording director, Douglas Shearer. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Wade B. Rubottom. Set decorations, Edwin B. Willis. Wardrobe, Kalloch. Film editor, James E. Newcom. Previewed June 10. Running time: 88 mins.

Public hero number one was an exciting tale of gangdom and the FBI when made by Metro in 1935. It is still a good entry in the film crime department in 1941 as 'The Get-Away', and more than serves its purpose as a showcase for some promising talent being developed by the studio. In addition, theatregoers who like fast-action gangster tales will find this a well constructed melodrama that has only one drawback—too much footage to fit comfortably with a long, more pretentious production.

Its rewrite follows closely on the story as first made, needing only national defense work to bring it up-to-date. Robert Sterling plays the FBI operative done by Chester Morris in the original version, and points himself as an up and coming young actor who will develop quite a following. Charles Winninger is the drunken doctor who succors the wounded criminals, the role first played by Lionel Barrymore, and holds his own in any comparison. Donna Reed, in her first role, competes with Jean Arthur as the gangster's sister. Miss Reed shows considerable promise. Dan Dailey, Jr., the gangster formerly played by Joseph Calleia, is a standout, tense and menacing without hokum. Henry O'Neill does the warden formerly played by Lewis Stone, and is wholly satisfactory in the role.

Wells Root scripted solo on the original version, and this time is aided by W. R. Burnett, on the story by J. Walter Ruben and Root. Plot details the adventures of a disguised G-man who is sent to prison to arrange an escape for a gang's leader, falls in love with the mobster's sister, almost queers the law's roundup of the gang, but redeems himself. The story is well told and excellently dialoged.

Supporting performances by Don Douglas, Ernest Whitman, Grant Withers, Chester Gan, Charles Wagenheim, Guy Kingsford and Matty Fain aid generally in lending the proper atmosphere.

Edward Buzzell develops a mounting suspense with his direction and shows the young players to advantage. Ruben, who directed the 1935 version under the production of Lucien Hubbard, assumed the latter's post on the remake most creditably. Sidney Wagner's photography, the art direction and other functions are expertly carried out.

AFM Report Shows Increase In Musicians for Discs

Seattle, June 10.—Report of Ben Selvin, recording manager of Associated Music Publishers, Inc., on the survey of canned music which he conducted for Prexy J. C. Petrillo of American Federation of Musicians, gave the AFM at its convention here the first accurate figures showing the monies spent for recordings and transcriptions and the number of musicians used in making discs. There has been a great increase in the use of musicians for recordings since the war, due to lack of imported master recordings, declared Selvin, who added that records were probably a greater problem to the AFM than electrical transcriptions, because radio stations make unrestricted use of the former, which are not tailored specifically for radio as are electrical transcriptions.

Figures revealed that 53% of all radio programs use electrical transcriptions, with transcription libraries used by more than 700 stations. A chart showing what the average independent radio station uses in its average seven hours daily of music disclosed that records are utilized for two hours, four minutes; transcriptions, three hours, 43 minutes; remotes, 15 minutes, and live music, 58 minutes.

Of the resolutions considered, convention killed a proposal calling for use of musicians in theatres, under control of picture producers, and where no disposition to cooperate is shown, to take the matter up with the U. S. attorney general to 'break the stranglehold they have on exhibitors.'

Development of both television and frequency modulation broadcasting will tend to increase the use of live music, and wired music such as is supplied by Muzak is no problem, but some system should be devised so that AFM can control the making or distributing of records, Selvin stated. In the latter opinion he was backed by J. N. Weber, honorary president.

Juke boxes, such as Soundies, did not rate much attention in the report because it was felt they do not mean much in their present state of development and were felt to be a not unmixed evil.

Discussion of Selvin's report was left open for the rest of the convention, and several resolutions to be given the delegates will suggest ways of licensing recorders or the playing of records so that musicians either will get work or recompense from their commercial use. Opinion seemed to be that now is the time for AFM to do something on the canned music problem.

Attempt to raise minimum initiation fees for locals from $5 to $15 was killed, with Weber stating that the Federation could place a maximum on these fees but that amount of minimum was for locals to decide. Meeting adjourned at noon to reconvene tomorrow morning.

Buell Sigs Langdon

Jed Buell of Producers Corporation has signed Harry Langdon to a top spot for 'The Great Fib', through deal made by Hallam Cooley.

Injunction Granted Festival Films Over Copyright

Judge Jenney has granted an injunction to Festival Films prohibiting Edward Kohn from showing 16mm. films, in the Hollywood Parade theatre, on which the plaintiffs declared they held copyrights. Films in question were 16mm. versions of 'The Adventurer', 'The Fireman', 'The Immigrant' and others. The Court ruled that these pictures could be shown only in private homes or for private gatherings providing there is no admission charge.

When it was declared in court that Kohn intended to get similar films from the Museum of Modern Art in New York an officer of Festival Films, Sam Goldstein, stated that any license to exhibit which the Museum held had been cancelled last month.

Correspondents Meet On Preview Setup

Hollywood correspondents met yesterday at the Brown Derby to discuss the agreement negotiated with the Producers calling for all pictures to be previewed here before being shown elsewhere. The writers expressed satisfaction with the deal, but agreed to hold periodical meetings to check on the preview situation as well as other matters that might arise.

Screenplay 'Trail'

Robert Metzler and William Bruckner are screenplaying 'The Rainbow Trail', from the Zane Grey story which Sol M. Wurtzel will produce. Writing team just completed 'Riders of the Purple Sage', second in the Zane Grey group Wurtzel will do featuring George Montgomery.

Asther in 'Blind'

Nils Asther, when he finishes in the 'Dr. Kildare' picture at Metro, moves to Paramount for a spy role in the Bill Thomas-Bill Pine production, 'Flying Blind', and then to the Sol Siegel unit for 'Sing a Song of Homicide', which William Clemens directs.

In from the East

Francis S. Harmon (UP)
Everett Crosby (UP)
Helen Craig

Heading East

Henry Hathaway (TWA)
Ern Westmore (TWA)
Arthur Jacobson (TWA)
Taft Schreiber (Stratoliner)
Phyllis Brooks (Stratoliner)
Frederick Pike
Lamar Trotti
Michael Whalen
Spyros Skouras
Ed Zabel

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

PARTY to honor incoming officers will be given Friday at Lakeside by Hollywood Bar Assn. Guests will include Governor Olson, chief justice and judges of Appellate and Superior court. Entertainment will be provided by Abbott and Costello, Sidney Blackmer, Bert Wheeler, Maxie Rosenbloom, Bob Hope, Lind Hayes, Sam Hearn and Mary Healy. Lawyers will compete at golf, tennis and ping pong. New prexy of Bar Assn. is Nathan O. Freedman. . . . Robert Benchley, Frieda Inescort and Marjorie Gateson reported at Columbia yesterday for 'You'll Never Get Rich'. Studio is also using 150 dress extras and assorted night club types. Morris Stoloff called an orchestra of 40 pieces, for one of the picture's nine production numbers last night, to be used with a vocal ensemble of 65 and a number of tap dancers. . . . Lamar Trotti and the missus leave for New York today on the Chief, will pick up a new car and motor to the 20th-Fox's writer's home in Atlanta to pick up background material for a southern original he will do upon his return to the studio in 10 weeks.

Completing their organization for participation in the appeal of United Service Organizations, representatives of all the principal motion picture studios in the Los Angeles area met yesterday with their chairman, William Wellman, and heard reports that several film stars had 'beaten the gun' by sending in subscriptions before soliciting began.

FIRST annual dinner dance of the 20th-Fox Studio Club takes place Sunday night at the Florentine Gardens. On Sunday (22) club will stage its annual golf tournament at the Rancho Golf Club. . . . Marta Eggerth is doing her own decorating job on the new home in Bevhills and is arranging miniature replica as a preview for her husband, Jan Kiepura. . . . Initiation of John Huston's director career at Warners yesterday on 'The Maltese Falcon' brought the former script writer all sorts of gag props from studio associates, including breakaway chair, silent whistles, whips, megaphones, puttees and other traditional megging appurtenances.

Completion of the score for Warners 'Sergeant York' hangs up record for Alfred Newman of work in 150 pictures, of which 42 have been at Warners, during his 11 years in Hollywood.

PARAMOUNT'S 'Louisiana Purchase' will roll as soon as Technicolor cameras are available. Equipment is all tied up on other pictures for other studios. . . . Universal employes—some of them—are getting svelte on special diet blurbed on commissary bill-of-fare at rate of pound a day off for nine days, with pay deducted from salary checks. . . Ellen Drew is suffering for her art today. In John M. Stahl's picture

■ Continued on page 12 ■

Minneapolis Circuit Owner Throws Ascap Defi

Minneapolis, June 10.—Bennie Berger, owner of one of this territory's largest circuits, announces he will defy the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and refuse to continue paying license fees for his nine theatres, thus inviting Ascap suits.

In doing so Berger disregards the recent advice of Abram Myers, National Allied States counsel and his close friend, who told exhibitors that despite recent court decisions, the smart thing to do is to continue paying the Ascap fees.

Spyros Skouras Planes For Manhattan

Spyros Skouras, president of National Theatres, planes for New York today after preliminary discussions with Universal executives on the circuit's buys for the season. Details remain to be worked out. Ed Zabel, of the film buying department, accompanies Skouras east. Irving Barry, who came west with Skouras, remains here for another week.

Carroll Revue Castings

'Doc' Rockwell has been added to the cast of principals for Earl Carroll's new revue, 'Something to Shout About', opening (17) at the Sunset boul nitery. Other specialists include Borrah Minevitch and his Harmonica Rascals, 'Think - a - Drink' Hoffman, Gene Sheldon, Barney Grant and the Lester Horton dancers. Holdovers from the current extravaganza are Buster Shaver and his midgets, Olive and George, St. Clair and Day, the Debonairs and Bill Brady.

Roy Cooper Named

San Francisco, June 10.—Roy Cooper has been named assistant to R. A. McNeil, general manager of Golden State theatre circuit. He was Frisco division manager of the chain for the past three years.

Renew Peary, Randolph

Hal Peary and Isabel Randolph have been renewed for another stanza on the 'Fibber McGee and Molly' airshow beginning in the fall.

Story Buys

Universal has purchased 'Girl in Possession', an original by Theodore Reeves, and 'Man or Mouse', original by Robert Hunt, through the Ned Brown agency. Both stories have been assigned to Ken Goldsmith for production and Hunt will do the screen play on his story.

MUTUAL IMPATIENT AT FCC CRACKDOWN ON OTHER NETS

Washington, June 10.—There's no need to change the Communications Act, and the anti-monopoly reforms ordered by Federal Communications Commission are both thoroughly valid and sound, Mutual Broadcasting System spokesmen today told the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee. While considering the proposed probe unnecessary, Mutual is not fighting the White resolution calling for a study of the effect of the regulations. It simply doesn't like the clause suspending application of the verbotens. Congress can go ahead and inquire to its heart's content without encountering any Mutual objections, providing the 'salutary' reforms are put in force as scheduled in August.

Mutual, chief prospective beneficiary of the controverted commandments, 'had nothing to do with instigating' the long comish study, Louis G. Caldwell, chief counsel, declared. While not entirely pleased with some phases of the regulations, Caldwell said Mutual can 'conform' without any hardship. Others can, too, he added, and 'the rules eventually will be recognized as a boon' to the whole industry.

Maintenance of two webs by NBC was the sorest point with Mutual. Both Caldwell and Fred Weber, general manager, cheered most loudly the provision requiring elimination of one skein. Echoing yesterday's statements by FCC Chairman James L. Fly, Caldwell noted two out of four networks is a 'pretty high percentage', particularly when none of the existing combinations had adequate outlets in all markets.

Considerable questioning on this point was done by Senator Worth Clark of Idaho, who said stations in his state have 'importuned' him to support the White resolution. Weber shot back that only NBC had outlets in Idaho and consequently they get the benefit of the programs from both the red and blue webs. Caldwell said duality serves a useful purpose 'for the owners' but not for the public or the affiliates. While there are a few defects in the statute, none is important enough to warrant rewriting of the present law, Caldwell declared. Acknowledged, he has been one of the most voluminous critics of the regulators in saying he is personally glad to see more policies and regulatory principles embodied in concrete rules that will let every licensee know where he stands even if he doesn't like the particular regulations and end 'the shadow-boxing.' There have been too many skeletons in the comish closet, he opined.

Rocks were thrown at Mutual for sewing up the world series. Chief heavers were Senators Carl McFarland of Arizona, who yipped that his constituents were denied pitch-by-pitch accounts, and Chan Gurney of South Dakota. When Mutual's general manager remarked the exclusivity arrangement 'lessened duplication', Gurney noted sourly 'to such an extent that people of Arizona couldn't get it at all.' Weber maintained it is a customary practice of the industry to bid for sole privilege of airing sports events and other chains had equal opportunity.

Our Neighbors

Detroit, June 10. — Police Lieutenant Snyder, official municipal censor, banned Columbia's 'Under Age.' Marks first time a picture has been banned here since 'Primrose Path' and 'Strange Cargo', tabooed last year. Snyder ruled that 'Under Age' is 'basically immoral.' Police Commissioner Frank Eaman has indicated that the ban will stick.

Another Air Soaping

New York, June 10.—Louella Parsons has been renewed by LifeBO for another 13 weeks with a slight budget raise, said to be much less than often-reported $2,000 weekly to pay guest talent.

N.T.G.'s New Revue
$1.50 WITH DE LUXE DINNER ★ EXCEPT SATURDAY ★ 50¢ WITHOUT DINNER
RINGSIDE $2.00 WITH DINNER
RINGSIDE $1.00 WITHOUT DINNER
FLORENTINE GARDENS ★ HO. 6311
★ AIR CONDITIONED TO 72° ★
featuring
SID TOMACK and the REIS BROS.
DON EDDY & LILLIAN TOURS
Gorgeous Girls ★ 3 Shows Nightly—All Different ★ Riotous Fun

KELLY SAYS UA MUST LEARN NEW TRICKS

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

terday in revealing several changes in the company policy and operations. He arrived over the weekend from huddles with UA owners and producers on the Coast.

Kelly said he seeks no other additional producers besides Frank Capra and David O. Selznick, with whom he now is negotiating. He explained that the company has changed its plans and now has enough producers, but wants more pictures from each. He added that it would be desirable but impractical for each producer to make one picture yearly. He wants the producers to make three pictures annually and says that the company will help finance that number.

Geo. Ward Resigns

George Ward has resigned his connection with the Music Corporation of America's picture division, effective Saturday, and will announce a new affiliation shortly. He joined MCA three years ago, coming into the agency with William Meiklejohn, now talent head at Paramount, when the film talent department was being formed.

Compton's 'Nocturne'

George Compton gets featured role in Warners 'Hot Nocturne.'

Fred Allen To M.C. Donated Program To U. S. Govt.

New York, June 10.—Fred Allen will emcee first program of Wednesday night series in the Texaco time over Columbia recently donated to the government by the oiler.

Larry Elliott will make the sales talk for the government. Plan is to get Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor and George Jessel for subsequent emceeing chores. Charles Laughton is the only film name so far set, with Carole Lombard mentioned.

Play Review

WHISTLING FOR A WIND

DeWitt Bodeen's 'Whistling For a Wind', which opened last night at the Pasadena Community Playhouse, is a war play that is intensely human, highly dramatic, and with enough well-written lines to make it one of the few good plays yet to have been built around the great conflict in Europe.

Huddled together in the crypt of a great London cathedral during a bombing raid are 25 people, sinners and publicans, Judy O'Grady and the Colonel's lady, a street walker and a church warden, an orphan and an estranged couple, a girl war correspondent from the United States, an American ambulance driver, a munitions maker, a Dutch flyer and a French lieutenant, a British officer with a gallantry derived from liquor. They are trapped when a bomb blast closes all entrances to the church. The character of each is sharply revealed when there seems no chance for escape from the fumes of a broken gas main.

Major credit should go to Norman Wilnor, as the British officer; Maxine Chevalier, as the prostitute; Joan Yendes, as a blind pianist; Ellanora Needles, as the calloused noblewoman, and to Arlene Friedrich, as a daffy widow completely anaesthetized against the horror of war by gripping detective stories. All give a good account of themselves, including Tom Gregory, Lisbeth Menagh, Betsy Jones, Mary Alyce Harnish, Lyle Wasserkrug, Teddi Sherman, Darlene Matthews, Clyde Wilson, William Royal Griffin, Ruth Mallory, Leslie Stuart, Louise Allbritton, Robert G. Rockwell, John Hoffstadt, Jane Cowan, Chandler McClure, Maudie Doyle and Jane Williams.

Maxwell Sholes did an excellent job of direction. The crypt single set by Donald Finlayson had a Gothic beauty.

Bodeen's play, with some rewriting, would have a chance in legit, and it might be okay for pictures because it deals skilfully with the humans involved and contains a minimum of propaganda.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(RKO)

'Weekend For Three'
Dir.: Irving Reis
Asst.: William Dorfman

(Columbia)

'Blonde From Singapore'
Dir.: Edward Dmytryk
Asst.: Seymour Friedman

MORE EXHIBS ROUNDED UP BY VARIETY CAMERA

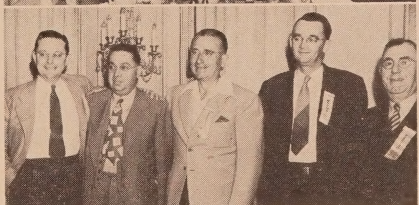
Ed M. Fay, a veteran Providence, R. I. theatre man, confers with M. A. Lightman who in his spare time runs the Malco Theatre circuit out of Memphis, Tenn.

Ray Syufy, who has just taken over the Rita theatre in Vallejo, Cal., confides in Mrs. Fred Tressler, Mrs. Joe Allen and Fred Tressler, all of Salem, Ill.

Trio of Springfield, Ill., partners who are vitally interested in Simplex projection. They are, left to right: J. C. Giachette, Ciro Pedrucei and D. Frisina, latter prexy of the Frisina Amusement Co.

Pictured here are the two oldest conventioneers. Left, Mrs. Roy Farkas of Johnstown, Pa., aged 69. Right, Mrs. Max Morris, aged 64, of San Francisco, who still finds time to knit for the British Tommies.

Roy L. Walker, who is a sedate judge in his home town of Lampasas, Tex., and Adolph Farkas, Johnstown, Pa., exhib, manage to get in a bit of exercise before the convention sessions open.



Intermountain area exhibs in tow of A. R. Bowen of Los Angeles. Balance (L to R) are V. Gilhool, Salt Lake City; I. H. Harris, Burley, Idaho, a director of the Intermountain Theatres Assn.; John Rugar, Park City, Utah, prexy; George Smith, Magna, Utah, a vice-president; Sam Gillette, of Toole, Utah., and Horace Birkinshaw, Sandy, Utah.

Here are Gerald L. Karski of San Francisco; Harry David, Salt Lake City circuit operator; Dan Tocchini, Sebastapol, Calif.; Theodore Coleman, Mt. Carmel, Ill., and George Bourke, who runs two theatres in Sawtelle.

H. M. Richey, of New York, powwows with Lewen Pizor of Philadelphia and A. C. Hayman of Buffalo, and they seem to be enjoying themselves.

Fred Mercy, Jr. (who inadvertently was given a wife in the registrations) sets out to prove he is 'free, 21 and fancy.' Here he is being put through the paces by Eleanor Counts, Suzanne Ridgeway and Nora Gale at the Paramount 'kissing booth.'

F. Walter Graham, who flew his own plane from Shelton, Wash., tells Sidney Cahen of Visalia and E. W. Grosbeck of Munclaw, Wash., some of the thrills of aviation, as well as exhibition.

Authors League Okehs SWG Strike If And When on Coast

New York, June 10.—The Authors League of America has officially decided to support the Screen Writers if they strike against the studios. The League Council, including representatives of the Authors, Dramatists and Radio Writers Guilds, met today and, after studying the issues of the scenarists-Producers dispute, voted full endorsement of the scripters' stand.

Some doubt exists, however, as to how much actual help the League can bring. In case of a strike they may refuse jobs as replacement for contract writers who walk out, but there will be difficulty about refusing to sell novels, stories and plays to studios for adaptation because the publishers or play producers nearly always own a share of the rights and they might refuse to cooperate.

Frankel Suit Hits Pathe Films, Etc.

New York, June 10. — Daniel Frankel has filed Supreme court suit against Pathe Film Corporation for $29,400, and against Pathe Laboratories, Inc., for $531,915, charging breach of contract. Plaintiff seeks commissions on contract made July, 1933, giving him salary and commissions for securing film printing for both defendants. Plaintiff claims he secured $2,100,000 in business for Pathe Film, with $29,400 in commissions due, plus another commission of $32,515 due from Pathe Lab for $2,410,000 business secured.

Damages of $46,000 are sought on commissions allegedly due for setting a deal whereby Universal agreed to do all its print work at the Pathe Lab plant. Pathe procrastinated until Frankel's contract expired, he charges. He also asks $10,000 for commissions on work received after termination of his contract.

Farrell, Lang Team

Charles Farrell and June Lang have been signed at Monogram to play the leads in 'The Deadly Game', Dixon Harwin-Barney Sarecky production which starts shooting Friday. Farrell was agented by Hallam Cooley.

Coast League Baseball Results

Portland, 2; Los Angeles, 1. (11 innings).
Sacramento, 10; Hollywood, 3.
San Diego, 5; Oakland, 2.
San Francisco, 10; Seattle, 3.

ELEGANCE OF THE ROOMS
CHARM OF ATMOSPHERE
COMFORT IN LIVING
at the Swank
● EL CADIZ ●
4, 5 and 6 Rooms
Patio 1721-1729
Sun Deck No. Sycamore

TODAY'S EXHIBITOR PROGRAM

PCCITO Convention

L. O. Lukan, Chairman
9:30 a.m.—Third Convention session convenes
Open Forum, open to all Exhibitor members
12:25 p.m.—Announcements
12:30 p.m.—Adjournment

MPTOA Convention

H. V. (Rotus) Harvey, Chairman
2:00 p.m.—Convention assembles
Addresses by
William F. Rodgers, Metro sales head
Hon. J. F. T. O'Connor, U. S. District Court, Los Angeles
Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount Studio chieftain
Charles J. Pettijohn, general counsel, MPPD
George Stevens, president Screen Directors Guild
Dore Schary, Screen Writers Guild
Edward Arnold, president Screen Actors Guild
Walter F. Wanger, president Academy of M. P. Arts and Sciences
Col. Nathan Levinson, chairman Research Committee, Academy
Louella O. Parsons
Spyros Skouras, president National Theatres Corp.
Louis B. Mayer, Metro Studios
Hal Roach, Hal Roach Studios
Francis S. Harmon, coordinator M. P. Committee co-operating for National Defense
Reports and discussions by Exhibitor leaders, including:
Charles H. Arrington, Rocky Mount, N. C.
R. R. Biechele, Kansas City, Mo.
Ed M. Fay, Providence, R. I.
Morris Loewenstein, association secretary, Oklahoma City, Okla.
H. V. (Rotus) Harvey, San Francisco
A. A. Hayman, Buffalo, N. Y.
5:00 p.m.—Adjournment

Marion Martin Trio

RKO yesterday set Marion Martin for featured roles in three pictures to follow her current assignment in 'Mexican Spitfire's Baby.' Others will be 'Weekend for Three', 'Unexpected Uncle' and 'The Marines Are Ready.'

Add 'Angel' Talk

Leo Townsend and Hans Kraly are writing added dialog and polishing script ahead of cameras on Universal's Deanna Durbin starrer, 'Almost an Angel.'

ZaSu Pitts Spotted

ZaSu Pitts was signed by RKO yesterday for a featured role in 'Weekend for Three' which is scheduled to roll today, with Irving Reis directing. Dennis O'Keefe, Jane Wyatt and Philip Reed have top roles.

Al Martin Chore

Al Martin has completed script on 'Terror of the South Seas' for Paul Malvern's production at Universal, and has been reassigned to untitled original.

Last Minute Exhib Registration

A couple of dozen belated exhibitors and guests arrived yesterday for the MPTOA and PCCITO conventions. They include:

NAME	WHERE FROM	ROOM
Robb, H. H.	Dallas, Tex.	Ambassador
Starkey, Jack	Louisville, Ky.	Private
Strebe, Earl	Palm Springs	Ambassador 420
Smith, George	Magna, Utah	Ambassador 337
Gaertner, Lorine	Moor Park, Calif.	
Grunauer, Ralph	Los Angeles	
Cook, Everett	Memphis, Tenn.	Ambassador
Brody, Steve	Memphis, Tenn.	
Fiske, Mrs. D. B.	Oak Grove, La.	Ambassador
Freed, Eli	El Cerrito, Calif.	Chancellor 401
Gray, Charles J. & Mrs.	Newman, Calif.	Ambassador 547
Hamm, L. S.	San Francisco	Ambassador 547
Halloway, Henry & Mrs.	St. Louis, Mo.	Commodore 527
Lamm, Judith Elaine	Cleveland, Ohio	Gaylord
Larson, M. J.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Hollywood Plaza
Lee, Claude F.	New York	Ambassador 511
Ormsby, C. N.	Los Angeles	
Pease, Miss Edwina	Exeter, Calif.	Ambassador 231
Patterson, F. L. 'Pat'	San Francisco	Ambassador
Matson, Dorothy	Rockdale, Texas	Ambassador 508
Denny, Harry	Alex. Preview	Ambassador 468

Double Header Set For Film Shows For Soldiers

Second unit of film players to entertain the soldiery will play a double-header over the weekend. Troupe lined up by Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation will give a three-hour show at Camp Hunter Liggett, near King City, Saturday, and next day repeat the performance at Fort Ord, Monterey.

Making the trip north in a special car on the Southern Pacific Lark Friday night will be Jack Benny, Claudette Colbert, Ritz Bros., Rochester, Nicholas Bros., Dick Powell, Joan Blondell, Ray Bolger, Tony Martin, Martha Raye, Burns and Allen, Virginia O'Brien, Franklin D'Amour and a dozen femme stock players from various studios. Camp bands will be supplemented by the music of Nat Young's crew of 14, which played last Sunday's show at Camp Roberts.

Mark Sandrich goes along to direct the show, aided by Bill Morrow as script editor. Performance will be along variety lines with a flash finale. Stock actresses also will act as hostesses in the mess halls. Troupe will put up at Del Monte Saturday night.

Ascap, Nets Agreement Waits Affiliates

New York, June 10.—Consummation of licensing deal between American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers and the networks has been set aside until the Society reaches an agreement with affiliated stations. Meeting on the subject is slated for tomorrow in Washington between Independent Radio Network Affiliates executive committee and John Paine, Ascap general manager. Turn of events caused keen disappointment among Ascap publishers and writers, who had been informed that the deal was on the verge of closing.

F-WC Takes 'Dogs'

Warners has closed a deal with Fox-West Coast to play its reissue of 'Devil Dogs of the Air' in all of the important F-WC houses. Opus opened yesterday under the deal at circuit's California theatre in San Diego and at the United Artists in Long Beach.

Harmon in Today

Francis S. Harmon, executive assistant to Will H. Hays, arrives today on the Streamliner to address a meeting of members of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

Keyes Due Shortly

Freeman Keyes, head of Russel Seeds agency, and his aide, H. J. Richardson, Jr. are due in this week from Chicago to check up on talent for a new air show.

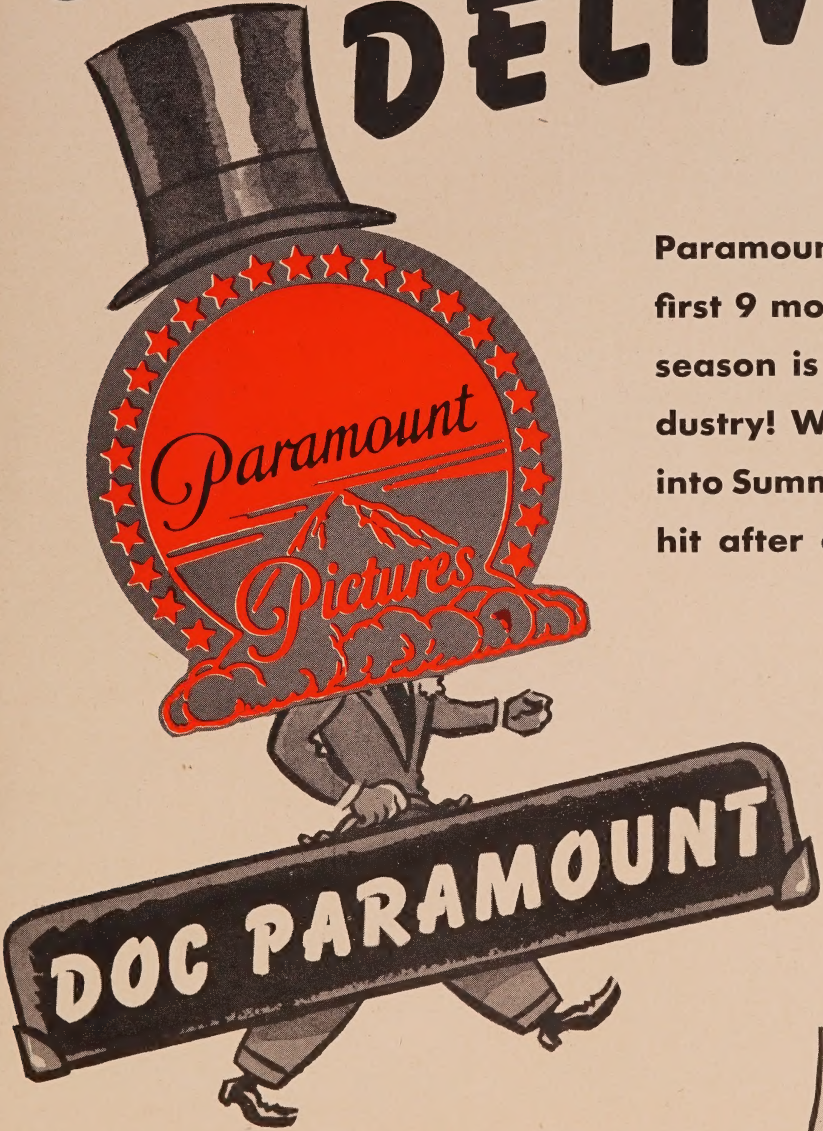
Seeks Jo Allen

Wynn Rocamora is promoting a deal with Barbara Jo Allen (Vera Vague) to star in a coast-to-coast radio show.

Title Changes

Columbia's 'A Star On His Saddle' to 'Roaring Frontiers'.

UNPARALLELED DELIVERY!


Paramount
Pictures
DOC PARAMOUNT

Paramount's product for the first 9 months of the current season is the talk of the industry! We're now swinging into Summer with one smash hit after another!

℞ Turn over and see what Doc Paramount is bringing to your house

HERE YOU ARE, BOYS, SEVEN BIG BLESSED EVENTS!

MAY 30

"I WANTED WINGS"

starring

Ray Milland • William Holden
Wayne Morris • Brian Donlevy

with Constance Moore • Veronica Lake • Harry Davenport • Directed by Mitchell Leisen

JUNE 13

"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"

starring

Fred MacMurray • Madeleine Carroll

with Patricia Morison • Billie Burke • John Loder
Dame May Whitty • Edmund Gwenn • Reginald
Denny • Billy Gilbert • Screen Play by Virginia
Van Upp. Based on a Play by John Van Druten
Produced and Directed by EDWARD H. GRIFFITH

DEPEND ON Paramount Pictures

AUGUST 15

"ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS"

IN TECHNICOLOR

starring Dorothy Lamour

on Hall • Lynne Overman

AUGUST 1

"KISS THE BOYS GOODBYE"

starring **Don Ameche • Mary Martin**

with Oscar Levant • Virginia Dale • Barbara Allen • Raymond Walburn • Elizabeth Patterson Jerome Cowan • Connie Boswell & ROCHESTER

Based on a Play by Clare Boothe

Directed by Victor Schertzinger

JULY 18

"THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS"

IN TECHNICOLOR!

starring **John Wayne • Betty Field • Harry Carey**

with Beulah Bondi • James Barton • Samuel S. Hinds • Marjorie Main • Screen Play by Grover Jones and Stuart Anthony • Based on the Novel by Harold Bell Wright • Directed by Henry Hathaway

JUNE 27

"THE PARSON OF PANAMINT"

with **Charlie Ruggles • Ellen Drew**

Phillip Terry • Joseph Schildkraut

Porter Hall • Henry Kolker • Janet Beecher

Paul Hurst • Based on the novel by Peter B. Kyne

A HARRY SHERMAN Production • A Paramount Picture

Directed by William McGann

JULY 4

"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

starring **Bob Hope • Dorothy Lamour**

with **Lynne Overman • Eddie Bracken**

Clarence Kolb • Paul Hurst

Produced by B. G. De Sylva • Directed by David Butler

Paramount!

You Wanted A New Personality!

You'll meet her in
Frank Lloyd's newest triumph!

CAROL BRUCE

Sensation of the smash musical "Louisiana Purchase" will skyrocket to screen stardom as "Julie Morgan" in "This Woman Is Mine"

CAROL BRUCE

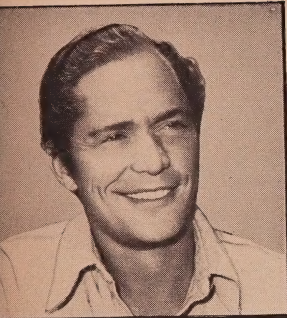
Makes her screen debut in the most colorful and important role ever entrusted a newcomer... in one of the biggest pictures in years!

YOU ASKED FOR HER!

Now open up your showmanship guns and sound a salvo for the best box-office bet in years . . . !

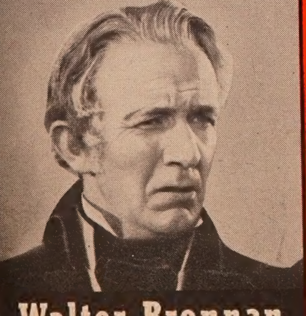
Surging Drama
OF THREE MEN AND
A *Girl!*

Passions unleashed...Furies unfurled...Adventure! Thrills! Romance!...Set against the majestic background of the sea!



Franchot Tone
as "Robert Stevens". Seeking adventure and riches—until he met "Julie"...!

John Carroll
as "Ovide de Montigny". He could take his love—or leave it..until he met "Julie"



Walter Brennan
as "Capt.JohnathanThorn"
..Master of men..master

FRANK LLOYD'S
This Woman is Mine

starring
FRANCHOT TONE
JOHN CARROLL
WALTER BRENNAN
CAROL BRUCE
NIGEL BRUCE

A UNIVERSAL RELEASE
FRANK LLOYD PRODUCTIONS INC.
JACK SKIRBALL, ASSOCIATE

Bob Livingston Leaves Rep Mesquiteers After Five Years

Bob Livingston, one of the original Three Mesquiteers at Republic, has checked out of the studio upon expiration of his contract at the end of five-year term. Studio is looking for replacement name for the Mesquiteer series, to fill out trio again with Bob Steele and Rufe Davis.

Next Mesquiteer, 'Empty Saddles', is due to ride July 7, with Lou Gray in the associate producer saddle, and Livingston's successor is expected to have been signed up before that time. Livingston, who was replaced by John Wayne in the series when the former withdrew from Mesquiteers to go into features, and who, in turn, replaced Wayne when latter pulled out for features, didn't want to do westerns any longer.

Rodgers, Freeman Talks Postponed to Today

William F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief, and Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount studio chief, who were scheduled to speak before the MPTOA delegates at yesterday's opening session, have been put over until today. Owing to lateness of the hour yesterday both speakers were informed that their talks would go over, and they are expected to open this afternoon's second meeting of the convention.

Color for Par 'Mate'

Paramount's 'Her Jungle Mate', in which Dorothy Lamour will star, will be filmed in Technicolor. Frank Butler is writing the screenplay from E. Lloyd Sheldon's original.

'Whistling' Skedded

Director S. Sylvan Simon starts night shooting on Metro's Red Skelton starrer, 'Whistling in the Dark', at the studio Saturday.

Schary on Stump

Dore Schary is scheduled to deliver an address at the MPTOA today on 'The Writer's Place in Motion Pictures.'

☆ Gab ☆

■ Continued from page 3 ■

for Columbia she was spanked through nine rehearsals and four takes, while stretched across Melvyn Douglas' knee. Also helping with the spankings, through none too heavy coverings, was Ruth Hussey. And hard. . . . Robert Taylor and Barbara Stanwyck will impress their feet and hand prints in a new concrete block at the Chinese theatre tonight. Ceremony takes place at 7 p.m. and ties in with the opening of Taylor's last Metro film, 'Billy the Kid.'

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
New York City
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager

KUYKENDALL IN BITTER ATTACK ON EARLY PREEMS

Hollywood columnists, commentators and critics, who label motion pictures as good, bad or indifferent, long in advance of their exhibition, were blasted yesterday by Ed Kuykendall, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. Speaking at the opening convention session, Kuykendall launched a bitter attack against the industry practice or so-called previews of pictures by fan mag and newspaper writers stationed here to dig up any missiles they can find to level at the motion picture business.

'We exhibitors have long since been aware of one of the industry's most serious problems', Kuykendall said. 'As long ago as 1933, MPTOA leaders were pointing out the evils and unfairness of this system of arbitrarily pre-judging and classifying picture productions for the general public, based on the personal opinion of the Hollywood reviewer, without the benefit of genuine audience reaction and before we have had a chance to advertise and present the picture in any of our theatres as a new show should be presented.

'I believe out here you call this system "press previews". Why Hollywood continues to screen its productions and encourage such comments on the merits of a motion picture in advance of its exhibition to the public, so that the picture is classified and rated throughout the country before the public has any chance to see it and decide for itself whether it likes it or not, is beyond me', the MPTOA prexy continued.

'This is a serious problem of motion picture merchandising, and it is undoubtedly one of the main reasons our business is not as good as we have a right to expect. There is no other commercial enterprise of comparable size and importance in the world today that would stand for or tolerate such prejudgment and arbitrary, unofficial grading of its product.

'We don't want the producers to thwart or suppress honest criticism. But we don't want our merchandise condemned arbitrarily long before we have any chance to advertise it or present it and put it on sale to the public, just because some correspondent or commentator out here in Hollywood, who may have entirely different tastes and preferences from the people in my section of the country, doesn't care for the picture.

'We know, from our own experiences as exhibitors, that a columnist's or commentator's personal opinion, widely published and circulated, can offset any advertising we can do in the same paper. After a picture has been thus condemned and branded as no good before it is ready to open, there is not much value to any advertising we, or anybody else, can run on it.

'You have killed off its chances of success before we can advertise the picture by enabling the commentators to give it a fixed grading or rating, even though our local newspaper reviewers and the people who do see the picture later on may think it is very good entertainment. It is not fair to the picture, to the exhibitor who has it to show, nor to the newspapers throughout the country who have their own capable photoplay critics and reviewers, who cannot review and appraise a picture until it has its public exhibition.

'The so-called Hollywood press previews have been going on for years, I know, but it seems to get worse and to do more and more damage to our business as the years go by. The legitimate stage never had this to contend with. There is no pre-judgment of stage shows, nor even of radio programs. There is certainly no reason why a motion picture production is not entitled to the same treatment and liberties. Then, and only then, I believe, can our advertising and advance publicity mean something. Then and then only can the showmanship that used to be evident in our business manifest itself again. All we want is for the picture to have a chance to get a real opening.'

Indie Equity Victory Causes Upheaval

New York, June 10.—The most violent upheaval in the history of Actors Equity Association broke today with the resignation of Peggy Wood and Florence Reed, both vice-presidents, and eight Council members, as the result of last Friday's election victory by independents. The others who resigned were Alfred Kappeler, Winifred Lenihan, Muriel Kirkland, Lee Baker, Claudia Morgan, William David, Joseph Vitale and Ben Lackland.

It was explained that with the majority of the membership no longer supporting policies they believe in, there is no place for them on the Council. Bert Lytell, Equity prexy, said the action came as a shock to him.

At today's meeting, the Council tabled action on the resignations, professing the hope that the group could be persuaded to withdraw them. The body issued a statement regretting the resignations in view 'of long and honorable service' the members had given to the organization.

Prexy Lytell revealed at last Friday's annual meeting a plan for a New York State-supported theatre, with Louis Schaffer, of Labor Stage, and Matthew Woll, of the American Federation of Labor, supporting the idea. It is figured there is little prospect of re-establishment of the Federal Theatre.

Developments indicate it is probable that the Dies Committee will make an investigation of red charges against certain members of the Equity Council. Steve Bermingham, chief Dies investigator, is said to have recommended clearing up the charges brought a year ago in the Congressional Record by Representative Lambertson. It is probable that a sub-committee would sit in New York rather than hold hearings in Washington. Those named by Lambertson were Hiram Sherman, Alan Hewitt, Philip Loeb, Sam Jaffe, Edith Van Cleve, Emily Marsh, Leroy Maclean. All of them denied any communist connection or leanings.

Pickford Discusses Reasons for B.O. Slow-down

Discussing the current slump in box office receipts at the opening session of the MPTOA convention yesterday afternoon, Mary Pickford declared that there is too great a difference between the grosses of the big pictures and those next in importance. She contended that lack of public interest in pictures today cannot be attributed to the quality of product. 'The average B picture of today', said Miss Pickford, 'is so vastly superior to the majority of the Class A pictures of 12 or 15 years ago that there is no comparison.'

Miss Pickford believed that dualing was a contributing factor to the decline in grosses, citing three reasons, based on personal reactions, for this contention. She said that the double bill was bad because theatregoers have to sit through the picture they don't want to see in order to see the film they come in for; that moviegoers are too tired to enjoy the second picture; that long bills keep people up too late.

In a challenge to those who say that youngsters want double bills, Miss Pickford stated that exhibitors cannot afford to cater to the juvenile trade alone and that no producer would dare to put important money into a picture destined to appeal exclusively to kids. She called upon all concerned to desist from bank nights, shelling out dishes and vegetables, and declared that it was time to revalue the industry and stop selling it short.

Miss Pickford suggested that, as a step toward helping maintain national morale, a board be created to keep its finger on the public pulse through the medium of the theatre. This board might consist of exhibitors in various sections of the nation who would take it upon themselves to ask questions of their customers and jot down their opinions. In this way the industry would also be doing itself a service by creating a public sounding board that will transmit accurate message to Hollywood swiftly.

Stevenson to Speak

Edward Stevenson, RKO costume designer, will speak on designing and clothes at the MPTOA convention luncheon for ladies today in the Cocoanut Grove. Perc Westmore will also appear to talk on 'Makeup and Glamour.'

Obituary

Ike Lewin Rites

Funeral services for Ike Lewin, film stunt man, will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday (12) at 818 Venice Blvd. Lewin shot and killed his mother, Mrs. Tena Lewin, 78, and then ended his own life when he learned his mother, who had lived with him for years, was to be taken to a rest home.

Mother of Polly Moran died yesterday at her home here of sudden illness, and funeral services will be conducted from White and Callanan mortuary at 664 West Washington boulevard.

Exhibs To Discuss Film Moveovers This Forenoon

Picture moveovers, for continued runs, long a thorn in the side of exhibitors, will be thoroughly threshed out at this morning's session of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, after being briefly discussed at yesterday's meeting. Today's powwow will start at 9:30, half an hour earlier than for the past two days, and adjournment will not be taken until 12:30, to enable the theatre men present to fully express themselves on the various problems confronting them. L. O. Lukan, Seattle trustee to the PCC, will be the chairman of the day.

Yesterday's open forum session was convened with Rotus Harvey functioning as chairman. Ed Kuykendall, prexy of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, meeting simultaneously with the PCC, was introduced by Executive Secretary Bob Poole and spoke briefly, thanking Harvey and Poole for their work and cooperation.

Questions pertaining to the consent decree were answered from the rostrum by Albert J. Law, general counsel, with Law advising the exhibitor delegates as to methods of procedure to protect their particular situations.

It was decided that each member of the various units making up the Conference would contact and act through the executive secretary of the four individual units each individual situation they wished brought before the American Arbitration Association for adjustment. It also was decided that each complaint would be referred directly to Law for his recommendations.

Zoning and clearance were freely discussed with the delegates pretty well steamed up for a lot of fireworks at today's final open forum session. Conference exhibs are awakened to the necessity for immediate action if they are to bring about desired reforms and they are straining at the bit for a chance to tell their troubles to their fellow operators.

BENNY RUBIN GAGS TICKLE CUSTOMERS

Benny Rubin topped off the MPTOA luncheon in the Cocoanut Grove, Ambassador hotel, yesterday as guest entertainer with a repertoire of gags that kept the customers in high spirits. Rubin started in with some banter with six-year-old Jerry Salyer, who had preceded him in a routine of cowboy vocals. When youngster pointed at the prop waterfall in the Grove, Rubin cracked, 'Like everything else in Hollywood, it's a fake.'

The Circle C Ranch Hands, vocal and string instrument trio, entertained the mob during mealtime ahead of Rubin.

E. T. Lowe Chored

Edward T. Lowe goes to Republic to write the screen play on 'Newspapermen Are Human'. Deal agented by Ned Brown & Associates.

Kimble Does 'Gabriel'

Lawrence Kimble is assigned to final screen play for Republic's 'Gabriel Blows His Horn', which is to be a Leonard Fields production.

Golden Urges Pic Biz Setup on Baseball Lines

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

with the cooperation of the American Legion, encouraged youngsters to play more baseball and learn more about the game, so the motion picture industry could build up a potential audience by bringing pictures to the youth of America.

Turning to the foreign markets still available to American pictures, Golden warned that producers must be careful in making pictures giving a wrong impression of life in the United States, and advocated the setting up of a body similar to the Production Code Authority to eliminate pictures unsuited for foreign distribution, especially those films that give an erroneous impression of Americans. He also cautioned against U. S. films which portray erroneously various incidents in the lives and customs of foreign peoples.

'In the present tremendously grave position of world affairs', said Golden, 'I know how immensely important it is that foreigners should not acquire from our motion pictures the notion that the typical American is either scatterbrained or a trampler of the law, or lives habitually in sordid squalor. Our position in the world today, and our future well-being, may depend on a clear realization throughout Latin America and elsewhere that the real American is a person of intelligence and restraint, courage and sound judgment, integrity and vision. Our pictures should combine vigor with dignity, clean fun with wise discretion. This is one way in which we can be really patriotic.'

Regarding films for students, Golden said he had made a survey showing that there are approximately 13,000 16mm. and 2,000 35mm. motion picture projectors in the colleges and high schools of the nation. Another survey now is being made to ascertain how many projectors are available in the elementary schools in the United States, with the likelihood that this will show an even greater number of projectors than in the high schools. Golden did not suggest that these schools should be serviced with regular product, but that selected entertainment films with an educational value should be made available only during the classroom periods, restricted to students, so that they would not compete with regular theatres in the community. The speaker added that no rentals should be levied for these films with the exception of a nominal service charge of perhaps 75 cents per reel to cover overhead of handling and print costs. Golden recommended that exhibitors should encourage a program of school showings first, from a civic point of view as a good-will builder, and second, to facilitate the development of potential theatre patrons for the future.

Golden claimed that in addition to students as a potential source of theatre patronage the enlisted personnel in army camps also will learn to appreciate films through theatres in army camps, where many will see films regularly for the first time.

In his address Golden pointed out that the American film industry faces the problem of maintaining the traditional quality of its product in face of the tremendous losses in foreign revenue. He declared that American films have been removed from the screens of approximately 20,500 theatres in Europe. If Russia, with its 3,000 theatres, is included, it would bring the total of European screens lost to 23,500, more theatres than now exist in the United States. He added that there are approximately 14,000 screens still open to American films in Europe.

Golden expressed his conviction that the industry can offset foreign losses by attracting a substantial portion of the 30,000,000 prospective customers who, it is estimated, seldom or never attend movies today.

In line with the necessity for getting the largest possible revenue out of the domestic picture market, Golden said that the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington now is undergoing a process of reorganization designed to provide every branch of the industry with a more comprehensive factual service on economic affairs throughout the nation. The Bureau will deal increasingly with domestic conditions and present statistical information indicating how the U. S. market can be most effectively cultivated.

Ates, Blandick Set

Roscoe Ates and Clara Blandick have been added to featured group in Warners 'One Foot in Heaven.'

L. C. Helm Unanimously Re-elected as Biz Rep of SUE 724

L. C. Helm, who has held office of business representative of Studio Utility Employes Local 724 since 1933, was unanimously re-elected yesterday. He also was elected without opposition to the post of recording and corresponding secretary. Other officers re-elected without opposition were Matt More, president; Von Bruan, vice prexy, and H. C. Rohrbach, financial secretary.

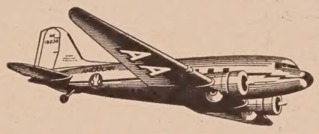
Harold Scheef and A. Jensen were elected sergeants-at-arms, and E. J. Jacobs and Ted Ehring were named guards. Members at large elected to the executive board are L. C. Davies, James Day and M. Devaney. L. C. Helm, H. C. Rohrbach and L. C. Davies were elected as delegates to the District Council, and Matt More, H. C. Rohrbach, L. C. Davies and James Day were selected as delegates to the international convention.

Rep Ending Autry Pic

Republic winds up its Gene Autry picture, 'Sunset in Wyoming', tomorrow, and at same time starts another, one of its remodeled old show numbers, 'Ten Nights in a Bar Room', to keep its production level at two. Other picture in work is 'Ice Capades.'

Re-Sign David Miller

David Miller has been signed to a new directing contract at Metro. Miller's first feature direction chore was 'Billy the Kid.'



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ROUTE OF THE FLAGSHIPS

16 Par Directors Will Be Named Next Tuesday

New York, June 10.—The annual Paramount stockholders' meeting next Tuesday will elect 16 directors for one-year terms.

Those up for re-election are Neil Agnew, Barney Balaban, Stephen Callaghan, Y. Frank Freeman, Harvey Gibson, A. Conger Goodyear, Stanton Griffis, Duncan Harris, John Hertz, John W. Hicks, Austin C. Keough, Earl McClintock, Maurice Newton, E. V. Richards, Edwin Weisl and Adolph Zukor.

Convention Notes

Myke Lewis is finding plenty of use for his large supply of limes, grown at Carlsbad, by serving them with libations in his suite at the Ambassador.

Charlie Skouras headed a big dinner group and kept his auditors in constant chuckles with his views of exhibition.

George Burke of Sawtelle has been much in evidence in the lobbies and on the convention floor.

Bob Gillham is getting quite a kick having the various exhibs worked over at the Par convention booth. Kisses are not worth the proverbial 'dime a dozen' there.

Harold Robb and Ed Rowley, the Texas Rangers, have not been as active this year as they have been at former exhib powwows. But the convention is still young.

When Sid Grauman was being photographed with Metro's Leo, some wag shouted out: 'Hey, which one is the lion?'

Studios have combined with a booth in the main lobby of the hotel and are displaying on a large bulletin board pictures taken Monday afternoon on the various lots.

Ralph Ravenscroft, Paramount, threatened to sabotage the Metro exhibit by waving a chunk of raw meat in front of Leo the Lion.

The Paramount exhibit is getting attention from exhibitors under 40. Leo is getting those over 40.

Whitey Henry, of Metro; Tom Young, 20th-Fox, and Blaney Matthews, Warners, had charge of policing the barbecue at the Columbia Ranch last night. With approximately 1,000 guests in attendance it was no cinch.

Marie La Barba, former manicurist on the 20th-Fox lot, and sister of Fidel La Barba, is one of the showgirls with the National Theatre Supply exhibit.

Ida Schreiber, hard-working sec to Bob Poole, sort of eased up yesterday after going through several days of arduous duties.

Eleanor Counts is probably the most publicized gal at the convention. She's dishing out kisses at the Paramount booth and relishes the publicity (and photographs) which the assignment provides her.

STUDIO UNIONS HIT 3 MILLION JACKPOT

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

ranges from $500,000 to $3,000,000. The exact amount cannot be determined until company auditors complete their check of payrolls.

At the same time Casey agreed to open negotiations with the IATSE film locals on Thursday (12). The first sessions will be devoted to consideration of standard demands which apply to all the crafts, such as minimum work days, computation of overtime, cancellation of calls, pay off requirements, meal periods, provisions for nearby and distant locations, provisions for travel time, provisions for employes receiving above scale, etc.

Casey was advised by Harold V. Smith, chairman of the IATSE Business Representatives Committee, that the unions at a meeting Monday had set July 1 as the deadline for consummation of new contract deals with the Producers and for clearing up the payment of retroactive pay under the Wage-Hour Law. The Producer representative is said to have raised no objection to the deadline, stating that as soon as the standard conditions are disposed of, negotiations will be started on the wages, hours and conditions demands of the individual unions. At that time counter proposals also will be submitted by the Producers, including a request for an eight-hour day instead of the current six hours.

Recognition by the Producers of the rights of the local unions to bargain collectively for themselves was accepted by the local leaders as marking the end of domination of the unions by George E. Browne and Willie Bioff, both of whom now are under Federal indictment on charges of extorting $550,000 from four major film companies.

Smith stated that Casey and other executives felt the companies were not legally bound to make retroactive pay adjustments, basing their opinion on court decisions in similar cases, but that their decision to do so anyway was based on memorandums given the workers in which it was agreed to make pay adjustments if the workers were affected by the Wage-Hour Division classifications. These memorandums had been cited to Producers by Smith and other local IATSE leaders when they insisted on retroactive pay.

All key men who have been working on weekly salaries will be placed on a regular six-hour day, starting Monday (16), with time and half after six hours. It has been indicated, however, that many of these key men will ask their union representatives to try and make deals for them that would permit them to continue on their current employment basis. These would have to be taken up when the locals begin negotiating on their demands for contract revisions.

Cartoonists Vote Today On Disney Representation

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

the strikers would turn down the election proposal. They take the position that even company officials admit that the Guild has a majority of the artists, and that the company refused to entertain the idea of an election until after the strike was called. It is probable that a counter proposal will be made for a cross-check of the Guild membership with the company payroll. Such procedure has often been approved by the National Labor Relations Board as a short cut to determine whether a union represents a majority.

The SCG committee meeting yesterday with Smith and Disney, in addition to Herbert Sorrell was composed of Murray McClelland, Ken Peterson, Howard Baldwin and Phyllis Lambertson. Bill Garity accompanied Disney to the meeting. It is understood that Disney has agreed to closed shop deals with all other American Federation of Labor crafts, but stated he was insisting on an election of Artists to guarantee future harmony in the plant.

The committee went to the meeting armed with 10 points which included reinstatement of all employes on the payroll as of May 15, recognition of SCG as bargaining representative, closed shop contract, with workers given 15 days to affiliate; 10% pay tilt, agreement on wages, hours and conditions to be consummated in 30 days, no strikers to be affected by layoffs for a period of 30 days, payment of all earned bonuses within five days, no discrimination for union activities, vacation rights of strikers not to be impaired, payment for time lost during strike.

George E. Bodle, counsel for the SCG, appeared before the NLRB to request immediate action on the unfair labor practice charges filed against Disney. Art Painter, attorney for the American Society of Screen Cartoonists, which the SCG brands as a company union, also conferred with George A. Yager, NLRB field examiner.

Earlier in the day Bodle demanded that the Disney company immediately pay all bonuses earned by employes. He said that if this question was not settled today he would take the case to the state labor commission.

Harold V. Smith said that after the result of the Guild vote becomes known he will call another meeting of the two groups to discuss the situation and see if an amicable agreement cannot be reached. It was reported last night that Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, might be asked to step into the picture and act with Smith in trying to mediate a settlement that would be mutually satisfactory to the company and the union.

Scully Ends Staff Revisions With Gomersall Set

Completion of executive revision of Universal's top sales staff by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, puts E. T. (Peck) Gomersall, former Chicago district manager, into post of western sales manager. Gomersall replaces William J. Heineman, who was upped to assistant sales manager last Tuesday in the realignment which brought Fred Meyers into the company as eastern sales manager and made F. J. A. McCarthy Southern and Canadian sales manager.

Succeeding Gomersall in his former post is M. M. Gottlieb, who has been Chicago branch manager, with latter spot not yet filled.

Gomersall has been with Universal since 1930. His new post puts him in charge of the Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Omaha, Des Moines, Denver, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle and San Francisco exchanges.

Missouri Court Hands Down Contempt Ruling

Jefferson City, Mo., June 10.—The Missouri Supreme Court today dismissed contempt citations against the St. Louis Post Dispatch and two of its staff members in an opinion upholding a newspaper's right to comment upon court decisions.

Truex Joins 'Uncle'

Ernest Truex was added to the cast of RKO's 'Unexpected Uncle' yesterday. Picture, under direction of Peter Godfrey, will start shooting Friday. Starting date had been delayed until Charles Coburn finished an assignment at Columbia.

Screenplay 'Kid'

Stanley Rubin and Roy Chanslor go on the screen play of 'The Panama Kid', which Marshall Grant will produce at Universal. Writers just completed the script for 'Frisco Kate', also a Grant production.

Mooney Ends 'Guy'

Martin Mooney has completed his writing assignment on 'Mr. Wise Guy', Sam Katzman production at Monogram. Picture, an 'East Side Kids' feature, will follow 'Bowery Blitzkrieg' into work.

Robt. Taylor Set

Robert Taylor will do the top male role in 'When Ladies Meet', with Joan Crawford and Greer Garson at Metro. Robert Z. Leonard directs and picture is scheduled to roll in two weeks.

U Sigs Four Tones

Universal signed the Four Tones for a short subject, starting tomorrow (12), with Reggie LaBorg directing. Deal set by Bob Oakley.

Darnell's Next

Linda Darnell will have the femme lead in 'Swamp Water', which starts at 20th-Fox July 14 under the direction of Jean Renoir.

Hitching Post Shift

Hitching Post theatre on Hollywood Blvd. has changed its weekly shift of pictures from Friday to Thursday.

Harry Cohn Duties Up As Host To Visiting Confab Exhibs

Exhibitors convening here for their annual convention were the recepients of some western hospitality, studio style, last night at the Columbia ranch. Theatre men were the guests of all the studios with Harry Cohn, Columbia president, acting as industry host at the 'Old California Barbecue' and talent parade.

Autograph fiends among the exhibitors and their guests had a field day since every name player available was present at the party. Food, plenty of drinks and a swell show were dished out to the visiting exhibs and a flock of femme guests.

Cohn acted as emcee for the introduction of 40 or 50 players present, several of whom made brief talks. Y. Frank Freeman, president of the Producers, spoke in behalf of the studio executives.

Entertainment part of the shindig had wisecracking Red Skelton, Metro funny man, handling the master of ceremonies chore. The show's lineup was featured by Olsen and Johnson and their entire company, who kept the laughs rolling. The Merry Macs sang, the Nicholas Bros. danced, and Leo Carrillo did a number of Mexican tunes to delight the crowds and send them back to their hotel happy.

Testimony Given In Mission Squabble

Following denial by Arbitrator Herbert Cameron of the motion by major distributors to dismiss the O. W. Lewis complaint, on grounds that the American Arbitration Association lacks jurisdiction over the case, defendants in the clearance action brought on behalf of the Mission Playhouse, San Gabriel, yesterday began to offer testimony in rebuttal of the plaintiff's charges. B. V. Sturdivant, Fox-West Coast district manager, took the stand and figures were submitted showing that more than 80% of all pictures booked into Alhambra are played on the first day of availability.

Lewis is asking for 28-day clearance after Pasadena instead of 21 days after Alhambra on the grounds that films booked into Alhambra houses are held up long after availability. Defendants sought to prove that in one of the Alhambra situations 76 out of 99 films were played on the exact day of availability, and 12 within four days of availability. In the other Alhambra theatre 82 out of 97 films were allegedly shown on the first day of availability. The defendants contended, further, that in the period from January 1 to April 20, 1941 the Mission Playhouse had played 63 pictures out of 77 after the day of availability.

Records from the Paramount and Warners exchanges were also submitted in support of the defense claims, with Jimmy Edwards, independent circuit operator, slated to take the stand today. Defendants in the clearance complaint are Warners, Loew's, Paramount and Fox-West Coast. Herb Silverberg is acting as counsel for Loew's at the hearing.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	**Bob Hebert**	**Paul Lowry**	**Bernard**	**Martha**	**Jim Mitchell**
1—Conejo	1—Conejo	1—Conejo	1—Conejo	1—Conejo	1—Conejo
Broken Clouds	Miss Boxthorn	Miss Boxthorn	Flying Tartar	Gatita	Captain Fury
Miss Boxthorn	Flying Tartar	Broken Clouds	Miss Boxthorn	Captain Fury	Inintime
2—Patan	2—Valdina Minx	2—Cora S.	2—Valdina Minx	2—Patan	2—Valdina Minx
Our Bud	Patan	Valdina Minx	Heel In	Our Bud	Our Bud
Cora S.	Tonas	Patan	Tonas	Tonas	Patan
3—Islam Girl	3—Esco-Mac	3—Islam Girl	3—Islam Girl	3—Milk Route	3—Esco-Mac
Swan	Islam Girl	Drift Silver	Okoole M'una	Esco-Mac	Gray Mystery
Esco-Mac	Milk Route	Esco-Mac	Swan	Swan	Islam Girl
4—Brodea	4—Brodea	4—Brodea	4—Gridine	4—Brodea	4—Pollenator
Bibliophile	Congressman	Scotch Bread	Brodea	Scotch Bread	Brodea
Congressman	Scotch Bread	Gridine	Bibliophile	Gridine	Congressman
5—Smoky Snyder	5—Wise Barrister	5—Wise Barrister	5—Wise Barrister	5—Sumatra III	5—Wise Barrister
Billie Bane	Billie Bane	Billie Bane	Sumatra III	Smoky Snyder	Sumatra III
He Said	Sumatra III	Smoky Snyder	Jeff's Pride	Wise Barrister	Billie Bane
6—Paperboy	6—Paperboy	6—Paperboy	6—Paperboy	6—Paperboy	6—Present Arms
Nicogold	Creakle	Nicogold	Nicogold	Present Arms	Paperboy
Creakle	Nicogold	Present Arms	Patronymic	Nicogold	Creakle
7—Wilton	7—Cute Trick	7—Lassator	7—Wilton	7—Hy-Cop	7—Lassator
Lassator	Lassator	Cute Trick	Cute Trick	Cute Trick	Cute Trick
Cute Trick	Hy-Cop	Maicena	Lassator	Lassator	Wilton
8—West Acre	8—West Acre	8—Star Struck	8—Star Struck	8—West Acre	8—West Acre
Sweet Leilani	Sweet Leilani	Queen Toke	Ipako	Miscreant	Miscreant
Miscreant	Miscreant	Potlatch	Sweet Leilani	Sweet Leilani	Sweet Leilani

EXHIB TRAIPSING GETS ONCE OVER

★ Continued from page 1 ★

slim was the attendance that W. F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief, refused to address the convention on a contemplated drastic sales policy which Metro is about to put into effect. Rodgers, ostensibly, is slated to address the exhibitors today, but the Metro sales head said last night that unless there is a greater turnout of exhibs than faced him yesterday he will forego his appearance before the convention and divulge the changes in the Metro sales campaign through other sources.

The MPTOA enrollment at this, the 21st annual convention of the association, is approximately 50 or 60% below what was anticipated, there being around 200 exhibitors and guests registered. On the other hand, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, which is holding its second annual convention simultaneously with the MPTOA gathering, has an attendance of close to 400.

Late last night exhibitor leaders were vainly endeavoring to consolidate both conventions for the remaining two days of the powwow. An emergency meeting of the trustees of PCC was to have been called last night in an effort to relieve the tense situation, but up to midnight no definite action had been taken. Indications are that some plan will be reached early today by which exhibitors will be wised up to the importance of closer attendance to the business which brought them out here.

Metro's new sales policy is understood to be a radical departure from accepted lines and will consist of the setting up of national formulas, to apply to each individual situation. Company feels that the time has come when the inevitable barter that has long been a part of the selling and buying system must cease. In consequence, exhibitors will be told that the company stands ready to deal with them as each individual situation demands.

The MPTOA convention opened yesterday afternoon with an address of welcome from Mary Pickford, following the invocation by Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher, Jr. Miss Pickford drew a large attendance from the femme visitors and brought exhibitors to their feet with an outburst of applause following her address.

Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles, who was next introduced by R. V. Harvey, chairman of the convention, told the gathering that exhibitors were performing a real service at this time in keeping public morale at a high level. Mayor Bowron referred to the national defense effort, the aviation plant strike in Los Angeles which he believed would be ended in a few hours, and stressed the importance of maintaining the mental attitude of the public at a favorable balance.

An unscheduled speaker during the session was the Rev. J. Whitcomb Brougher, Jr., who regaled his audience with one of the breeziest talks of the day. He followed M. A. Lightman, vice-president of MPTOA, from Memphis, Tenn. Lightman, who responded to Mayor Bowron's address of welcome, thanked His Honor for arranging 'the beautiful weather' and described Hollywood as a place where men come to see their dreams come true. Lightman said he thought the industry was doing well and that after one year of buying pictures in blocks of five the theatres would be packed—with exhibitors. He added that exhibitors should take every opportunity to learn more about the product they were using and that Hollywood had been good to theatre men, despite the occasional shots taken at it by exhibs.

KUYKENDALL TALK

Ed Kuykendall, president of the association, then delivered a fiery talk on the evils of daily newspaper press previews and other exhibitor problems, with Morris Loewenstein, Oklahoma City, sec of the organization, afterwards reading correspondence from notables who had been invited but could not attend the convention. Among those sending regrets were Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace, Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, Thurman Arnold, Pat Harrison, Max A. Cohen and Walter Vincent. Ed Fay, with whom Postmaster General Walker is still interested in the operation of the M. C. Comerford circuit, delivered a personal tribute to Ed Kuykendall from the floor.

With most of the afternoon consumed by this time the session was about to be closed, cancelling talks by Nathan Golden and Y. Frank Freeman. Golden, industrial consultant with the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, was, however, given time to deliver his address owing to his scheduled departure for Washington today.

Gasless Sundays

Detroit, June 10.—Although local exhibitors aren't saying much, they hope President Roosevelt proclaims 'gasless Sundays', as has been reported. Figured that in this auto town such a ruling would send huge turnouts to Sunday pictures.

Gene Tierney Given Top Spot In 'Sundown'

Top feminine role in Walter Wanger's 'Sundown' yesterday went to Gene Tierney. Harry Carey, Marc Lawrence and Reginald Gardiner also were new additions to the cast. Company, headed by Director Henry Hathaway, leaves today for location at Acoma Rock, New Mexico.

Troupe leaving today will number 143 people, including Bruce Cabot, George Sanders and Joseph Calleia. There also will be two carloads of animals taken to the location. Barre Lyndon, who wrote the original and who has been working on the screenplay, accompanies the group.

'Sundown' company will remain on location for 21 days. Picture will roll Friday. Technicians already have built a tent city to house those making the trip.

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(20th Century)

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Cahn and Chaplin
in
"TIME OUT
FOR RHYTHM"
(Columbia)

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Eddie Cherkose, Jacques Press,
Walter Samuels, Jacques Krakeur
and Charles Newman
in
"SWEETHEART
OF THE CAMPU
(Columbia)

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Cahn and Chaplin, Jule
Styne, Sidney Clare, Nick
Castle and Eddie Cherkose
in
"ROOKIES ON PARADE"
(Republic)

Songs by
Eddie Cherkose and Jacques Pr
in
"RADIO REVELS OF 194
(Universal)

Songs by
ule Styne and Frank Loesser
in
"SIS HOPKINS"
(Republic)

Songs by
Eddie Cherkose and Jule S
in
"ANGELS WITH
BROKEN WINGS"
(Republic)

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 32 No. 5 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, June 12, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

EXHIBITORS SING IN HARMONY

PARLEY OVER 10,000 FILM TECHNICIANS

Standard working conditions affecting 10,000 film technicians will be discussed with Producers today, when business representatives of 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes open negotiations with Pat Casey. When these standard conditions have been disposed of, each local will then present separately its demands on wages, hours and working condi-

■ Continued on page 8 ■

UA $400,000 Bid Up For Fairbanks Stock Today

United Artists' bid of $400,000 for the 4,000 shares of UA stock owned by the estate of the late Douglas Fairbanks comes up for hearing today in probate court before Superior Judge Jess E. Stephens. Understood that all heirs have agreed to the sale with the exception of the widow, Sylvia Fairbanks, who is ex-

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

Dembows, Others Pull Out for East

Pulling out on the Stratoliner today after attending the MPTOA-PCCITO conventions are George Dembow, National Screen Service, Sam Dembow, Paramount theatre operating department, Leonard Goldenson, in charge of theatre operations for Paramount, and Bob Gillham, Paramount advertising head. George Dembow has the National Screen Service convention in New York to attend while Goldenson goes to Toronto for the Famous Player-Canadian Corp. convention in Toronto.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	213
Major studio calls	546
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	759

PCCITO PLANS TO PROTECT MEMBERS

Producers and distributors who might take advantage of discriminating practices, perhaps not authorized but still permitted under the government consent decree, will be vigorously opposed by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, it was unanimously decided

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

Polglase Resigns

Van Nest Polglase, head of RKO's art department, yesterday resigned to take an indefinite vacation. Succeeding to head of the department is Albert D'Agostino. Latter's assistant, Carroll Clark, moves up with him.

MANY FINALLY ATTEND SESSIONS FOR BUSINESS

Two exhibitor organizations, with widely divergent views on exhibition problems, wind up simultaneous conventions at the Ambassador hotel late today, with theatre operators of both camps convinced they have much in common although at variance on other points. Harmony reigns supreme after a more or less hectic four-day powwow that for a time threatened to bring about a breakdown of the meetings.

Many of the visiting theatre men, particularly out-of-town members of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, continued yesterday to ignore the business that brought

★ Continued on page 8 ★

Radio Charged with Coloring News To Impress Sponsors

Washington, June 11.—Washington misrepresentation of editorial commentators by American radio stations was charged at today's Senate Interstate Commerce hearing where the validity of the Federal Communications Commission's anti-monopoly reforms was upheld by Mutual network officials. Leaders of the Senate isolationist bloc and critics of President Roosevelt's foreign policy complained again about unfair treatment at the hands of the industry. Senators Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, D. Worth Clark of Idaho and Charles

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Boost Laraine Day

Laraine Day, who has been a fixture in Metro's 'Dr. Kildare' pictures is to be eased out of the series by having the nurse character die in the forthcoming 'Kildare'. Studio wants to use actress in more important stories.

PRODUCER REPLY TO SWG FRIDAY

An answer to demands of the Screen Writers Guild will be given by the Producers Friday night when representatives of the two groups meet. At the last session, company executives requested more time for the individual producers to consider the contract proposals of the scriveners.

Apparently anticipating a definite stand by the Producers, the SWG yesterday sent out a bulletin requesting members to stand by for a call for a general membership meeting

❦ Continued on page 11 ❦

SPOTTING BUREAU ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Establishment by the Producers of a legal clearing house to check the unemployment insurance claims of 30,000 film workers was disclosed yesterday, when a femme extra was denied unemployment insurance because the legal group was said to have protested she refused to accept a $5.50 call. The extra, Muriel Bower, who claims to have spent seven years in Ziegfeld shows, immediately protested the action to the Producers Association, Central Casting Corp., the Screen Actors Guild, the State Unemployment Department

☘ Continued on page 11 ☘

DIETZ GETS CO-OP FOR AIR PROGRAM

Full cooperation has been promised by the motion picture industry for the 'Millions For Defense' radio program which the United States Treasury Department will begin July 2, according to Howard Dietz, who has been here for the past 10 days helping to set details on the air show.

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

Report MG Shelving 'Yearling' After Million Outlay

Understood that Metro is abandoning 'The Yearling' for the time being after an outlay of a million dollars as a result of accumulated cast and director troubles which hit

● Continued on page 10 ●

Bertram Block Named NY 20th Editor

New York, June 11.—Bertram Block today was named New York story editor by Joe Moskowitz, eastern representative of 20th-Fox studio, to succeed the late Franklyn Underwood. Block was with Metro in a similar capacity 11 years before joining Fox. He also was former story editor for Samuel Goldwyn.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Bonnet Ann**
El Nido Alexa
Big City
2d RACE—**Diavolo Cliff**
High Martin
Battling Kate
3d RACE—**Roughage**
Don Arezzo
Johnnie Reb
4th RACE—**Sentimentalist**
Silsweep
Wingspread
5th RACE—**My Porter**
Musical Jack
Hi Stranger
6th RACE—**Xenomay**
Quick Gold
Albino
7th RACE—**ABOYNE**
King Torch
Wing and Wing
8th RACE—**Raby Rattler**
Bucket Head
Xenoras Fox
CHANCE BET—**First Choice**
(4th)
Selections consensus, page 10.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Skeets Gallagher signed to 'Ten Nights In a Barroom' role at Republic.

Leo O'Connell will lens 'The Blonde From Singapore' for Columbia.

Zorina checks in (23) to start work on Paramount's 'Louisiana Purchase'.

Val Burton is developing an original screenplay for Judy Canova at Paramount.

Frank Fenton and Lynn Root are doing the next yarn in 'The Falcon' series at RKO.

H. M. Warner hosted 175 Gold Star Mothers at the studio yesterday with a luncheon.

Perry Driggs, sales promotion manager of KSL, Salt Lake, here for confabs at KNX.

Russell Birdwell planed in from New York yesterday after six weeks there on business.

Morris Stoloff today starts scoring 'Blondie In Society' and 'Two In a Taxi' at Columbia.

Barbara Stanwyck reports at Columbia today for wardrobe tests for 'You Belong to Me'.

Pat O'Brien and his family make their annual summer trek to their Del Mar home Friday.

William Russell, dialog director on Paramount's 'Bahama Passage', is back from Nassau location.

Dalton Trumbo has completed the script on 'The Remarkable Andrew', from his own novel, at Par.

Shirlee Darling and her femme orchestra are going into 'The Blonde From Singapore' at Columbia.

Don Thompson, NBC special events head here, to Frisco for two weeks' hitch in the Naval Reserve.

Josephine Dillon is back in Hollywood after a six-month tour of lecturing and teaching in eastern and midwest colleges.

Leo Shuken, Academy winner for his 'Stagecoach' music score, is writing an original concerto for 'Our Wife' at Columbia.

Earl Collins, manager of UA's Los Angeles exchange, back from Atlanta where he was summoned by the illness of his mother.

George Tobias gets back from Fort Knox where he had a top spot in Warners 'The Tanks Are Coming', to step into 'Hot Nocturne'.

Benny the Gouge sez—It's still Hollywood and Vine, even though everybody has moved over to the Ambassador for the nonce. That's a good word, nonce. They would of shot me if I ever tried to pull it in the old days in front of the Palace.

Hollywood Inside

THE threatened influx of young free lance actors and actresses into the parking lot facing Paramount studio as a result of Collin Blair getting a job with the C. B. DeMille company and prospects that Mary Burgess also will get one, has been spiked by the police. Blair had rented space three weeks ago and set up a tent, saying he'd stick there 'picketing' DeMille until he got work in 'Reap the Wild Wind'. He landed yesterday, a second mate's role, when DeMille inquired about the former caddy for Otto Kruger after cops had compelled him to leave the parking lot. Miss Burgess, who arrived about a week ago, setting up a trailer residence alongside Blair's tent, also has been granted an interview with DeMille, and probably a job in the picture, after she also was politely shushed on by the cops. Seems there is an ordinance which Officer E. C. Paglau cited, preventing the establishment of 'living quarters' on parking stations, which will prevent other young, ambitious hopefuls moving in here or in other parkings alongside studios to emulate the 'crashing' technique.

☆ ☆ ☆

WHILE several companies, hoping to make pictures which would help cement relations with Latin American countries and at the same time swell local box office, have had bitter disappointments, in the former consideration at least, Paramount has signally succeeded in getting the good will of Cubans with its Bob Hope-Paulette Goddard starrer, 'The Ghost Breaker'. Yesterday in a ceremony at the studio here, the Havana Rotarians awarded a cup to Paramount as a special honor for 'promoting Latin American' entente and 'complimenting Cuba and inspiring tourist traffic impetus.' Presentation was made to Y. Frank Freeman, Arthur Hornblow, Jr., the producer, Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard by President H. Haake for the Havana Rotarians. International Rotarians, incidentally, will have their convention next week in Denver, and will see newsreels made of the local cup presentation yesterday.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT recently loaned Charles Lang to Walter Wanger for the lensing job on 'Sundown.' Deal was made without Lang's knowledge just after he had left on his vacation, accompanied by his wife. Wanger executives tried to contact him, but the cameraman had left for a roving automobile trip. Yesterday, as the 'Sundown' company started for location at Acoma Rock, New Mexico, Wanger was faced with a costly delay unless Lang could be located. John LeRoy Johnson, Wanger flack, asked Knox Manning to broadcast a story of the situation over KNX. Manning complied. Lang, in his automobile on Sentinel Butte, in Yosemite National Park, caught the broadcast and reported to the studio. He motored back last night and will take a special plane out for the location today.

☆ ☆ ☆

HORSE players at a valley studio found out yesterday just what a mutuel field bet means to their pleasant surprise. Boys had been watching some hot tips that paid off two days in a row so that when another came through Tuesday they decided to plunge the bankrolls across the board. The horse, Risky Lady, finished back in the field and bettors went sadly to their bookie yesterday to pay off. Instead, the bookie had the long face as Lady was a field horse with Hi Beautiful, which came in second, paying $10 and $5.20. The boys still have faith in their tipster.

☆ ☆ ☆

UNIVERSAL is looking for a dude ranch capable of housing the cast and crew of 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', next Abbott and Costello comedy, somewhere in Arizona. Current hot season on the desert is another factor governing choice, studio figuring that if a proper place was found, but in a particularly hot section, heat would cause the loss of considerable production time. Prescott, Ariz., is being eyed most favorably because of the more temperate clime, but lacks a dude ranch with a large swimming pool and quarters needed for the company.

☆ ☆ ☆

A MOVE by Jock Lawrence to extend his jurisdiction to the distributors is reported to have been promptly squelched by an eastern distribution head who was approached on the idea. Lawrence is said to have been told to keep his hands out of distribution, and that those in charge of that department felt perfectly capable of handling their business. It is understood that Lawrence wanted the field men used for exploitation out of New York to contact and cooperate with his office.

☆ ☆ ☆

HUE and cry raised by radio comics against the same hand-sitters in the studio audience week in and week out is being tempered at KNX by distribution of blocks of tickets to soldiers on leave. Through cooperation of United Service Organizations, the service men are contacted at all points of entry to the city and given tickets to the airshows. Blocks of 200 tickets to all audience programs are set aside weekly for those on furlough from camp.

☆ ☆ ☆

TWENTIETH-FOX has held up work on adding large footage to 'Blood and Sand' for the Latin-American version of the picture until a new Mexican decree has been clarified. Law makes it mandatory that no picture may be shown in Mexico different from the one that is exhibited in the United States. 20th-Fox had hoped to give the film more appeal in Mexico and South America with added bullfight scenes.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE Securities Exchange Commission disclosed the annual salaries of George Schaefer, president of RKO, to be $81,808, plus $250 weekly for certain expenses during 1940; of Ned Depinet, $55,060, and N. P. Rathvon, chairman of the executive committee, $28,387.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Once upon a time there was a film producer who bought a book of literary excellence
And when he read it over a couple of times he said 'It don't make much sense.'
So he gathered a bunch of writers at luncheon in the studio commissary
And told them in his own inimitable way: 'Put some punch into this book but keep it literary.'

★ ★ ★

Bette Davis started something with 'The Great Lie'. Fibber McGee got a three-year contract and Harry Langdon is coming back in 'The Great Fib'. It sounds like a convention of diplomats.

★ ★ ★

George M. Cohan has been shaved and haircutted for a film biography, and now his old podner, Sam Harris, is going through the same ordeal, with a literary shampoo by John Cleveland and Luther Davis. George and Sam thought up a lot of Hollywood ideas before there was a Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

'Panama Hattie' is leading with its chin when it moves into this neighborhood.

If you want to see something new in a topper,
Get wise to the hatties of Hedda Hopper.

★ ★ ★

There are many ways to break into Hollywood, including that of Liz Whitney, who is saddling an offer to ride for dear old Monogram in Prescott, Ariz.

★ ★ ★

When a film star announces that she designs all her own clothes, she has a lot of courage.

Victor Jory once was a strong man in vaude, tearing up telephone books and all like that. If he can tear up one of the 'Timber Wolves' he will achieve a niche in the Hall of Fame along with Baron Munchausen.

Brandon Hurst, one of the antedeluvian members of the 'Charley's Aunt' cast, is moving into the film show at 20th-Fox, which makes him Jack Benny's grand-uncle, and he doesn't come from Waukegan.

★ ★ ★

Next national holiday is the Fourth of July, and up comes Frances Neal as the 'Firecracker Girl.' Showing that the flacks keep at least one eye on the calendar.

★ ★ ★

My old man went to the big World's Fair
Way back in the year of Ninety-Three,
And saw strange sights on the Midway there
That honest men ain't supposed to see.

But now the Little Egyptians walk
On the boulevard with sections bare
That would have occasioned a lot of talk
Way back in the days of the big World's Fair.

Hal Roach Requests Exhibitor Help For Streamliners

Drawing a comparison between his forthcoming streamlined short features and the early two-reelers as a potential talent incubator, Hal Roach yesterday asked exhibitors at the MPTOA convention to gamble with him on the 40 to 50-minute features soon to be released.

Introduced rather late in the session, Roach said he felt like a B film going on at midnight and said he had made some of the lousiest pictures ever produced in Hollywood. He added, however, that some of the top men in the industry thought the short features a good idea and advised exhibitors to use them sparingly with top films in an effort to unfreeze audience at peak hours, do away with restricted grosses, and retain or increase normal turnover.

Roach cautioned that the first one or two pictures might not be so good but that it was worth experimenting with on the chance of developing young people at a time when the industry needs more stars.

Hope, Carroll 'Hell' Set By Paramount

'Snowball in Hell' is in the Paramount story kitty as a Bob Hope-Madeleine Carroll starrer, and Paul Jones has been assigned to produce. Tale by radio writers, Norman Panama and Melvin Frank, poses Miss Carroll as a British secret agent, and Hope as an American vaude comic, with most of the action taking place on a transcontinental train. Assigned to script are Don Hartman, who starts tomorrow, and Frank Butler, who comes in on story after he finishes revisions next week on 'Her Jungle Mate'. Picture is slated for October production.

Pete Smith Steaming

Pete Smith is going full steam ahead at Metro with what is probably the busiest production schedule in town. He starts 'How to Hold Your Husband—Back' on Monday, putting him to work on five shorts as well as the scripts of three more.

Dieterle to NY

William Dieterle will go to the RKO convention in New York on Saturday to show the assembled sales force part of his production, 'The Devil and Daniel Webster'. His associate, Charles L. Glett, will accompany Dieterle.

Added to Kyser Pix

Casting on the Kay Kyser picture at RKO has added to the principal bracket Dennis O'Keefe, May Robson and Anne Patsy Kelly. John Barrymore and Lupe Velez have already been announced for the Dave Butler production.

WB Keeps Lucia Carroll

Warners has lifted its option on Lucia Carroll. Actress is now ill at home with an appendicitis attack, which forced her removal from the cast of 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough.'

JUDGE O'CONNOR SPEECH AROUSES MPTOA LISTENERS

Sounding the keynote of patriotism yesterday at the second session of the MPTOA convention, Hon. J. F. T. O'Connor, judge of the U. S. District court, Los Angeles, unexpectedly stirred a blase exhibitor audience out of its apathy and brought the entire attendance to its feet, stamping and cheering, as he declared that great as the motion picture industry is, 'your theatre isn't worth anything, your dollar isn't worth anything', if ever those foreign crackpot ideologies exemplified by Hitler are permitted to foster on American soil.

It was a smashing climax to an address that began conventionally enough with a recital of statistics pertaining to the motion picture industry and an acknowledgment of the important part the screen had played in moulding the thought of the nation.

That the momentous problems of defense shared equally in importance with exhibitor problems in the minds of many was evident in the fact that two other speakers, C. C. Pettijohn and Francis S. Harmon, touched on the same subject following Judge O'Connor. Pettijohn, Hays office counsel, noting that Judge O'Connor had struck the most dominant psychological factor, early in his address declared that the first duty of the people in the industry and out of it was to be first class Americans. Pettijohn defined a member of the so-called 'intelligentsia' as a guy who had been educated beyond his intelligence. He then discussed exhibitor-distributor squabbles, and cried for the old days of the conciliation boards, contending that arbitration then cost only one-fourth of the present method of arbitration. Pettijohn said the industry had gone through a tough year with 500 more restrictive bills aimed at the screen than ever before. He reported also that results in combatting proposed restrictions had been better than at any time in the past 20 years because legislators throughout the nation have come to realize the necessity of the screen in community life.

Dore Schary, vice-president of the Screen Writers Guild, followed with a talk in which he endeavored to prove that writers are human beings. He referred to the time when writers came to Hollywood on contract, figuring to work just long enough to make enough money to retire to a shack and write a novel, adding that the writing man's attitude had changed considerably in recent years.

Among others addressing the convention were William F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief; Walter Wanger, Y. Frank Freeman and Hal Roach.

Freeman, as president of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, urged exhibitors not to take surveys of audience reaction for granted, but to analyze the situation in their respective situations for themselves. Louella Parsons spoke at the opening of the session.

As in the first session Tuesday, members drifted out of the auditorium as the afternoon wore on, with only 50 or 60 exhibs in attendance when the meeting wound up. Among those originally scheduled to talk yesterday, slated to appear this afternoon instead, were Edward Arnold, president of the Screen Actors Guild; George Stevens, president of the Screen Directors Guild, and Col. Nathan Levinson, chairman of the Research Committee of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Capra East; Selznick Working UA Deal

Frank Capra Chiefed for New York yesterday, leaving David O. Selznick to continue negotiations with United Artists on deal calling for them to become member-owners in the corporation. Selznick and Capra are understood to have practically agreed on the offer made by United Artists and former will work out the terms of the proposed pact while Capra is in the east.

Pair, who will produce as individuals but use Selznick's company release through United Artists, had been mulling two other offers, one from RKO, but have concentrated on the UA deal the past week after reportedly deciding it offers the best setup for their type of production.

Capra expects to be in the east two or three weeks at least, part of the time spent fishing in upper New York state before taking care of business matters in New York City.

Heading East

Howard Dietz
Frankie Thomas
Robert A. Fucillo
George Dembow
Bob Gillham
Sam Dembow
Leonard Goldenson

In from the East

Margaret Sullavan
Russell Birdwell.

Moppets Assigned

Bonnie Irma Dane and Sandra Lee Richards, moppets, will have roles of Loretta Young's daughters in Gregory Ratoff's production, 'Woman of Desire', for Columbia release.

Spot Charlotte Henry

Charlotte Henry gets one of the major roles in 'Flying Blind', Bill Pine-Bill Thomas production for Paramount.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

SEYMOUR GOMBERG, of the University of Southern California, is winner of the Robert Taylor playwriting contest. John Dye, of Pomona College, and Mendez Marks, of Black Mountain College, North Carolina, won second and third place, respectively. There were entries from 52 colleges. . . Constance Bennett's love for her non-portable dressing room, which she uses for all of her pictures, caused Warners considerable pondering as to how it could be moved around on the various sets for 'Law of the Tropics'. Problem was solved by assigning a truck to the dressing room, which now rests on the bed of the auto for easy transportation. . . . The Yale Puppeteers open their Turnabout Theatre here July 10 with the puppet show, 'Mister Noah', followed by the live talent revue, 'Turnabout'. Theatre is now under construction on La Cienega boulevard. . . . Nelson Seabra, from Rio De Janerio, Brazil, is here lining up stage and screen names for personal appearances in South America and seeking talent for 'Double or Nothing', which he plans to produce in New York this fall. Seabra is also considering production in either film or legit form, several properties by South American writers to which he holds the rights. . . Rod Cameron dining and dancing with Laurie Folsom-Jones at the Hollywood Tropics.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Claire Trevor dining with Clark Andrews at the House of Murphy in an original gown designed by Damon Giffard of niggerhead-brown crepe. The long, pencil silhouette and slit skirt was accented by a coarse, stiff brown net, starting high at the neckline and ending in a circular tunic, with velvet cording binding. Miss Trevor wore her hair high with soft forehead curls. A hip corsage of pink peonies added final touch.

TWENTIETH-FOX will have a special showing of 'Moon Over Miami' next Monday at the studio for a number of orchestra leaders and musicians. Idea of screening is to try to popularize the Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger songs used in the picture. . . . Vyvyan Donner, 20th-Fox Movietone News fashion editor, is due in Sunday to arrange for use of some of the studio's minor players in newsreel style show. After setting the plans for that she'll remain here for a vacation. . . . Friends are giving Charlie Foy a birthday shindig at his Supper Club tonight. . . . Combined average age of writer, director and producer on RKO's 'Tom, Dick and Harry' is 30 years, being respectively Paul Jarrico, 26; Garson Kanin, 28, and Bob Sisk, 36.

RUTH TERRY
"Blondie Goes Latin" (Columbia)

Under contract
HOWARD HUGHES

WILLIAM MORRIS
AGENCY, Inc.
WMA

Arnaz, Ball Topline Labor-Guilds KFWB Program

Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball will have top spots on the labor-guilds program at 8:30 tonight over KFWB. The offering, 'Hands Across the Hemisphere', a message from labor in North America to labor in South America, also will be short-waved to South America over Station KIFO. Jackie Horner will play several piano selections, and Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, will make a talk on unity of the working man.

Nat Finston will lead a 45-piece orchestra. Program is being sponsored by unionists to combat passage of anti-labor legislation at Sacramento.

Billy Lee Band Set For Nationwide Tour

Billy Lee, 19 year old screen actor who had his first lead role in 'Biscuit Eater', organized his own 11-piece band consisting of boys not over 12 years of age. Band had its debut at the Biltmore Tuesday (10), where it played for an hour for the Gold Star Mothers. Lee will do a local tour with his band for next few weeks and after school is out will take youngsters for nationwide tour.

Added to 'Kildare'

Tim Ryan and Ernie Adams are the newest additions to the cast of Metro's next 'Dr. Kildare.'

Story Buys

Samuel Goldwyn has bought an original screen story by Howard Koch and Anne Froelich, entitled 'The Singing and the Gold', as a prospective starrer for Gary Cooper, to follow 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen'. William Wyler will direct the yarn, which deals with modern descendants of an old Dutch family along the Hudson river. Title is from Euripides.

MPTOA *and* PCCITO

Conventioneers and

their Wives are

cordially invited to visit

MAGNIN'S . . .

"acclaimed the most

beautiful store

in the world"

I. MAGNIN & CO.
WILSHIRE AT NEW HAMPSHIRE

Attention PCCITO Delegates!

This morning's closing session of the PCCITO, starting at 10.00 at the Ambassador hotel theatre, will be one of the most important to you as exhibitor members. Resolutions submitted from the floor this morning and passed by the assembly will be the guide rule for your Trustees during the next year. Members of the PCCITO can hardly expect the Trustees to think for them, so it is up to you to express your wants by means of resolutions and then trust to your board to carry them through. After all, the Board of Trustees is only the modus operandi.

Radio Charged with Coloring News To Impress Sponsors

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

W. Tobey of New Hampshire were outspoken in protesting that biased comment has been put forward under the guise of news, while Louis G. Caldwell, Mutual general counsel, warned of censorship dangers.

Senator Clark suggested the comish or some other Federal authority should take steps to prevent mislabeling of editorial news, and Senator Wheeler said he thought the FCC should examine the scripts of all stations whenever their license renewals come up. Transmitters which are one-sided ought to be warned they must give both parties equal treatment in connection with such vital controversies as the war, Wheeler suggested. Tobey drew from Fred Weber, Mutual general manager, the statement that Fulton Lewis, Jr., does not voice the interventionist viewpoint, but Weber failed to respond to Tobey's demand for the name of another impartial commentator. Wheeler applauded Lewis as fair, remarking that he had been 'cussed out' by New Dealers who dislike his occasional criticism of Roosevelt policies.

The solons complained particularly about sponsored commentators, implying these are giving the slant of their sponsors. Weber contended that Mutual, for one, tries to balance its program schedule with sustaining programs. Industry too long has lived in fear of the comish under both Democratic and Republican regimes, Wheeler declared. He said 'there has been too much commission domination', with licensees afraid they will carry programs which offend the regulators. 'I want to see stations free from fear of domination by the commission, and they haven't always been free, but I also want to see them free of fear of domination by private corporations', Wheeler said. The Montanan also rapped newspapers, saying radio has done a pretty good job on most controversial questions. He complained that 'newspapers don't always carry both sides and often color their news to conform with editorial policy. This is true in the present controversy'.

Long legalistic discussion of the commission's power to lay down rules designed to curb monopolistic practices included sharp differences of opinion between Caldwell, one of the earliest general counsels of the old Federal Radio Commission, and Senator Wallace H. White of Maine, co-author of the 1927 Radio Act. The Mutual barrister, after White noted the statute authorizes regulators to limit the power, time and number of clear channels and other phases of the business, insisted Congress rejected the common carrier school of thought in favor of the 'free competition' theory.

Asked what public interest, convenience and necessity means, Caldwell said defining the term is a 'broad order' and it has to be interpreted by the courts through a process of 'inclusion and exclusion'. He acknowledged there is a debate whether the law authorizes regulators to enter the economic field, but pointed out that Congress did not say the comish should not control business practices which may lead to monopoly. The Supreme court has held the agency should undertake such regulation, he insisted.

Senator White maintained Congress 'turned definitely away from the theory of free competition' after breakdown of the 1912 act, but Caldwell retorted the collapse of the first regulatory law proves the impossibility of specifying by statute the detailed practices. Inconsistency of the comish was criticized by White and Wheeler, with Caldwell acknowledging there has been little uniformity in the past. White said the comish never has been entirely consistent from its inception 'up to this good hour'.

Robert R. Presnell Gets Signal Corps Comish

Robert R. Presnell has been commissioned major in the U. S. Army Signal Corps and leaves shortly for his station at Fort Monmouth, N. J. He is finishing up script job on 'Seventh Cavalry' for Samuel Goldwyn. In the World War, Presnell came out of Officers Training Camp at Fortress Monroe, Va., a lieutenant, served overseas and remained in Barcelona, Spain, for three years as correspondent for the Chicago Tribune. He came to Hollywood in 1930.

Geo. Ward Changover

George Ward, who leaves Music Corporation of America Saturday after three years, will become associated with the Mitchell Hamilburg office to handle picture and radio talent. Ward starts his new connection Monday.

Inaug KNX Series

Texas Jim Lewis and his Lone Star Cowboys inaugurated a daily series of musical programs over KNX under Yeast Foam sponsorship.

Wm. Wright Assigned

William Wright will have role of assistant film director in Paramount's 'Glamour Boy.'

Title Changes

Warners 'Hot Nocturne' now titled 'New Orleans Blues'.

Seasonal C & S Finale Being Arranged For Camp Roberts

Seasonal finale of Chase & Sanborn program (29) will be broadcast from Camp Roberts, San Miguel, Calif., if facilities are approved by Maury Holland, producer of the java show, who goes north tomorrow to inspect the camp setup.

Edgar Bergen, heading the troupe, was the first of the radio stars to make a camp pitch eight months ago at March Field.

PCCITO PLANS TO PROTECT MEMBERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

by the membership at yesterday's open forum session. As a result, it is expected that the organization today will formulate a definite and constructive program to correct problems which the PCC policy of protecting its members has long favored.

Evincing a spirit of democracy, the Coast exhib organization acted at yesterday's meeting to create a vehicle upon which to constructively, yet dynamically, pursue its efforts in securing fair and impartial treatment in all existing relationships between the three branches of the industry.

Matters up for discussion at the open forum meeting included move-overs, allocation of pictures, the current slump in b.o. receipts, student reduced admissions, commercialized previews, the print situation, the new arbitration setup under the consent decree, opposition to dual bills, film rentals, including percentage pictures, and other evils charged against distribution and production.

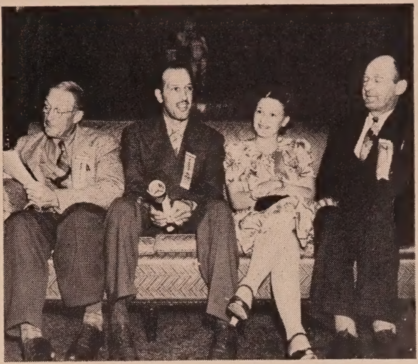
In an effort to secure an effective method of overcoming different viewpoints on new distribution policies under the consent decree, the association voted unanimously to provide through proper channels a medium of assuring all indie exhibs on the Coast relief from discriminatory practices as well as to fairly and justly police the decree as it might affect any and all parties.

Activities of the four unit organizations comprising the PCC on the trade practice code a year ago were fully discussed, and comparison made with the present consent decree. So important was the discussion that it was decided to again take up the subject at today's closing session. This, it was argued, would give all exhibitor-delegates an opportunity to analyze each phase of the PCCITO's stand since its inception, in order that a proper and effective method would be evolved to correctly find a solution to the problem.

PCC today resumes its 10 o'clock starting time, and effort will be made to conclude the important business on hand in time for final adjournment at noon. Many of the members of the Coast exhib body will again turn out for the MPTOA parley in the afternoon, particularly the San Francisco and Seattle units which are affiliated with the national organization.

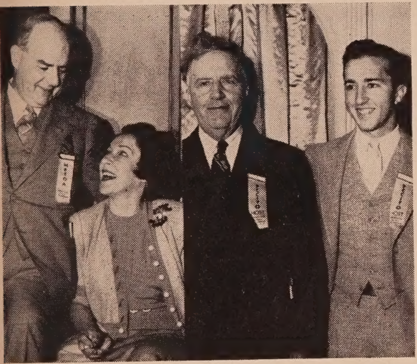
ANOTHER CAMERA PARADE OF EXHIBS

Active workers in MPTOA affairs are C. H. Arring-
on of Rocky Mount, N. C.; George Kerasotes, Spring-
ield, Ill., and William E. Butler of Philadelphia.



R. R. Pratsch of Tacoma was too interested in Daily Variety to look up for his picture. Others in group are Rollin G. Kuhn, Lebanon, Ore.; Mrs. B. H. Galt and J. E. Kimley, both of Seattle.

Mrs. Gerald L. Karski, San Francisco, and Mrs. Sidney Lust of Washington are well chaperoned by Jim Hone, executive secretary of the Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska Exhibs.



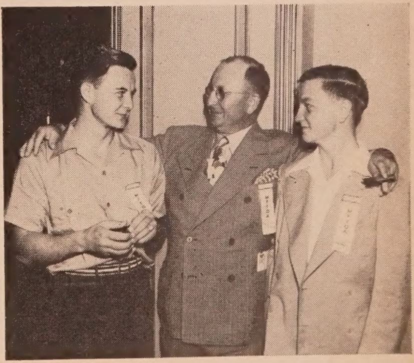
George Aarons, associate general counsel for
MPTOA, with his wife on the left and Ed Zabel and
his son, Arthur C., of Olympia, Wash., are pictured
above.

Joseph Litvac, here from St. Louis, talks exhibition problems with Edward Auger, rotund independent who hails from New York.

Here are Mike Barovic of Tacoma, Wash., and J. B. Giachetto, Springfield, Ill., together with Alan Hale, boosting the advantages of his push-back chair invention.

This trio of exhibs forgot to pin their convention badges on yesterday. They are Andrew Fiore, Atlanta; E. Horwitz, Los Angeles, and A. E. Chadick, New Orleans.

Mrs. Abraham Kofman, Alameda, Cal., and R. L. Lippert, San Francisco, and Gus Kerasotes of Springfield, Ill., who is accompanied by Mrs. Kerasotes, and guest.



Oscar Lam, the Rome, Ga., vet exhib, is well fortified by his two sons, John and Thomas, both of whom 'Gawgia' Crackers.

'Man in Street' Being Readied as Crosby, Martin Flicker

'Man In the Street' is being planned at Paramount as vehicle for Bing Crosby and Mary Martin. Yarn will be adapted from the dramatic sketch presented on the 'Manhattan At Midnight' national radio show two weeks ago. Four other studios sought rights to the William Bowers-Robinson Holbert story within 24 hours after it was aired.

Delmar Davies has been assigned to script.

DIETZ GETS CO-OP FOR AIR PROGRAM

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

Program will emanate from New York every Wednesday night at 9 o'clock (5 o'clock PST) for 13 weeks. There also will be a Hollywood cut-in.

Dietz leaves today for New York to consult with Columbia Broadcasting System executives. Douglas Coulter is producing the series. Dietz is general chairman of promotion via entertainment for the Defense Savings Staff of the Treasury Dept.

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau will introduce the initial program. 'Information Please' will make a special appearance; Fred Allen will be master of ceremonies from New York; John Charles Thomas will be vocalist; Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland will sing the theme song, 'Any Bonds Today?' written by Irving Berlin, and Charles Laughton will deliver the Gettysburg address.

The second show, July 9, will feature Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour.

'The idea of the program,' Dietz said, 'is to stimulate the spirit behind the Defense Savings plan. The national unity we hear so much about can best be achieved when everyone has a personal, sentimental and material interest in our way of life.

'The Defense Bonds and Stamps are sold without fixed quotas, buttons, or high-pressure salesmanship. Everybody is asked to become a voluntary financial partner of Uncle Sam. The radio program will stress the value as well of spiritual partnership with our desire to defend democracy and civil liberties in a united front against the encroachment of the so-called new order. It will be fundamentally entertaining but will also strive for an ennobling sentiment. Writers are asked to contribute short playlets. Dramatic players as well as comedians and vocalists are asked to appear. This program will represent a cross section of radio, theatre and the screen.'

The Producers Association, the Screen Actors Guild and the Screen Writers Guild have all agreed to lend every effort to make the program a success, Dietz said. His headquarters will be at 1540 Broadway, in New York. Huntly Gordon, at the office of the SAG, will be coordinator for the film actors.

TODAY'S EXHIBITOR PROGRAM

PCCITO Convention

Jack Y. Berman, Chairman

10:00 a.m.—Final business session of convention assembles. Exhibitor presentation of resolutions
11:55 a.m.—Final announcements
12 Noon—Adjournment

MPTOA Convention

H. W. (Rotus) Harvey, Chairman

2:00 p.m.—Final business session
Addresses by:
Hedda Hopper, radio, screen and newspaper commentator
Edward Arnold, president Screen Actors Guild
Hon. John M. Costello, congressman from Los Angeles
J. Noble Braden, executive secretary American Arbitration Association, New York
Austin C. Keough, general counsel, Paramount Pictures, New York
John H. Harris, chief barker, Variety Clubs of America, Pittsburgh
Claude F. Lee, public relations, Paramount Pictures
H. M. Richey, Metro sales contact, New York City
Reports and Forum discussion from MPTOA regional associations, including these speakers: J. M. Hone, Seattle; Sidney B. Lust, Washington, D. C.; Arthur H. Lockwood, New Haven, Conn.; Oscar C. Lam, Atlanta, Ga.; Joseph H. Brennan, Boston; Lewen Pizor, Philadelphia; James C. Shanklin, Ronceverte, W. Va.; Roy L. Walker, Lampasas, Tex.; Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, Mo.; R. X. Williams, Jr., Oxford, Mississippi.
Round Table discussion
Reports of Committee.
5:00 p.m.—Adjournment

HARMON ACCOLADES REAL HERO OF DEFENSE FILMS

For making the civilian artisan at work in airplane factories, armories and navy yards the No. 1 film hero during the past 10 months, newsreels received a notable tribute in the address given yesterday before the MPTOA convention by Francis S. Harmon, coordinator of the Motion Picture Committee Cooperating for National Defense. After describing the close working relationship between the 10,000 exhibitors who have pledged themselves to play subjects bearing the Committee's seal, the distributors and producers, Harmon pointed to the newsreels as an invaluable factor which had too often been taken for granted.

Harmon pointed out that during the second half of 1940 one-sixth of all newsreel subjects related to national defense, and at the present time more than 25% of current newsreel clips deal with activities bearing importantly upon the defense effort, thus contributing materially to national morale. He said that newsreel editors have continued to dramatize the skilled hands and trained eyes of master craftsmen in key industries, and added that a rare opportunity now confronts the industry to portray through some form of special release the field maneuvers scheduled for the weeks ahead.

The most important work of the Production division, according to Harmon, was in the commercial field. He cited as examples such short subjects as 'Spirit of 1941' (Col), made at the request of the U. S. Civil Service Commission as an aid in placing skilled civilian laborers in arsenals, armories and navy yards, and 'The Battle' (MG), a forthcoming short dramatizing the navy's service of supply which is based on some naval recruiting films.

Going into detail on the industry's defense setup, Harmon mentioned that there were 240,000 separate transactions involved in connection with the exhibition of 12 one-minute army trailers in 10,000 theatres which had signed pledges of cooperation. He also mentioned the fact that 26 trucking associations, forming Film Carriers, Inc., had arranged to transport films bearing the Committee's label free of charge. With the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission these films will be carried to 85% of the nation's theatres serviced by the trucking companies.

Harmon referred also to a 170-foot trailer, 'Where Do We Go', produced by the United Service Organizations for National Defense, featuring Charles P. Taft and Thomas E. Dewey, calling attention to the campaign for funds for improved recreational facilities for soldiers, sailors and defense workers.

Touching briefly on the series of 50 training films being made in Hollywood under the auspices of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in cooperation with the U. S. Army Signal Corps, Harmon said that subjects completed or recently assigned deal with venereal disease, personal hygiene, military courtesy, anti-aircraft, searchlight battery, 37 MM. anti-aircraft gun battery, light machine gun platoon, cavalry rifle troop, technique of operating, firing the 240 MM. howitzer, etc. The production of a non-theatrical film on venereal disease, at the request of the U. S. Public Health Service, has been undertaken by the Research Council of the Motion Picture Academy on a non-profit basis.

As an instance of the tremendous audience reached by defense films, Harmon cited 'Land of Liberty', cavalcade of American history, which had been shown in 2,633 theatres to 3,400,000 patrons. He expressed belief that at least 5,000 additional theatres would run the picture.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

Columbia Cutting Rooms Working At Capacity

Columbia's cutting rooms are working to capacity on 10 features and one serial made during studio's all time high production during the month of May. In various stages of editing are 'Our Wife', 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town', 'The Officer and the Lady', 'Blondie in Society', 'Ellery Queen and the Perfect Crime', 'Mystery Ship', 'Two Latins From Manhattan', 'Tillie the Toiler', 'The Son of Davy Crockett', 'King of Dodge City', and the Larry Darmour serial, 'The Spider Returns'.

Additionally, 'Two In a Taxi', 'Sweetheart of the Campus', 'I Was a Prisoner on Devil's Island' and 'The Medico of Painted Springs' are in the laboratory for preparations for final prints.

UA $400,000 Bid Up For Fairbanks Stock Today

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

pected to have her attorneys request a continuance today.

Under probate court procedure, United Artists offer of $100 a share must be approved today by Judge Stephens in case Mrs. Fairbanks fails to seek an adjournment and there are no higher offers made in open court during the hearing.

David Rose Sailing For Par H.O. Sesh

New York, June 11.—David Rose, Paramount's managing director for Great Britain, is sailing from London Friday, expecting to land here the following Monday. Important British developments are to be outlined for the home office.

Check Back Pay

Major studio managers and timekeepers spent hours yesterday studying over payroll records to determine amounts due workers under the retroactive pay agreement. Pat Casey and Fred Pelton, Producer-labor contacts, sat in on the session held in the board room of the Producers Association.

W. R. Burnett Chored

W. R. Burnett, author of 'High Sierra', has been set to do the screenplay of 'Sir Smith', next Metro production for Wallace Beery.

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GREETINGS

TO

MPTOA

AND

PCCITO

MARLENE DIETRICH

Mooney 'Celebrity' Scheduled To Go By K-B June 26

'Mr. Celebrity,' Martin Mooney original, has been given starting date for (26) by George R. Batcheller, supervisor of feature productions for Producers Releasing Corp. Picture will be made by K-B Productions, releasing through PRC.

T. H. Richmond has been assigned his fourth feature for PRC after just completing 'Gambling Daughters'. New one, 'Jungle Siren', an original by M. Freeman, goes later this month.

EXHIBITORS SING IN HARMONY

★ Continued from page 1 ★

them to the Coast, in favor of studio trips and other Hollywood tours. Blast at the exhibs for their failure to show up at the business sessions in anything resembling a satisfactory turnout had some effect on conventioneers yesterday, and when the second session of MPTOA got under way shortly after 2 p.m., the attendance reached around the 450 mark, with, however, at least 50% of the crowd made up of women, and with many members of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners in the audience.

At yesterday morning's open forum sesh of the PCC strong pressure was brought to bear on the entire membership to turn out en masse at the MPTOA meeting that afternoon, with encouraging results.

Final session of the PCC today will be given over largely to the introduction of resolutions by which the board of trustees will be governed throughout the ensuing year, and MPTOA, at its closing meeting this afternoon, has another long program of speakers scheduled. In addition there will be roundtable discussions, reports of committees and an open forum at which exhibitor members may express themselves freely.

Joint convention winds up tonight with an industry banquet and dinner dance at the Earl Carroll restaurant and theatre in Hollywood. Attendance is expected to exceed 750, with studios promising to turn out many of their name players to provide added entertainment during the evening. Carroll spot will be taken over entirely by the exhibitor group and dancing and the two Carroll floor shows will continue until well into Friday.

Dietrich in Camp Shows

Marlene Dietrich has been added to the troupe of film and radio stars who will entertain the soldiers at Camp Hunter Liggett and Fort Ord over the weekend.

Vic McLeod Spotted

Vic McLeod has been assigned to write comedy sequences for 'Bombay Clipper' at U. Marshall Grant will produce.

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

Rodgers Explains Details Of New Metro Sales Setup

William F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief, who declined to address the opening session of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America Tuesday afternoon because of the slim attendance, delivered his talk on company's new radical sales policy before a crowd estimated at around 400 yesterday afternoon. While the actual number of exhibitors present at the meeting was below early estimates, the mob was sufficiently large to draw out details of the new selling system that Metro has set up for the 1941-42 season.

New sales policy, Rodgers emphasized, will be predicated only on one premise — that the gross receipts must be the barometer of future film rentals. 'Many times in the past', he stated, 'there has been criticism of national sales plans that attempted to apply the same formula to theatres nationally. I believe the plan that we have worked out, after months of study and survey and conferences with theatre owners, will apply the proper slide rule to each individual situation. One thing will play a very important part in making it successful, and that is, we are confident that under the plan as devised a one-time solicitation will be sufficient.

'Convinced as we are that a new era has dawned in this business, and convinced as we are that we are sincere in our signing a consent decree, we must do our level best to work out formulas that will improve the business. I believe we have worked out a sales plan that will be of benefit to our customers.'

Rodgers took the position that Metro has never advocated, and does not now, that American exhibitors are expected to make up the deficit as a result of the foreign situation. 'We do expect, however,' he continued, 'the American exhibitor to cooperate so that we can seek and find new avenues of revenue. Whether this takes the form of single bills everywhere, or of increased admissions on an individual picture if justified, or whether the conditions merit a general advance in prices, or whether it will take the form of extended runs, is a matter for local decision. Whether the producers are going to be encouraged to expend ever greater sums to make great pictures is a matter for you to determine.

'We will outline at the proper time our plan, which provides an incentive to give deserving pictures extended time—you and your business to be the judge. We plan to commence to trade show our pictures in July, at a time and at places most convenient to our customers.'

At the outset of his talk before the exhibitor gathering, Rodgers emphasized that the picture industry presently is occupying a most uncomfortable position. This took in the entire industry, he said—production, distribution and exhibition. All are alarmed at the facts. 'In my opinion', Rodgers stated, 'the time has not only arrived but has been here for a long time when all interested elements in the business should use the ingenuity we are expected to possess in demonstrating our ability as showmen'.

Good pictures alone will not bring back theatre patrons in sufficient numbers, the Metro sales chief insisted. 'Good pictures', he said, 'will help, but your appeals to the public must be compelling. Presentation is both important and necessary. We are now faced with the bitter truth that other forms of amusement have taken a certain portion of business away from us, and that which we used to choose to consider a foundation or cushion —our regular attendance. This has been weaned away but can be brought back by downright hard work.'

Rodgers predicted there will not be any normal increase in theatre attendance unless the entire industry unites to 'work a little harder, think a little harder, try a little harder, wish a little harder, boost a little more and sob a little less'.

Attention, Exhibs!

If your pictures were taken at any of the studios or at the Columbia Ranch party Tuesday night, you can find copies of the prints on the bulletin board at the Producers-Distributors' booth on the main floor of the Ambassador hotel. Get in touch with the booth attendant or with Fred L. Meyer and copies of the prints will be furnished you gratis, with the compliments of the Industry.

PARLEY ON 10,000 TECHNICIANS

■ Continued from page 1 ■

tions applying only to the individual unions.

The Business Representatives Committee headed by Harold V. Smith will ask that the minimum call for all crafts except the photographers be increased to six hours. Herbert Aller, business representative of International Photographers Local 659, will request that the minimum call for lensers be raised from four hours to eight hours. Sixteen points will be included in the standard conditions applying to all crafts, taking in minimum calls, computation of overtime, location provisions, travel time, etc.

While the demands applying to individual unions will be negotiated separately, none of them will sign a contract until a deal has been set with all the unions. The 10 IATSE studio locals have banded together in a Federation and adopted a Constitution and By-Laws covering future policies. A meeting of the business representatives and three members from each local has been called for tomorrow night in the offices of Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695. A joint meeting of the executive boards of all the unions also has been set for Monday night (16) at the headquarters of the Makeup Artists local.

Wanger Suggests Air Production Angles For Pictures

Walter Wanger condemned the practice of looking to the box office as an infallible barometer of picture quality and suggested following radio program production methods, in an address at the MPTOA convention yesterday afternoon. Wanger charged that the box office can be misleading and that the salvation of the motion picture industry lies in experimenting with the type of pictures that might not do well the first time but would eventually bring new patrons to the theatre as well as keep the old ones. He said that radio had shown the way and advocated trying new types of films and waiting for them to jell.

Wanger pointed specifically to 'Information Please' as an instance of a program which attracted a new audience and declared that the film industry should give patient, understanding treatment to experimental ideas in films. He advised exhibitors to stop thinking in terms of one week and remember the other 51 weeks of the year.

The producer warned that the public has changed, and that the industry has not kept pace. He stated that the industry has not been giving the public what it wants. Things have been too easy for people in the film industry, Wanger said. Vaudeville and the legitimate theatre have virtually disappeared as opposition, yet the screen had failed to attract all of the additional patronage affected.

Defending the stars of the motion picture industry as performers who haven't lost their appeal or glamour, as indicated by fan turnouts at innumerable charity drives, Wanger said that movie stars still have tremendous appeal and can still bring in money at the box office, but that the industry has failed to keep up with new psychological conditions and the public has lost the habit of going to motion picture theatres.

Turning to the press preview evil Wanger urged exhibitors bring pressure to bear on publishers in their localities to get rid of unfair gossip columns and unfair advance criticism which is driving people from the theatre.

Richard Carlson Gets Role in RKO Pic

Richard Carlson gets the male spot in 'Obliging Young Lady' at RKO, replacing John Howard, originally slated to do the role. Howard has been notified by Columbia, which holds a prior two-picture contract with actor, that his services will be needed shortly.

Medford on 'Play'

Harold Medford is scripting 'Girls That Play', Warners one-reeler that will feature Gloria Warren and Diana Jean, the Navy Blues Sextet, Nan Wynn and an all-girl orchestra. Jean Negulesco directs, starting July 7.

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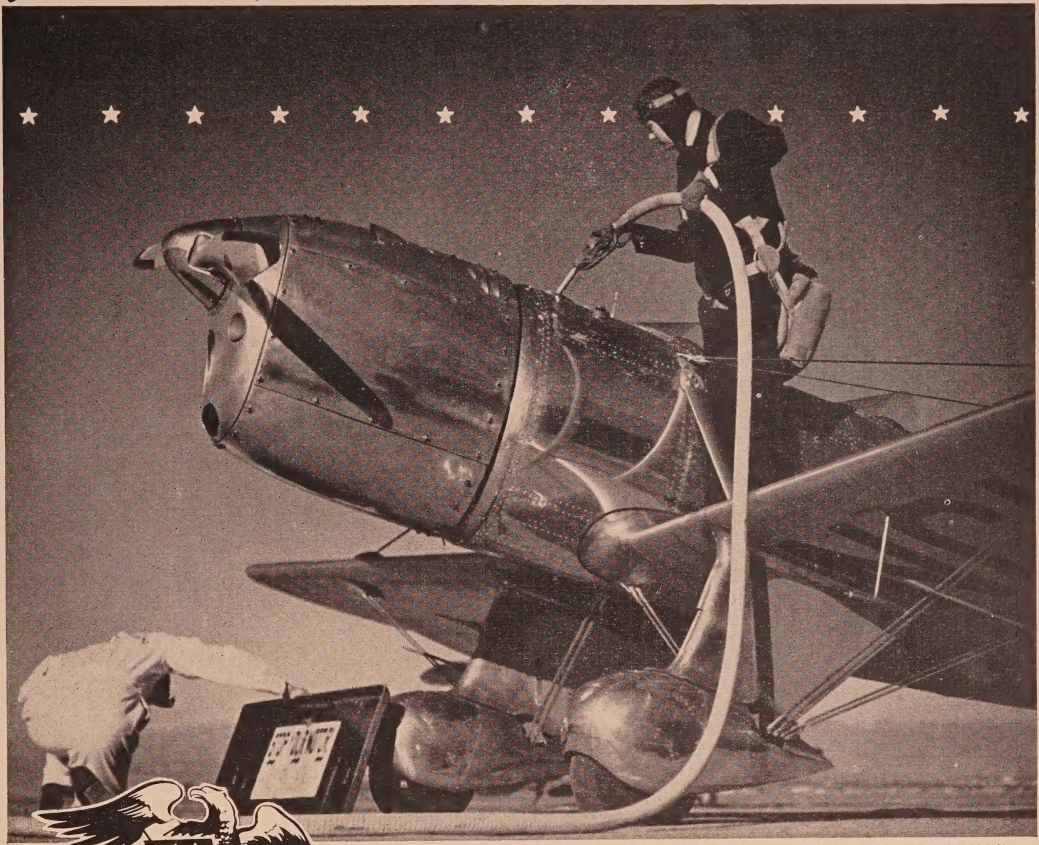
CAFE LAMAZE
9039 Sunset Blvd. BR 21377
Call after 7 p.m.

Greetings M. P. T. O. A.ers!



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Engravers to the Motion Picture Industry

Two 20th Companies, 'Valley' and 'Aunt' On Locations

Two 20th-Fox companies went on location yesterday. First, the 'How Green Was My Valley' troupe, headed by John Ford, went to Brent's Crags for two weeks' shooting. Ford was accompanied by 12 principals, 75 extras, 32 singers and several technicians.

Archie Mayo took the 'Charley's Aunt' company over the Busch's Gardens for two days of shooting.

Convention Notes

Personality parade of Hollywood femme names and a fashion show, planned for the entertainment of wives and guests of convention delegates, turned out to be nothing more than an ordinary luncheon at the Cocoanut Grove yesterday noon. Mary Pickford, for the third straight day of the exhibitor meet, was on hand to greet the ladies of the convention, and a representative of the Westmore company gave a few practical demonstrations in makeup, but aside from them the industry turnout was a bust. Details were arranged by the Hays office, which, however, failed to look after any of the details.

Hon. John Walker, U. S. Customs judge, and brother of Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, is attending the MPTOA convention. Judge Walker holds an interest in the Comerford circuit with Ed Fay.

Hedda Hopper will address the MPTOA convention, opening the session this afternoon. Also scheduled to appear today is Gene Autry.

Exhibitors were still talking yesterday of the pleasure derived at the Columbia Ranch party the night before when Gracie Fields, a British comedienne, sang 'God Bless America'. The song rendition was one of the hi-lights of the party and will long be remembered.

Sidney Lust yesterday received a letter from one of his Washington, D. C., patrons, a businessman, in which tribute was paid to the recent screening of a short subject dealing with national defense, and of the pleasure derived by the patron from the screen diversion. This, he said, was quite in contrast to the dual feature pictures presented on the same program.

Lew Marin, UA Coast exploiteer, keeping busy at convention headquarters ballying his company's forthcoming release, 'New Wine'.

Abe Karski, veteran Oakland exhib, could not get down for the powwow, but is well represented by his son and latter's wife.

Harry Carey, back at his Saugus ranch after few days at Balboa, is hoeing weeds around his ranch buildings against Saturday's celebration of his 33rd year in pictures and Paramount's preview of 'Shepherd of the Hills', because, he says, it's a cinch some of his old pals will be dropping cigarette butts all over the place.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

	LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—	Bonnet Ann El Nido Alexa Cold Weather	Bonnet Ann Big City Sundria	Bonnet Ann Big City El Nido Alexa	Bonnet Ann El Nido Alexa Big City	Bonnet Ann Big City El Nido Alexa	Sundria El Nido Alexa Bonnet Ann
2—	High Martin Diavolo Cliff Be Quaint	Diavolo Cliff High Martin Uneasy	Diavolo Cliff Commendable Black Bread	Diavolo Cliff Commendable Agnes S.	Diavolo Cliff High Martin Agnes S.	Agnes S. Be Quaint Uneasy
3—	Roughage Shasta Taw Don Arezzo	Roughage Magic-Sword Shining A'ur	Roughage Magic Sword Don Arezzo	Roughage Don Arezzo Shasta Taw	Roughage Ebony Eyes Shadow Box	Shasta Taw Roughage Magic Sword
4—	Sentimentalist Wingspread Silsweep	Sentimentalist Wingspread Foxster	Wingspread Sentimentalist Foxster	Sentimentalist Silsweep Wingspread	Wingspread Sentimentalist Silsweep	Sentimentalist Wingspread Silsweep
5—	Musical Jack Hi Stranger Torchy	Hi Stranger Musical Jack Valdina Bully	Musical Jack Rock X Torchy	Musical Jack My Porter Hi Stranger	Dixie-Man Torchy Musical Jack	Chief Nadi Hi Stranger Musical Jack
6—	Xenomay Valdina Mary Quick Gold	Xenomay Quick Gold Albino	Xenomay Palmera T. Quick Gold	Quick Gold Xenomay Albino	Xenomay Quick Gold Valdina Mary	Xenomay Quick Gold Palmera T.
7—	Teddy Kerry Wing & Wing Aboyne	Aboyne Wing & Wing King Torch	King Torch Wing & Wing Aboyne	Aboyne Wing & Wing Teddy Kerry	Aboyne Wing & Wing King Torch	Teddy Kerry Wing & Wing Aboyne
8—	Bucket Head Magic-Key Raby Rattler	Bucket Head Magic Key Allergic	Bucket Head Raby Rattler Magic Key	Raby Rattler Bucket Head Magic Key	Bucket Head Raby Rattler Xenoras Fox	Bucket Head Raby Rattler Magic Key

a.m. Dailies

Suit Hits Orchestra—
Suit for $1,000 has been filed in Superior court in Indianapolis against the All-America Youth Orchestra, conducted by Leopold Stokowski, by Horace Kiser, former representative of the orchestra management, who charges illegal discharge before expiration of an asserted contract. Orchestra share of receipts at recital yesterday in Indianapolis was tied up by receivership complaint.

Mature, Kemp to Wed—
Victor Mature will marry Martha Stephenson Kemp at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York Sunday. Bride-to-be is widow of Hal Kemp, orchestra leader, who died last year. Mature has one of the leads in 'Lady In the Dark'.

Loyanne Wins Divorce—
Loyanne, femme member of the dance team of Loyanne and Reynard, has won divorce and custody of five-year-old twins from Buford Bailey. Former dancer is now working as waitress.

'Whistling' Goes Sat.

'Whistling in the Dark' starts shooting Saturday at Metro, with S. Sylvan Simon directing. Cast now includes Red Skelton, Ann Rutherford, Virginia Grey, Rags Ragland and Donald Douglas.

Goodrich Swings

Marcus Goodrich finished writing the treatment on 20th-Fox's 'Sioux City' yesterday and began penning the screenplay. Harry Joe Brown will produce.

Report MG Shelving 'Yearling' After Million Outlay

● Continued from page 1 ●

the picture from the time the company went on location in the Florida scrub near Ocala under direction of Victor Fleming.

Frances Farmer, under contract to Paramount, Gale Sondergaard and Ruth Hussey are currently being tested for the mother role in the screen version of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings book, to replace player previously assigned to the part.

Metro also is looking for a lad to replace the juve lead, Gene Echman, in the Spencer Tracy starrer. Echman, selected after many youngsters had been tested over a period of many months, was regarded as looking the part exactly, but difficulties developed in his taking direction and in his asserted cringings from the pet deer which is one of the principal performers.

King Vidor had been assigned to replace Fleming after the latter asked to be relieved of the directorial chore.

Hal Rosson, who was lensing 'The Yearling' has gone over on photographic commitment to Alexander Korda.

Rotarians to Denver

Glenn Harper, secretary of Rotary International, heads delegation of about 150 out of here tomorrow on special Union Pacific train to attend the International convention at Denver opening (15). At Salt Lake delegation from here will be entertained during three-hour stopover by the Salt Lakers.

THREE NEW 20th PRODS. START FIRST LOT FILMS

Three new 20th-Fox producers began their first productions at the Westwood lot this week. Recordings by Alice Faye and John Payne were begun yesterday on 'Weekend In Havana', William LeBaron's initial production for 20th-Fox. Duo are singing six songs by Mack Gordon and Harry Warren. Picture goes before the cameras Monday, with Walter Lang directing.

Alfred Werker was named yesterday to direct 'Detour to Love', which will be Walter Morosco's first solo production. 'Detour' will roll July 7. Walter Bullock is doing the screenplay, from an original by Eve Golden and Helen Vreeland Smith, 20th-Fox secretaries.

'Man At Large', Ralph Dietrich's first on his own, began shooting yesterday, with Eugene Forde directing.

Ill in Pix

DON PAGE, assistant director on 'Navy Blues' at Warners, is in Good Samaritan hospital suffering from severe attack of duodenal ulcers. Page, formerly Don Alvarado the actor, was given a blood transfusion from Armor Marlow, also a Warners assistant director.

ALBERTO VILLA will be under doctor's care at home for at least three weeks with injury received yesterday while playing handball, a ruptured blood vessel in a leg muscle. He is due next in Paramount's 'Gentleman From Buenos Aires' this fall.

FRANK PUGLIA is temporarily out of the cast of 'Law of the Tropics' at Warners while he recovers from broken blood vessel in his leg, sustained during filming of the picture.

MARGERY CUMMINGS, wife of Metro producer, Jack Cummings, is home today from Cedars of Lebanon, where she went for general checkup.

CARLISLE JONES, Warners publicity department attache, has checked in at Good Samaritan hospital for observation.

MAX SHAGRIN back on his agency rounds after week's illness with influenza attack.

ALEX GOTTLIEB wearing his right hand in a cast after fall on tennis court.

Rosen Directs 'Game'

Phil Rosen will direct 'The Deadly Game', which starts tomorrow at Monogram with Charles Farrell and June Lang in the leads. John Miljan, Bernadene Hayes and David Clark have been added to the cast.

Raye's 'Hellzapoppin'

Deal was closed yesterday for Martha Raye to play one of the top roles in 'Hellzapoppin', Jules Levey Mayfair production which starts at Universal (23) under the direction of H. C. Potter.

Laughs, Laughs, Laughs!
at
SLAPSY MAXIE'S
with
BEN BLUE & CULLY RICHARDS
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. WEbster 9513
Management: Sammy Lewis

Disney Mediator Asking Pat Casey To Step Into Squabble

Harold V. Smith, who is acting as a mediator in the Walt Disney strike, announced last night that Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, will be asked to step into the picture today to see if an amicable agreement can be reached by the company and the Screen Cartoonists Guild. Smith said that he would confer with Disney this morning, and that if the results of the conference warranted he would seek another meeting with Herbert Sorrell and other Guild representatives.

A Central Labor Council committee composed of J. W. Buzzell, Harry Sherman and Lew C. G. Blix spent some time yesterday in conference with Disney officials, but were reported to have made little progress toward ending the walkout. Members of the SCG earlier in the day voted unanimously against a Disney proposal to hold a secret election of employes to determine whether they desired the Guild to represent them. Sorrell said the fact that a majority of the workers are on strike clearly indicated their desire for the Guild to bargain for them.

A mass demonstration in front of the Disney plant is planned for 5 p.m. today, with prominent actors, writers and others participating. Guild units from Metro, Leon Schlesinger and George Pal will turn out in a body to aid the strikers.

Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney Guild unit, disclosed yesterday that the Guild demands call for pay for animation artists to be tilted from 50 cents per hour to 63 cents, that of inkers and painters from 40 cents to 53 cents, and a blanket increase of 10% for all Disney employes affiliated with the SCG. The group also is seeking improved conditions, etc.

Shortly before midnight last night it was stated the Central Labor Council will act today to place all Disney products on the American Federation of Labor unfair list.

Margaret Sullavan In For Boyer's 'Love'

Margaret Sullavan arrived yesterday after a vacation in New England and reports at Universal to prepare for her role opposite Charles Boyer in 'Appointment for Love', Bruce Manning production. Joseph Valentine also reported back on the lot yesterday from a Honolulu vacation and will fill the cameraman assignment on the film.

Dawn Ends 'Night'

Isabel Dawn has completed her screen play on 'Lady for a Night' which Albert J. Cohen will produce at Republic, and checks off the lot.

Set Sylvia Fielding

Sylvia Fielding, can-can dancer at the Grace Hayes Lodge, is set at Metro for dancing spot in 'The Chocolate Soldier.'

Garbo on 13th

Metro yesterday set tomorrow, Friday the 13th, as the starting date of Greta Garbo's next picture. George Cukor will direct.

SPOTTING BUREAU ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Continued from page 1

and to E. J. Mannix, Metro general manager.

Miss Bower said that when she went to the State Unemployment office at 1015 Orange drive to apply for unemployment insurance, she was advised that a protest had been filed because she refused a $5.50 call and that she was disqualified for the time being. She was advised by Attorney M. E. Lewis that she could appeal the disqualification. Miss Bower stated she was given the impression the protest had been filed by Central Casting Corp., but Attorney Lewis stated later the protest had been made by the legal group set up by the Producers to check on all unemployment claims. It was assumed the record of her having refused $5.50 calls at 20th-Fox and Columbia had been secured by this group from Central in a routine check of such matters.

The Screen Actors Guild was reported to be investigating the action, having previously taken the position that no players could be forced to accept work in the $5.50 classification, especially if they were accustomed to working in higher brackets. Extra leaders were incensed over the action, stating such a move could be used by the Producers to cut wages of extras and force them to work at any figure dictated by the companies.

A Producer spokesman said the legal group, headed by Leon Levy, of the Edwin Loeb office, was merely designated to check all unemployment insurance claims to see they were valid. A representative of the State Unemployment Department, however, said 'the studios believed chiseling was going on, so they got together and hired a group of attorneys to act as a clearing house on all claims. It is understood that a complete record of all claims filed by industry employes are sent to this legal group, and that a protest is filed whenever the group feels that a worker is not entitled to insurance.

Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, said he had previously secured a ruling from the State Unemployment Department that extras could not be forced to accept $5.50 calls. He said that many of them, including himself, turned them down. He said many of them did this because if they once accepted a $5.50 call they were typed in that classification and experienced trouble getting calls in high pay brackets.

At the SAG it was stated that John Dales, Jr., attorney and assistant executive secretary, had been asked to investigate the protest. The office of Fred W. Beetson, president of Central Casting Corp., and vice-president of the Producers Association, also was said to be looking into the situation.

PRODUCER REPLY TO SWG FRIDAY

Continued from page 1

on 48 hours notice. It was stated the Guild negotiating committee will report to the SWG executive board Saturday and that the board then will fix a date for a general meeting.

McIntyre Heads RKO Group to Confab

Headed by Herb McIntyre, western district chief, group of RKO Radio branch managers and salesmen from Los Angeles and San Francisco pulled out last night for company's annual sales convention in New York next week. Going from Los Angeles were Harry Cohen, branch manager; Sam Whitehead, Joe Rubenstein, Dode Samuels, Joe Smith and Lew Fink, with Newton 'Red' Jacobs, Frisco branch manager, also pulling out from here. Going direct from the northern California metropolis were salesmen Earl Stein, George Leach and Charles Crowley.

Gary, Ind., Theatre Co. Loses U. S. Appeal

Chicago, June 11.—Finding no evidence of anti-trust law violation, U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals today upheld a decision of the District court in refusing the Gary (Ind.) Theatre Co. an injunction to prohibit certain practices by film distributors alleged to be in breach of the Sherman anti-trust law. It was the second setback for the Gary outfit, which complained of priority given Chicago theatres in film bookings, thereby constituting restraint of trade. Named defendants were Balaban & Katz and the major film distributors.

Ralph Carmichael On Arbitration Stand In Lewis Case

Ralph Carmichael, office manager of the Metro-Goldwyn exchange, who yesterday took the stand in the arbitration proceedings before Arbitrator Herbert Cameron involving clearance claims of O. W. Lewis and major distributors, gave evidence intended to prove that Lewis was asking not for clearance but a run.

Under cross-examination of Herbert Silverberg, Metro attorney, Carmichael stated that if Lewis were granted seven days clearance over the Rosemead and Garvey theatres adjoining San Gabriel he would in effect have a priority of run instead of additional clearance over two theatres which charge the same admission price.

Most of the morning session was devoted to Carmichael's definitions of a run as opposed to clearance. It was suggested that the Mission Playhouse raise its admission price by five cents in order to become eligible for earlier playdates.

Jimmy Edwards, circuit operator, testified during the afternoon, tracing his rise as an independent exhibitor, with Victor Morgan, Edwards' attorney, conducting the testimony.

Arbitrator Cameron took all testimony under advisement and is scheduled to hand down an opinion before the end of the week.

Castings for 'Heaven'

Tempe Piggott, Sarah Edwards and Dorothy Vaughn join the cast of 'One Foot in Heaven' at Warners.

AFM Resolutions Adopted on Various Org Setups

Seattle, June 11.—The American Federation of Musicians in an all day annual convention session included in resolutions passed rulings that orchestras with musical and vaudeville acts will play only 28 shows a week for Class A houses, 30 for Class B, with all extra shows being paid pro rata per show; that the minimum wage for traveling orchestras will be $36 per week per man, exclusive of the 10% surcharge, not including hotel engagements. That traveling orchestras cannot accept engagements requiring jumps of more than 400 miles in 24 hours. The last resolution was presented because of the many accidents suffered by traveling musicians recently in making long jumps by car.

Salaries of the Federation secretary and financial secretary-treasurer were raised $5,000 per year each after much discussion, and matters that were referred to the executive board included the subject of changes in the Social Security laws so that musicians who work only a few days or weeks in one place will be covered, and the important question of whether the leader or employer of an orchestra is responsible for the payment of members employment and Social Security tax. The last is, according to Advisor J. N. Weber, one of the most important problems facing the musicians.

The report of the WPA committee revealed that WPA musical projects have enjoyed comparative exemption from the reductions in personnel, with approximately $10,500,000 paid musicians in these projects during 1940. However, the coming year will probably bring more cuts which will be felt by the musical projects. However, Prexy James C. Petrillo said that a nationwide broadcast from New York City is being planned for the near future, with WPA Federal Director Hunter to appear on the broadcast with Petrillo. The program, by WPA musicians, will acquaint the country with the work done by the musical projects.

The executive board and various committees are meeting tonight, and the next two days are expected to see action on canned music, which is considered to be the Federation's greatest problem. So far no resolutions affecting the movies have been introduced, with most of the canned music resolutions to come dealing only with records and transcriptions.

Wayne Ball Back

Wayne C. Ball, Columbia branch manager here, returned yesterday from Chicago where he attended a two-day sales powwow at the Drake hotel. Jerry Safron, Col's western district manager, went on to New York for additional conferences and is not expected back until sometime next week.

Coast League Baseball Results

Sacramento, 10; Hollywood, 3.
Portland, 6; Los Angeles, 2.
San Diego, 6; Oakland, 0.
San Francisco, 7; Seattle, 5.

K-B PRODUCTIONS

presents

"PAPER BULLETS"

for

PRODUCERS RELEASING CORPORATION

"For general audiences it would seem to lack nothing that a story of this nature should have to create intense interest and to give satisfaction in its narration and its outcome. 'Paper Bullets', from every angle as a program offering, does credit to its producers, Maurice and Franklin Kozinsky."

Daily Variety

" 'Paper Bullets'—A 'quickie', made for $20,000, which proves a buck's worth of entertainment can be made for a dime—by a guy who knows."

Jimmie Fidler

"In every production detail, as well as in entertainment value, this is probably the best picture to date for release by the new Producers Releasing Corporation and it represents a promising start for newcomers Franklin and Maurice Kozinsky as producers."

Box Office

"Regardless of budget, 'Paper Bullets' will hit the bull's-eye in any situation."

The Independent

" 'Paper Bullets', first of the new producing team, the Kozinsky Brothers, lacks nothing for general audience appeal and shapes up as stellar entertainment for any situation."

Showmen's Trade Review

" 'Paper Bullets' is the first picture to carry the K-B silks. It is a fast moving melodrama that plunges along at a consistent pace to maintain general audience interest."

Variety

"Something of a revelation in budget-picture making, 'Paper Bullets' is a show that puts to shame many of its more costly brothers in the action market. In this first production by Maurice and Franklin Kozinsky is demonstrated a keen knowledge of how to make every dollar count in entertainment values."

Hollywood Reporter

"Aside from its startling local interest, the Kozinsky Brothers have a good, sound melodramatic thriller in 'Paper Bullets'."

Jimmy Starr

"K-B Productions makes a welcome bow into the business with a direct melodramatic hit in 'Paper Bullets'."

J. Emanuel Publications

"There are six full reels of good production, acted by a strong cast expertly directed, and chock full of drama, action, plot and counter-plot, and suspense."

Film Daily

"Squeezing seventy fast-moving minutes of entertainment from every atom that could be extracted from its story of politics and protected gambling, 'Paper Bullets' can take its place on the basis of quality among the better types of crime melodrama. 'Paper Bullets' makes an auspicious debut in film production of the Brothers Kozinsky."

Motion Picture Herald

"When you see 'Paper Bullets' you will be amazed as I was . . it emerges as first class entertainment . . . The first K-B production gives promise of much to come from this company."

George Fisher, Mutual Network

TO THE PRESS:

We are grateful for your welcome of "Paper Bullets."

TO THE EXHIBITORS:

We are equally grateful for your reception of "Paper Bullets."

Maurice Kozinsky . . . Franklin Kozinsky

Now in Production—**"MR. CELEBRITY"**

copy (1)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

Vol. 32 No. 6 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, June 13, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

AROUSED PCC BLASTS DISTRIBS

SKOURAS IN CO-OP FITE ON DUALS

Charles P. Skouras, operating head of Fox West Coast Theatres, late last night wired assurance to L. O. Lukan and Bob Poole of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners of his willingness to fully cooperate with indie exhibs in their campaign for the elimination of double features. Al Lichtman, head of Metro's sales forces, also expressed a willingness to meet with the thea-

♣ Continued on page 10 ♣

Raft, Hopkins, Brent Set for Small Pic

George Raft, Miriam Hopkins and George Brent will go into the cast of Edward Small's 'Heliotrope' and there is a possibility that John Cromwell will direct. Starting date may be early, although Small originally scheduled 'The Corsican Brothers' and a picture with Shirley Temple to roll before 'Heliotrope.' 'International Lady' finished shooting yesterday. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., who will head the cast of 'The Corsican Brothers' is still in South America and 'Heliotrope' may be next.

Dietz to Washington

Howard Dietz, Metro advertising and publicity chief, who has been here for past 10 days in connection with the 'Millions for Defense' radio program which United States Treasury Department will inaugurate July 2, planed for Washington yesterday.

PREVIEWED

THE BIG STORE
(MG)

REVIEWED

DESERT BANDIT
(Rep)

NEVADA CITY
(Rep)

THEY MET IN ARGENTINA
(RKO)

(Preview and Reviews, page 3)

CHARGES FCC USURPED POWERS

Washington, June 12.—Majority of the Federal Communications Commission usurped power never granted by Congress, Commissioner T. A. M. Craven told the Senate Interstate Commerce Commission today. After the Mutual people finished upholding the firecrackerish reform rules, leader of the regulatory body minority said he felt the best way to handle the situation would be to ask Congress for specific advice and let the Federal Trade Commission and Justice departments swing into action. Statute doesn't allow the radio

■ Continued on page 12 ■

DISCRIMINATORY TACTICS CHARGED AT MEETING

An aroused and fighting group of Pacific Coast independent exhibitors, gathered here for the second annual convention of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners went on record vigorously at yesterday's closing session, as being unalterably opposed to discriminatory practices on the part of distributors and affiliated circuits. They condemned the vicious practice of dualing two percentage or high flat rental cost pictures, which they charged producer-distributor owned theatres could afford, as unfair competition to the independent

♥ Continued on page 11 ♥

10,000 WORKERS' DEMANDS PRESENTED BY BIZ REPS

Demands of 10,000 film workers, calling for substantial wage increases, a six-hour minimum call, and improved working conditions were presented to Pat Casey yesterday by business representatives of 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. Casey stated that he would digest the proposals, discuss them with company representatives, and would be ready to meet with union leaders again on Tuesday (17).

Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165 agreed to cooperate

♠ Continued on page 4 ♠

SCHINE CIRCUIT WINS U.S. STEP

Buffalo, June 12.—Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., has won an important victory in the anti-trust action brought against it by the government, in an opinion just handed down by U. S. District Judge John Knight. Under the provisions of this opinion, the government must file an amended complaint in the case in which it must state in what percentage the 'little three' (Columbia, Universal and United Artists) distribute pictures in relation to what are distributed by the so-called 'big five',

◆ Continued on page 2 ◆

Teddy Carr Due In NY on Clipper

Teddy Carr, managing director of United Artists in London is due in New York today on the Clipper. He and Mrs. Carr are coming here to visit their children, who were sent here during the early part of the war, and then will come to Hollywood to confer with member-owners of United Artists.

PCCITO TRUSTEES MAP CAMPAIGN

Trustees of the PCCITO will go into executive conference at 10 o'clock this morning, in a session that will probably take up most of the day. A conservative program for the ensuing year will be mapped out, steps taken for the elimination of so-called industry abuses and a comprehensive campaign launched on behalf of the coast exhibitor organization.

Agnew Breezes Today

Neil Agnew, Paramount's sales chief, planes today for New York after several days of conferences here on product and distribution. Sam Dembow and Leonard Goldenson of Paramount's theatre organization shifted their departure from yesterday to today.

Adele Rowland Debut

Adele Rowland, widow of Conway Tearle, and a former musical comedy star, makes her picture debut at Columbia in 'The Blonde From Singapore.'

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	239
Major studio calls	669
FK Studio Service	2
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	910

CLC ORDERS DISNEY PRODUCTS ON UNFAIR LIST

With mediation efforts to end the Walt Disney strike temporarily stymied by demands of the company for an election of employes, the Central Labor Council yesterday ordered all Disney products placed on the official unfair list of the American Federation of Labor. The Council announced that unions throughout the

★ Continued on page 12 ★

Matt Moore Set

Matt Moore gets feature spot in RKO's 'Unexpected Uncle.'

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Certie**
Put In
Don Devito
2d RACE—**Gold Sun**
Lady Listo
Pot Shot
3d RACE—**SPREAD EAGLE**
Nogales
Seedoe
4th RACE—**Red Cannibal**
Jubilo
Playful Wink
5th RACE—**Mieletta**
Taken
Candy Hero
6th RACE—**Battle Call**
Orenco
Sumatra III
7th RACE—**Buckhorn Creek**
Copperman
Knight Call
8th RACE—**Blon Gla**
Fairhaired Boy
Willy
CHANCE BET—**Red Jewel (7)**
Selections consensus, page 10.

For Doc Baker's Saturday Inglewood picks phone Daily Variety office, HO-1141, after 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Maxine Gray driving to Frisco.

Lum 'n' Abner Western Airing to Las Vegas today.

John Swallow back from a Coast swing of NBC affiliate stations.

Artie Auerbach trains east today for surcease from radio labors.

Ernest Jarvis, KNX production contact, called to the Naval Reserve.

Robert Preston and Edward Arnold make a guest appearance on the Lux Theatre of the Air Monday.

Katharine Hepburn planed in yesterday from the east, using the name of Emily Perkins on the passenger list.

Al Kingston pulls out on the Superchief today to look over the strawhat plays and players in the east.

Peter B. Kyne planes in Monday to see the preview of 'Parson of Panamint', made by Paramount from his story.

William Rodgers, general sales head of Metro, leaves here today for New York after attending studio conferences.

Troupe for 'Timber Wolves', Hopalong Cassidy western to be released by Paramount, has left for location stand at Big Bear Lake.

Gabriel Scognamillo is art director on Metro's 'Whistling In the Dark', and Harry McAfee gets similar assignment on 'Married Bachelor'.

Don Gilman, Syd Dixon, Tracy Moore and Bob McAndrews will represent NBC at Pacific Advertising Clubs convention (29) at Santa Barbara.

Ralph Jordan, Pacific Coast manager for International News Service for the last five years, checks in at Metro Monday (16) as a member of Howard Strickling's publicity staff.

Jan Kiepura will sing for the first time in this country his composition, 'Prayer For Poland's Freedom', at the Coliseum tomorrow night as a feature of the California Music Fiesta.

Grace Hayes is installing a miniature strawhat theatre at her lodge, where, on afternoons, plays will be given by young Hollywood thesps, starting July 1. Directors of the project are A. Edward Sutherland, Henry Hathaway, Leo McCarey and Hugh Herbert. Little theatre will be just off the newly opened sidewalk cafe.

Benny the Gouge sez — Bright lights of Hollywood's night life are brighter on a shoe repair shop than they are on a night club.

Hollywood Inside

BELITA, who walked out of Republic's 'Ice-Capades' last week, will be back again, voluntarily, on Monday, to do a two-minute specialty. Skater left in a huff when she claimed she had been given runaround on billing and that Dorothy Lewis, skater from the St. Regis roof, was being billed above her. Beef actually grew out of the fact that Republic tested Belita for the romantic lead and decided she wouldn't do, but that she could skate in the picture. After cooling off she decided to come back to the lot. If she hadn't, the studio, which had bought the 'Ice-Capades' show, could have clamped down on her. Her absence costs her extra footage she might have had, which will now go to Megan Taylor and Vera Hruba.

☆ ☆ ☆

HAVING signed Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe for the leads in 'The Marines Are Ready', RKO is now mulling the possibilities of contracting the players for two or three more comedies to be based on various branches of the service. Negotiations are on to obtain the right to use the character names of Sergeant Quirk and Captain Flagg, titles fastened on McLaglen and Lowe from their work in 'What Price Glory', made by Fox in 1926. If unable to clear handles, RKO will establish two characters names in 'Marines' to carry through the group of service yarns.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS 'Kings Row', which was to have started shooting next Monday, now will be delayed indefinitely. Studio had made a deal to borrow Robert Cummings from Universal for the picture which Sam Wood will direct, but the actor is now tied up in 'Almost an Angel' and will not be free until about the first of August. There is not enough shooting around Cummings to allow the Warners picture to get under way next week. This is the second time 'Kings Row' has been delayed.

☆ ☆ ☆

WALTER WANGER catches the 13th inst. as a favorable auspice in starting his 'Sundown' at Acoma Rock location in New Mexico, on date scheduled when Charles Lang, cameraman on loan from Paramount, was finally located and planed to the waiting company in time yesterday. With 10 weeks schedule and a company of 250 working on the first of three locations, the picture is the most pretentious Wanger has ever made. Henry Hathaway is directing.

☆ ☆ ☆

SPECIAL trailer prepared by 20th-Fox, featuring introductions by Darryl F. Zanuck of studio's producers and their brief discussions of pictures being made, which had been made to show at the company's sales convention before it was changed from New York to Los Angeles (16-17-18), will now be sent to exchanges for 1941-42 sales promotions. Conferees now will meet the producers in person, so original purpose of trailer no longer holds.

☆ ☆ ☆

A SHOWDOWN between Producers and the Screen Writers Guild is scheduled for tonight, when the company executives give their answer to contract proposals of the scriveners. The SWG negotiating committee will report to the Guild executive board tomorrow, and the board will then fix a date for calling a general membership meeting to consider the counter proposals of the major companies.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT has been unable to locate Mildred Kibbey, Harriet Hammond, Kathlyn Collins, Jacqueline Gadsden, Claire Adams and Molly Malone, all former leading ladies for Harry Carey, to extend invitations to attend celebration tomorrow commemorating Carey's 33rd anniversary in the picture business.

In from the East

Katharine Hepburn (TWA)
Gerrold Brandt
Peter B. Kyne

SCHINE CIRCUIT WINS U.S. STEP

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

signatories to the government consent decree.

Secondly, the court holds that the government should be required to state whether it claims the five non-defendant distributors are still conspiring with the Schine defendants, and, if not, when such alleged conspiracy ceased.

Opinion states the government has given no reason why the desired information should not be given, but that the defendant must have information as to what practically is the percentage so distributed.

Cleveland Assigned

George Cleveland gets role in 20th-Fox's 'Man at Large.'

Heading East

Herbert Wilcox (TWA)
Bob Gillham (TWA)
Neil Agnew (TWA)
George Dembow (TWA)
Edgar Bergen (TWA)
Arnold Weisberger (TWA)
Jean Hersholt (TWA)
Leonard Goldenson (TWA)
Rodney Pantages (TWA)
Reginald Armour (TWA)
J. R. McDonough (TWA)
Perry Lieber (TWA)
William Dieterle (SF)
Charles L. Glett (SF)
Artie Auerbach
Al Kingston (SF)
Sam Dembow
Dudley Nichols
Howard Dietz (TWA)
Armand Schaefer
Bill Morgan

Gillis Joins 'Boy'

Ann Gillis was signed at Paramount yesterday for a featured role in 'Glamour Boy', Jackie Cooper-Susanna Foster starrer. She will play the femme heavy.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Your gal is a queen on the picture screen, a gal of angelic type,
The kind you defend like the knights of old with many a lethal swipe.
So the kid hops off on a Saturday night and marries a hunk of tripe.

★ ★ ★

Temperature went up with 'The Devil and Miss Jones' and 'The Devil and Daniel Webster', but now it is cooling off with 'Snowball in Hell'. It must be a heluva place with Bob Hope tossing hot snowballs and Madeleine Carroll freezing them in midair.

★ ★ ★

Sam Goldwyn must have a deal on with the bulb manufacturers. 'The Professor and the Burlesque Queen' will wrap up a marquee like an octopus, and then comes 'The Singing and the Gold.'

Our Boyle Heights correspondent reports that the Malibu Fink orchestra is playing a new symphony, 'The Intermatzoh.'

Edgar Bergen is getting rid of his Old Man of the Sawmill long enough to take an honorary degree of Master of Arts at Northwestern University, where he studied while McCarthy was being unsapped (or was he?) in a Wisconsin lumber yard. This time Bergen is on his own, and a game guy he is, stepping out on Friday the 13th. Maybe that is why he is locking McCarthy in a trunk.

★ ★ ★

History repeats itself. A lot of film players are getting in all the work they can in 1941, A.D., to make up for what they didn't earn in the year One, B.C., meaning Before Conscription.

★ ★ ★

Cecil B. DeMille hired the handsome youth who had been tenting outside the Paramount studio, thereby reaping the wild publicity. Any time Cecil overlooks a bet, there simply ain't no bet.

★ ★ ★

Suggestion for a trailer—A sequence, between sequences, showing what suckers the gun-toting heroes are at gin-rummy.

★ ★ ★

Alexander Korda is advertising for a dozen timber wolves when he can find hundreds of a more ferocious breed on Sunset Strip.

★ ★ ★

To hear the flacks describe the location layout, the Ringling Brothers deserve screen credit on 'Sundown.'

Nobody takes his cowboy role more seriously than a cowboy actor who has never been a cowboy.

Speaking of names, what has become of this fellow named Hess?

★ ★ ★

There was a time when a gal went out and got married to change her name,
But now, without her knowledge or consent, the studio publicity staff does the same.

Film Preview and Reviews

The Big Store

(*Comedy*)

Metro production. Stars the Marx Brothers and Tony Martin. Features Virginia Grey, Margaret Dumont and Douglass Dumbrille. Balance of cast: William Tannen, Marion Martin, Virginia O'Brien, Henry Armetta, Anna Demetrio, Paul Stanton, Russell Hicks, Bradley Page, Six Hits and a Miss. Produced by Louis K. Sidney. Directed by Charles Riesner. Screenplay by Sid Kuller, Hal Fimberg, Ray Golden. Original story, Nat Perrin. Songs: Hal Borne, Sid Kuller, Ray Golden; Ben Oakland, Artie Shaw and Milton Drake. Music direction, Georgie Stoll. Music adaptation, Earl Brent. Vocal and orchestrations, Leo Arnaud, George Bassman, Herb Taylor, Robert Van Eps. Photography, Charles Lawton. Film editor, Conrad A. Nervig. Previewed June 12, at the Academy, Inglewood. Running time: 80 mins.

If your clientele likes the Marxes this is sure b.o. bait. It is larded with plenty of laughs. It is distinctive Marxian comedy. Plots, situations, backgrounds — these have come and gone in variety through the screen career of the brothers. But the comics themselves are changeless, fixed in character, no matter what new labels the scenarists may hang upon them. And here they are again, Groucho, Chico and Harpo—for the last time together in pictures, they have announced. A farewell to films. And a very funny swan song, if it is their last.

The scene of their cavortings this time is a vast department store. It gives them wide latitude, plenty of natural props, to play with. Groucho is a wily and resourceful private sleuth who becomes the store dick. Harpo is his assistant. Chico is the bodyguard of Tony Martin, part owner of the store, against whom the store manager and a couple of conspirators plot to gain full control. That set-up starts things rolling. Other principals are Virginia Grey, a nice young clerk in the music department; Margaret Dumont, femme standby with the Marxes, who also owns part of the store and falls hard for the seductive Groucho; Douglass Dumbrille, the villainous store manager.

The plot is made deliberately as corny for farce treatment as could be devised by the scripters, Sid Kuller, Hal Fimberg and Ray Golden, from Nat Perrin's original. It serves its purpose very well, and is tossed around for resounding laughs and chinked with well-told gags in the broad and humorously skillful direction of Charles Riesner, who learned his craftsmanship in the early school of film comedy.

One of the most hilarious and thoroughly drained episodes is the impact of Henry Armetta, with his brood of 12 children, against the Marxes in the bed department of the store. Beds, kids, comedians get mixed up in a series of side-splitters. Preluding this is an elaborate song and dance number, 'Sing While You Sell', which has a big ensemble meandering about the store under a swinging camera and ends up on a perambulating stage.

Harpo does a fantastic number on his harp, with mirrors in which each reflection of himself, presumably, plays a different instrument—a neat novelty with chuckles. Harpo and Chico together do a nifty piano number, plenty forte.

Groucho indulges his usual amount of ecstatic and leerical love making with the fetching Miss Dumont in the guise of Aunt Martha.

Tony Martin climaxes his splendidly delivered singing assignment with the grandiose 'Tenement Symphony', chanting many pictured aspects of the East Side, and accompanied by full symphony orchestra. Martin reaches his romantic peak in the nice ballad, 'If It's You'. Music is neatly interpolated throughout the action. 'Symphony' is by Hal Borne for the music, with lyrics by Sid Kuller and Ray Golden. Same combination cleffed 'Sing While You Sell.' 'If It's You' has music and lyric shared by Ben Oakland, Artie Shaw and Milton Drake. Georgie Stoll directed the music; Earl Brent adapted, and vocal and orchestrations are credited to Leo Arnaud, George Bassman, Herb Taylor and Robert Van Eps. Arthur Appell clicks with dance direction.

The chase with which a Marx comedy invariably ends is a pippin this trip, speeding and sprawling through the store building, using elevators, bicycles, roller skates, floor slides, chutes, balconies and swinging fixtures in a riotous gyration which is comparable to the previous high in 'One Night at the Opera.'

Players who ably and colorfully follow the pace of the principals are Marion Martin in a seductive bit; Virginia O'Brien, William Tannen, Anna Demetrio, Paul Stanton, Russell Hicks, Bradley Page and the featured Six Hits and a Miss.

Charles Lawton wields a splendid camera.

Louis K. Sidney handled the production with success.

Desert Bandit

(*Western*)

Republic production. Stars Don 'Red' Barry. Features William Haade, Lynn Merrick. Supporting players: James Gillette, Dick Wessel, Robert Strange, Jim Corey, Merrill McCormick, Tom Chatterton, Tom Ewell, Ernie Stanton, Charles R. Moore. Producer-director, George Sherman. Screenplay, Bennett Cohen and Eliot Gibbons. Original, Bennett Cohen. Photography, William Nobles. Film editor, Ray Snyder. Music, Cy Feuer. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, June 12. Running time: 56 mins.

An excellent package of western fare is presented in Republic's 'Desert Bandit', a Don 'Red' Barry oater that puts the film cowpoke into the role of Texas Ranger. Action, a villain with a sense of humor, a lovely heroine, and all of the other western trappings are mixed up into a standard, but exciting, prairie yarn. Barry is steadily building a following with a different western hero personality under the producer-director guidance of George Sherman, all of which makes this expert fodder for the outdoor fans.

Plot concerns itself with the Rangers' attempt to stop smuggling across the Mexican border. Behind the band of gun-runners is the respected village banker, while William Haade is presumably the real king-pin of crime. Barry apparently gets himself thrown out of the Ranger service, joins Haade's band, foils the crooks' plans and wins the girl. In between there are plenty of gun and fist fights, chases and general excitement in the script by Bennett Cohen and Eliot Gibbons from Cohen's original.

Haade, in spite of his villainy, gets a pleasing sense of humor into his performance and generally makes himself a major asset to the picture. Lynn Merrick lends looks to the femme spot and James Gillette has a brief, but interestingly interpreted role as her brother. Robert Strange, Dick Wessell, Ernie Stanton are others who supply full measure of dirty work.

Nevada City

(*Western with Songs*)

Republic production. Stars Roy Rogers, George 'Gabby' Hayes. Features Sally Payne, Billy Lee. Supporting players: George Cleveland, Joseph Crehan, Fred Kohler, Jr., Pierre Watkin, Jack Ingram, Rex Lease. Producer-director, Joseph Kane. Original screenplay, James Webb. Photographer, William Nobles. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, June 12. Running time: 59 mins.

'Nevada City' is a shoot-'em-up story of railroads versus stage coaches, and both against outlaws, in Republic's Roy Rogers-George 'Gabby' Hayes series of oaters. Western-minded fans will find plenty of excitement in the neat little yarn.

Rogers and Hayes make a good pair of heroes who pull themselves and others out of all manner of jams as they try to smooth out a feud between rival owners of a stage coach line and a railroad, plus bringing to bay the outlaw band that was the real cause of the trouble.

Sally Payne, the femme interest, has a chance to be the heroine instead of a comedy cowgirl, and delivers pleasingly to justify further opportunities in that position. Billy Lee makes a swell young hero-worshipper and juvenile sidekick to Rogers and Hayes. George Cleveland satisfies as the stage coach man, as does Joseph Crehan as his rival. The dirty work is in the capable hands of Fred Kohler, Jr., Pierre Watkin, Jack Ingram and Rex Lease.

Joseph Kane produced and directed from James Webb's original screenplay, and keeps the action alive and the guns smoking. William Nobles took care of the camera assignment.

Hearing on Fairbanks, UA Buy Delayed

Hearing on United Artists' offer to purchase the corporation stock owned by the estate of the late Douglas Fairbanks for $400,000 was continued yesterday until Wednesday at 11 a.m., after attorneys acting for the widow, Sylvia Fairbanks, asked for an adjournment to allow time for possible higher bids.

If no further offers are made for the 4,000 shares of UA stock, corporation's bid of $100 a share will be approved by Superior Judge Jess E. Stephens, hearing the probate matter, at next Wednesday's session. Ed Raftery, Loyd Wright, Sydney Wetzler of Freston & Files, O'Melveny & Myers, were attorneys acting for United Artists, the Guaranty Trust and the Bank of America, and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Robert Fairbanks. Mrs. Fairbanks' motion to delay the sale to UA was presented by Judge Isaac Pacht.

They Met in Argentina

(*Romance with Music*)

RKO production and release. Stars Maureen O'Hara, James Ellison, Alberto Vila, Buddy Ebsen, Diosa Costello. Cast: Robert Barrat, Joseph Buloff, Victoria Cordova, Luis Alberni, Paul Ellis, Fortunio Bonanova, Carlos Barbe, Francisco Maran, Antonio Moreno. Directed by Leslie Goodwins, Jack Hively. Produced by Lou Brock. Screenplay, Jerry Cady. Story, Lou Brock, Harold Daniels. Photography, J. Roy Hunt. Film editor, Desmond Marquette. Dances, Frank Veloz. Musical director, Lud Gluskin. Songs, Richard Rodgers, Lorenz Hart. Reviewed at Warners Hollywood, June 12. Running time: 76 mins.

RKO's 'They Met in Argentina', lacking names, a story, or much of anything except some pretty good music and touches of excellent photography, will take some heavy plugging to achieve any more than small attention as the second half of a double bill. If it is released in Argentina the resultant riot will make the recent squawk in Buenos Aires over Universal's 'Argentine Nights' look like a tea party.

Without a doubt, Lou Brock, who produced and helped Harold Daniels write the original story; Jerry Cady, who wrote the dismal screenplay, and Leslie Goodwins and Jack Hively, the two directors, are entitled to the prize for creating a picture that will be the most offensive to Latin American audiences.

James Ellison, who has graduated from his cowboy roles (although he walks around in American cowboy garb in the film), is adequate until he sings. Maureen O'Hara, daughter of the rich Argentine rancher, is pretty enough, but she gets a forwardness into the role that is utterly preposterous in a Latin American heiress. Buddy Ebsen does an excellent job when he is given a chance to dance (which is rarely) and Diosa Costello brings a vital charm to her role as a laundress gone on Ebsen. Alberto Vila, the South American star, is standout; but the story gives him no opportunity. He has a freshness and a suave appeal that should, in a romantic role, soon make him a boxoffice favorite in this country.

Robert Barrat, as the Argentine ranch owner, is best among the supporting players. Others are Joseph Buloff, Victoria Cordova, Carlos Barbe, Luis Alberni, Francisco Moran, Fortunio Bonanova and Antonio Moreno. Alberni and Buloff, who talks with a Jewish accent, are placed in the unfortunate position of caricaturing South Americans. Casting is poorly-handled, as evidenced by the treatment of Vila.

Screenplay is the chief weakness. It is loosely constructed, at best, and betrays an ignorance of Argentina and Argentine customs and people that is appalling. There is some superior photography by J. Roy Hunt. Songs, by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, are all good.

Story deals with Ellison, agent for a Texas millionaire, trying to buy Barrat's great race horse. He ends up by winning the girl and getting the nag. Action all takes place in Argentina.

Massen Assigned

Osa Massen is set in featured role for Columbia's 'You'll Never Get Rich' on deal made by Paul Kohner.

Actors Guild To Exam Unemployment Insurance Raps

The Screen Actors Guild announced last night that it intends to examine all cases where actors or extras are denied unemployment insurance. It was stated that John Dales, Jr., attorney and assistant executive secretary of the SAG, is making a special investigation of the Muriel Bower case, and that an appeal will be taken if the facts justify such action.

Leaders of other film unions also indicated they intended to make an inquiry into the establishment by the Producers of a legal group to check all unemployment insurance claims by industry workers. One union spokesman said if the Producers protested, unemployment insurance claims might be held up because a director refused to take an assignment as a second assistant, in the case of an actor who refused a $1,000 call, or because a director of photography refused to work as a second assistant cameraman.

There was considerable criticism by the unions and American Federation of Labor leaders over the drive by the major companies to get a favorable merit rating that would materially reduce their unemployment payments. They said protests could be used to beat down salaries, and expressed satisfaction that no such action was contemplated when the law was drafted. If the protests become widespread, certain leaders indicated that protests would be lodged with both the State and Federal governments.

Miss Bower was denied unemployment insurance when the Producers, through their legal representatives, protested that she had refused to accept a $5.50 extra call. Miss Bower said she was not accustomed to working for $5.50, and accepted such calls only from studios where she was on the preferred list and where a majority of her calls were at a much higher figure.

Burns, Allen Deal Okay

New York, June 12.—Reported today that deal for Burns and Allen to broadcast for Swan soap in the fall has been consummated. Paul Whiteman has the music assignment.

Coast League Baseball Results

Sacramento, 8; Hollywood, 1.
San Francisco, 16; Seattle, 1.
San Diego, 4; Oakland, 0.
Los Angeles, 12; Portland, 11.

PARAMOUNT
Direction Fanchon & Marco
6th & HILL VA-2041
• FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND •
HELD OVER
Fred MacMURRAY • Madeleine CARROLL
"ONE NIGHT IN LISBON"
A Paramount Picture
"LADY FROM LOUISIANA"
John WAYNE • Ona MUNSON
Extra ON SCREEN!
STAGESHOW - HELD OVER!
"HAWAIIAN FROLICS"
Harry OWENS • "HILO HATTIE"
30¢ TO 1

$60,000 BAND, TALENT BUDGET FOR STATE FAIR

Outlay of $60,000 for bands and talent was approved yesterday by board of directors of California Agricultural Society for the 87th annual Ctate Fair at Sacramento, Aug. 29 to Sept. 7. Complete slate of entertainment submitted by Fox Case, chairman of the attractions committee, was okayed at a luncheon here. Bands set, all under banner of Music Corp., are Kay Kyser, Charles Barnet, Freddy Martin, Ozzie Nelson, Horace Heidt and Bob Crosby. Afternoon music for the horse races and horse show will be provided by Felix Mills and his Southern California band.

In the lineup of talent will be Texas Rangers, Gene Autry and the Ada Broadbent dancers. Latter will appear in a spectacle to be produced by Adrian Awan. Theme of this year's fair will be dedicated to United Service Organizations. Special days will be devoted to radio and pictures, with stars of both mediums making personal appearances.

Outlay of coin for entertainment, matching last year's amount, will have $40,000 earmarked for night shows and $10,000 for daytime performances. Despite the heavy amusement expense, the fair in 1940 showed a profit, and Case's proposals were again approved without dissent. Autry's appearance is scheduled for Governor's Day. Succession of bands will be determined by available time between pictures or ballroom bookings. Sacramento symphony orchestra also participates in the musical setup.

Bill Lawrence On Hope Replacement

Bill Lawrence, producer of Bob Hope's Pepsodent show, continues at the controls through the summer on the replacement program, 'A Date With Joanie'. Half hour airpiece is along the lines of family serials and will originate at NBC here. Lawrence is auditioning Ann Gillis and Paul McGrath, NY stage player, for featured roles. Program initials (24).

Carey In Monday

MacDonald Carey, signed by Paramount from the cast of 'Lady in the Dark', arrives at the studio Monday to begin his contract.

Demands of 10,000 Workers Presented To Pat Casey

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

by permitting process projectionists to be placed on an hourly rate of $1.66 per hour when the Wage-Hour decisions become effective on Monday (16). John Swartz, business representative of Local 165, however, stated the union was not accepting this as a permanent rate, and that any scale negotiated for the process projectionists during the current negotiations would be retroactive to Monday (16). Casey was notified to that effect, and similar notification was sent to all studio heads.

All of the crafts except the photographers are asking that the current three-hour minimum call be increased to six hours. The lensers who have a minimum four-hour call, are asking that this be tilted to eight hours. The other demands, some of which call for the employment of additional men, have already been published by Daily Variety.

The initial negotiations will be confined to 16 conditions that are applicable to all the crafts. When these have been disposed of, each of the 10 unions will present their individual proposals.

Laboratory Technicians Local 683 representatives spent some time yesterday in conference with Fred Pelton, Producer representative. A recent offer of wage increases ranging from three cents to 11 cents per hour was turned down by the local, which is now seeking better conditions.

Lester Guest Shots

Jerry Lester has been set for three more guest shots on Kraft Music Hall (26), July 10 and 24. He then goes east for five weeks of stage appearances returning in September for additional radio work.

PCC Standing Committees Announced by Berman

Standing committees for the PCCITO for the ensuing year were announced at the final convention session yesterday by Jack Y. Berman, chairman of the meeting, as follows:

Committee to study problems presented by commercialized previews, move-overs, insufficient prints, price allocations and the present critical slump at the box office — Hugh Bruen, Whittier, Calif., chairman; Ben Levin, San Francisco; William Graeper, Jr., Portland, Ore.; Mike Barovic, Puyallup, Wash.; Milbourne Kenway, Moscow, Idaho.

Committee to handle arbitration under the consent decree and army camp clearances—Jack Y. Berman, Los Angeles, chairman; H. V. (Rotus) Harvey, San Francisco; Ed Halberg, Port Angeles, Wash.; George Nasser, San Francisco; Bill McKevitt, Newport, Ore.

Committee to devote its active efforts on the PCCITO's opposition to the double bill—L. O. Lukan, Seattle, Wash., chairman; Ned Calvi, Hawthorne, Calif.; Jesse Jones, Portland, Ore.

Committee to act on junior admission prices—Bob White, Portland, Ore., chairman; Max Sinift, Los Angeles; Abe Blumenfeld, San Francisco.

In addition, Bob Poole, executive secretary, will serve on all committees.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

ALAN REEVE, son of Arch Reeve, gets in from New York Wednesday with his bride, Claudia Louise Silk of NY. They will pass their honeymoon at the Reeve beach home near Santa Barbara. Young Reeve is with Irving Trust in NY and the bride is a law student at Fordham. . . . Don Deforest, young Broadway actor preparing to make his film debut in 20th-Fox's 'We Go Fast' went a little too fast yesterday, or turned the wrong knob, in practicing for a motorcycle cop role, crashed through a fence and sustained second degree burns on his legs from the exhaust pipe. He was taken to White Memorial hospital for treatment, but is believed not to be seriously hurt. He may return to studio in next few days. . . . David O. Selznick yesterday appointed Mary Pickford chairman of the Hollywood Women's Division of United China Relief. She will give an organization tea for seven of the top femme names in the business who will work with her. Names and date not yet ready to announce.

Basil Rathbone, stage and screen actor, is on the program for the Flower Festival at the Los Angeles Coliseum, Saturday, June 14. Rathbone will read 'Clarence's Dream' from Richard III. Ronald Colman and other film luminaries also will appear.

PRODUCER - DIRECTOR WILLIAM Dieterle today is celebrating the completion of RKO's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' with party for cast and crew on Pathe lot sound stage. Accompanied by Mrs. Dieterle he leaves Saturday on Super Chief for New York to show rough cut of picture at the RKO sales convention. . . Bob Evans, sepian hoofer at Charlie Foy's nitery, has been set for a featured spot in the revue, 'Jump for Joy', slated to open at the Mayan (29). . . . Barry Trivers entertained Marion Rosamond and friends at dinner at Leone's last night.

Dee Lowrance, Newspaper Enterprise Association features and fashion writer, yesterday reversed the usual entertainment process by having all the femme fashion press agents at tea-cocktails at her home (she is Mrs. Herb Drake), making occasion to introduce Grace Fischler, fashioneer for United Artists.

PAUL HERNRIED, signed to a term contract by RKO and now on his way to the Coast vit motor from New York, will find he has had two name changes upon arriving here. Studio first decided he should be known as Paul Hammond, but yesterday shifted handle to Paul Henrie. . . . Both Tom Baily and Harold Heffernan are bragging about their new barbecues at their Beverly Hills and Cheviot Hills homes, respectively, and planning open house to show off their cleffing ability.

Preview

★

"Man Hunt"

" . . . . and the assured and soundly skillful direction of FRITZ LANG who shows himself a master at maintaining high suspense.."

—DAILY VARIETY

Exclusive Management
SAM JAFFE AGENCY

In Preparation
"CONFIRM OR DENY"
For 20th Century-Fox

Cash Giveaways OK In Orange County, Court Rules

Cash giveaways in Orange county theatres have been upheld in a decision handed down in county court in the case of five Fox-West Coast-Arthur houses haled up on lottery charges. Defendant theatres were the Broadway and West Coast in Santa Ana, the Fox and Anaheim at Anaheim, and the Fox, Fullerton.

Judge Cameron decided, after government had introduced dozens of witnesses, that the giveaway as applied to these theatres did not constitute a lottery because the general public is not barred from registering nor prevented from participating in the weekly cash drawings.

Trial of the case consumed two days, and establishes a precedent for Orange county in the matter of theatre cash giveaways.

KAO STOCKHOLDER SESH POSTPONED

New York, June 12.—Special meeting of Keith - Albee - Orpheum stockholders called today to vote on a plan for reorganization and to consider amendments to the charter was adjourned until (24). Malcolm Kingsberg, who presided at the session, announced the plan required many papers and that the final draft was not completed, hence he suggested the adjournment to enable counsel and others further time to complete details.

After meeting was adjourned, RKO representatives told the stockholders that shortly before today's session, information had been supplied the New York office that an RKO stockholder had applied to a Delaware judge for an order restraining RKO from voting its preferred stock in approval of the plan.

Rapf, Jungmeyer Turn In 20th 'Carolina'

Maurice Rapf and Jack Jungmeyer, Jr., have turned in their original story, 'The Gentleman From Carolina', at 20th-Fox, slated as a big budget feature on historical lines, and are now writing a treatment of their original story for Jack Benny under the title, 'Whispering Wires.' Both will be Milton Sperling productions.

Bennett Polish Job

Charles Bennett has been signed by Producer David Hempstead at RKO to polish the script on 'Joan of Paris', which will introduce Michele Morgan to American screen.

a.m. Dailies

Cruze's Daughter Loses—
Julie Jane Bosen, daughter of Director James Cruze, lost yesterday a traffic judgment to the tune of $2,450. Suit was brought for injuries to three persons, and decision was rendered by Judge Peirson M. Hall.

Crawford Adopts Child—
Joan Crawford yesterday made known adoption of a five-months-old boy. He is named Christopher. Actress also has another adopted child, Christina, two years old.

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Blonde From Singapore'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Edward Dmytryk	June 11
'The Chocolate Soldier'	Metro	Victor Saville	Roy Del Ruth	June 11
'Whistling In the Dark'	Metro	S. Sylvan Simon	George Haight	June 14
'Fugitive Valley'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	June 9
'Rough Riders'	Monogram	Scott Dunlap	Spencer Bennett	June 12
'Deadly Game'	Monogram	Harwin-Sarecky	Phil Rosen	June 13
'Ten Nights In a Bar Room'	Republic	George Sherman	George Sherman	June 12
'Weekend For Three'	RKO	Tay Garnett	Irving Reis	June 11
'Unexpected Uncle'	RKO	Tay Garnett	Peter Godfrey	June 14
'Riders of the Purple Sage'	20th-Fox	Sol M. Wurtzel	James Tinling	June 9
'How Green Was My Valley'	20th-Fox	Darryl F. Zanuck	John Ford	June 9
'We Go Fast'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	William McGann	June 9
'Man At Large'	20th-Fox	Ralph Dietrich	Eugene Forde	June 9
'Sundown'	UA	Walter Wanger	Henry Hathaway	June 13
'New Orleans Blues'	Warners	Henry Blanke	Anatole Litvak	June 13

11 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Married Bachelors'	Metro	John W. Considine	Eddie Buzzell	June 16
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 18
'Sweet Sixteen'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	June 18
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Ted Tetzlaff	June 16
'King of the Texas Rangers'	Republic	H. S. Brown, Jr.	Wm. Whitney and Jack English	June 16
'Weekend In Havana'	20th-Fox	Wm. LeBaron	Walter Lang	June 16
'Tanks a Million'	UA	Hal Roach	Fred Guiol	June 20
Untitled story	Universal	Ben Pivar	William Nigh	June 16
'Arizona Cyclone'	Universal	Will Cowan	Ray Taylor	June 16
'Bombay Clipper'	Universal	Marshall Grant	Jack Rawlins	June 18
'One Foot In Heaven'	Warners	Robert Lord	Irving Rapper	June 16

22 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Front Office	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Dynamite Canyon'	Monogram	Robert Tangey	Bob Hill	June 22
'Night of Horror'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 25
'Saddle Mountain Roundup'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	July 7
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Linsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'The Remarkable Andrew'	Paramount	Richard Blumenthal	Stuart Heisler	June 30
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	Wm. Pine and Wm. Thomas	Frank McDonald	June 30
'Mr. Celebrity'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Unassigned	June 26
'Lone Rider'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Peter Stewart	June 26
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Arthur Dreifuss	July 7
'Jungle Siren'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Ted Richmond	Unassigned	Preparing
Untitled feature	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Jed Buell	Unassigned	Preparing
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	Preparing
'Obliging Young Lady'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Richard Wallace	Preparing
'Jungle Book'	UA	Alexander Korda	Zoltan Korda	July 7
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Mermaid In Distress'	Universal	Vaughn Paul	Unassigned	June 23
'Ride 'Em Cowboy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	June 23
'Appointment For Love'	Universal	Bruce Manning	William Seiter	June 23
'Hellzapoppin'	Universal	Jules Levey	Henry C. Potter	June 25
'Kings Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	June 23

George Barbier Added To 20th 'Havana'

George Barbier has been added to top bracket in 20th-Fox's 'Weekend in Havana', slated to start shooting (16) under direction of Walter Lang. Hermes Pan has been assigned to do dance direction on the musical. Mack Gordon and Harry Warren are polishing off last of half a dozen tunes for the picture, which will be third to feature Carmen Miranda.

Painters to Nominate

Candidates for officers of the Moving Picture Painters Local 644 will be nominated at the general membership meeting Monday (16). The election will be held Monday (30). Herbert Sorrell does not have to stand for re-election, the membership some time ago having unanimously voted him a three-year term.

Barney Balaban in (20)

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, gets here June 20 for conferences with Y. Frank Freeman on production. He will stay about two weeks.

Beaudine on 'Fib'

William Beaudine will direct Harry Langdon in 'The Great Fib', a Jed Buell production for Producers Releasing Corp. Hallam Cooley set the deal.

ANOTHER UNUSUAL EVENT!
"THE GREY HORSE HANDICAP"
Sunday at CALIENTE
3 OTHER SMASHING FEATURES
also $1000. PUBLIC HANDICAP CONTEST
and the EXCITING DAILY DOUBLE and QUINIELA
12 RACES • FIRST POST 1 P. M.

Willie's NY Trial Set For Aug. 18; 50G Bail Continued

New York, June 12.—Willie Bioff pleaded not guilty in Federal court today to charges of violation of the anti-racketeering act in that he used force, violence, and threats to extort $550,000 from four major film companies. Senior Judge John Knox set his trial date for Aug. 18, after Mathias Correa, U. S. prosecutor, had asked for July 7 trial, and Henry Uterhart, for Bioff had asked a postponement to September. August was a compromise.

Bail of $50,000 was continued, and Bioff was released in custody of his attorney after Correa declared the reason for asking an early trial was the government fear of threats to its witnesses. Judge Knox declared that if any government witnesses received any phone calls or anonymous letters, bail would be revoked and Bioff would be ordered to jail. The defense immediately asked protection of its own witnesses from harassing by the government.

Correa stated the trial should last a week, but Michael Luddy, California counsel for Bioff, stated he planned to call more than 40 witnesses, so a month seems more likely. It was revealed that many film executives will be called as witnesses by the defense.

The government again repeated ominous statement that it is continuing its investigation for others not yet known.

Bioff, speaking before entering the courtroom, declared unions in Hollywood, especially the air industry, are overrun with Communism. He said the film unions are gradually eradicating the red influence.

Bioff was granted until June 23 to make any motions regarding the complaint that he sees fit. Willie's attorneys declared the government is welcome to any union records it desires, but they object to government agents disrupting union business to secure records.

'There' to Seattle

Columbia's 'I Was There' will originate at KIRO, Seattle, Sunday as a featured attraction of the celebration to dedicate the transmitter's increase to 50,000 watts. Russ Johnston, Tracy Moore, Art Gilmore, Wilbur Hatch and Everett Tomlinson go north to handle the program.

'Highway' Here (21)

Shinola's 'Lincoln Highway' pitches here (21) for a solo origination at NBC. Marjorie Rambeau will be starred on the half hour dramatic show.

NOW!
Robert
TAYLOR
as
BILLY
THE KID
in TECHNICOLOR
with
BRIAN DONLEVY
IAN HUNTER · MARY HOWARD · GENE LOCKHART · LON CHANEY, JR.
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
plus
"SCOTLAND YARD"
Nancy KELLY · Edmund GWENN
John LODER
World Famous
Grauman's
CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND
7th and BROADWAY

PCCITO 11-Point Program

Here is the 11-point Code of Ethics as endorsed by the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, and under which the exhibition organization proposes to function during the coming year. Program was set up by the PCC prior to the entering of the consent decree. At no time has the PCC ever subscribed to the 5-picture clause in the decree.

POINT NO. 1—IDENTIFICATION OF PICTURES

All contracts for feature pictures shall clearly identify the pictures leased and the exhibitor shall not be required to accept any pictures other than those contracted for; the burden of proof as to whether a given picture was included in the contract shall be upon the distributor.

The distributor shall be required to deliver any and all pictures contracted for if completed within two seasons subsequent to the season covered by the contract.

There shall be no shifting or interchanging of price allocations or pictures in contracts.

If the distributor fails to deliver any pictures covered by the contract, the exhibitor shall be entitled to a readjustment of the price of the pictures delivered so that the average price of the pictures delivered shall not be greater than the average provided under the contract.

The exhibitor shall have the right to cancel 20% of the number of pictures under the contract, such eliminated pictures to be credited on the basis of the average price on the contract.

POINT NO. 2—PERCENTAGE RENTALS

Distributors shall not have the right to designate preferred playing time.

All checking of percentage engagements shall be done by a regular employee of the distributor and such employe shall be bonded against divulging information obtained in the course of his employment and the distributor shall be responsible for any violation of confidence by such employe.

POINT NO. 3—FORCING

The distributor shall not force the exhibitor to buy Westerns as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures.

The distributor shall not force the exhibitor to buy reissues as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures.

The distributors shall not force the exhibitor to buy serials as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures.

The distributors shall not force the exhibitor to buy foreign pictures as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures. (Even though such pictures are produced outside the United States in the English language by the distributor or an affiliate or subsidiary thereof).

The distributor shall not force the exhibitor to buy short subjects as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitor for feature pictures.

The distributor shall not force the exhibitor to buy newsreels as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures.

The distributor shall not force the exhibitor to buy trailers as a condition for entering into a contract with exhibitors for feature pictures.

POINT NO. 4—CLEARANCE

The practice of extended runs results in delay and uncertainty as to the availability of a given picture. In order to enable the subsequent run exhibitor to determine the availability of pictures, all clearance shall be computed from the opening date of the first run in exchange territory.

The availability of contracted pictures to a subsequent run exhibitor shall not be delayed by reason of the failure of the distributor to conclude a sale to the prior run.

Unfair clearance shall be eliminated.

POINT NO. 5—SELECTIVE CONTRACTS

Where an exhibitor buys a selective contract, he shall be required to announce acceptance or rejection of any picture in such contract within one week of receipt of notice of availability, in order to establish a definite availability for such pictures to subsequent run exhibitors.

POINT NO. 6—NEW STANDARD CONTRACT

A new brief standard exhibition contract shall be prepared, this contract to be approved by the Dept. of Justice.

POINT NO. 7—PREVIEWS

Previews of feature pictures shall be considered a first run if such 'commercialized' preview is presented to a paying audience or announced to the public by any medium whatsoever.

POINT NO. 8—CANCELLATION

Any picture, exclusive of Westerns and Re-issues, that does not have a first run in a recognized first run theatre in an exchange center, the exhibitor has the privilege of cancelling in addition to his 20% cancellation.

POINT NO. 9—RIGHT TO EXCLUDE

An exhibitor shall have the right, in addition to the exclusion privilege provided for, to exclude from any license agreement any feature which may be locally offensive on moral, religious or racial grounds, provided he shall give the distributor written notice, no later than fourteen days after the conclusion of its first exhibition in the exchange territory in which the exhibitor is served, of his desire to exclude such feature, specifying the reasons therefor. Upon the exclusion of any feature under this provision, the license therefore shall terminate and all rights thereto shall revert to the distributor.

POINT NO. 10—SOME RUN

Distributors shall not refuse to lease their pictures on some run to be designated by the distributors for exhibition in any situation provided that the exhibitor can satisfy reasonable minimum standards of theatre operation and the exhibitor is reputable and responsible, unless the granting of a run on any terms to the complaining exhibitor will prejudice the distributor's business interest in the area where the complainant's theatre is located.

POINT NO. 11—NO DISCRIMINATION

There shall be no discrimination by distributors as to the right to buy,

● Continued on page 10 ●

Referendum Resolution Finally Defeated At AFM Confab

Seattle, June 12.—The convention of the American Federation of Musicians here today was featured by a debate of several hours on a resolution calling for the election of Federation officers and the approving of Constitution and By-Law changes by referendum votes of the entire membership. A vote taken after the debate defeated the resolution by a large margin.

The debate was suspended for a time at 11 a.m. for nomination of officers, the result of which was the renomination of all present Federation incumbents, thereby continuing in office President James C. Petrillo, Secretary Fred Birnbach, Treasurer Harry Brenton and Vice President Charles Bagley. Four of the nine men nominated for the four positions on the executive board are now members of the board. The election will be held at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Among the resolutions approved was one directing the donation of $5,000 by the Federation to the American Labor Committee to Aid British Labor.

Officials expressed the belief that the convention may finish its business tomorrow, but backers of several resolutions on canned music say that there will be an exhaustive discussion on this important problem.

Film Stars Ready For Two Army Shows

An aggregation of film stars will journey to two Army camps this weekend for the second and third of the 'test shows' now being staged by the Motion Picture Production Defense Committee, as a preparation for the problem of entertainment in Army and Navy posts during the emergency. The group will appear Saturday at Camp Hunter Liggett, near San Luis Obispo, and on Sunday at Fort Ord, near Del Monte, leaving here by Southern Pacific tomorrow at 8:30 a.m.

Included on the program are Jack Benny, m.c.; Claudette Colbert, Marlene Dietrich, Burns and Allen, the Ritz Brothers, Ray Bolger, Mary Livingstone, Dick Powell, Joan Blondell, Carole Landis, the Nicholas Brothers, Virginia O'Brien, Franklyn D'Amour, and Nat Young's Universal Studio orchestra.

Equity Quitters Refuse To Reconsider

New York, June 12.—Following the denial of Paul Dullzell that communists are in the driver's seat in Actors Equity Association, 10 councillors and officers of the organization declined to reconsider their resignations today. They insist that unless 'the members accused by Congressman William P. Lambertson of being red resign from the Council pending an investigation', they will stand pat.

O'Shea Named

Daniel P. O'Shea was named executive vice president of David O. Selznick Productions, Inc. last night at a meeting of the officers of the organization. He formerly held the position of vice-prexy. John Houseman was given the position of vice president, but remains as production assistant to David O. Selznick.

IDA LUPINO

plays

"STELLA GOODWIN"

Management
A. & S. LYONS, INC.

"OUT OF THE FOG"

WARNER BROTHERS

JOHN GARFIELD

plays

"HAROLD GOFF"

Management
A. & S. LYONS, INC.

"OUT OF THE FOG"

WARNER BROTHERS

AAA Denies Specific Run To Theatre In Chicago

New York, June 12.—In the first case of its kind under the consent decree, also the initial one brought before appeals board of American Arbitration Assn., specific run was denied to Ken theatre in Chicago. Unanimous seven-page decision by the three appeals members in dismissing the case held that the three distributors involved, Paramount, RKO and 20th-Fox, were willing to give Ken some run but that a specific run through granting of a change in clearance could not be awarded because of other theatres that would be affected.

When the Chicago case was first heard the arbitrator ruled he had no power since interpretation of the decree granted that some run may be granted it could not be specific until after Sept. 1 when decree becomes operative. Chicago house, getting films 12 weeks after release, filed for change in clearance but in arguing the case, in effect, sought a specific run.

Disney Defers Divvy

Directors of Walt Disney Productions, Inc. have ordered deferment of the quarterly dividend due July 1 on preferred stock. The company stated the deferment was made necessary by reduced income caused by spread of the European war and the working capital required for the production and carrying of feature pictures for release in the most advantageous markets.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	**Bob Hebert**	**Paul Lowry**	**Bernard**	**Martha**	**Jim Mitchell**
1—Put In	1—Put In	1—Put In	1—Certie	1—Put In	1—Put In
Certie	Certie	Certie	Put In	Certie	Don Devito
Don Devito	Don Devito	Don Devito	Don Devito	Don Devito	Certie
2—Lady Listo	2—Gold Sun	2—Lady Listo	2—Lady Listo	2—Gold Sun	2—Lady Listo
Gold Sun	Edna Green'k	Gold Sun	Wai Wara	Lady Listo	Edna Green'k
Edna Green'k	Lady Listo	Pot Shot	Gold Sun	Pot Shot	Memphis Lad
3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle
Winsome Lady	Seedoe	Seedoe	Seedoe	Nogales	Seedoe
Seedoe	Winsome Lady	Nogales	Nogales	Seedoe	Winsome Lady
4—Red Cannibal	4—Red Cannibal	4—Red Cannibal	4—Red Cannibal	4—Red Cannibal	4—Gold B'withus
Playful Wink	Playful Wink	Playful Wink	Jubilo	Playful Wink	Red Cannibal
Gold B'withus	Hetch Hetchy	Jubilo	Playful Wink	Hetch Hetchy	Hetch Hetchy
5—Candy Hero	5—Mieletta	5—Mieletta	5—Candy Hero	5—Candy Hero	5—Mieletta
Mieletta	Taken	Taken	Mieletta	Colonel Bret	Candy Hero
Taken	El Peco	Sweet Leilani	Colonel Bret	Mieletta	Godspeed
6—Orenco	6—Battle Call	6—Battle Call	6—Orenco	6—Battle Call	6—Sumatra III
Battle Call	Orenco	Sumatra III	Battle Call	Sumatra III	Battle Call
Sumatra III	One Shen	Orenco	Sumatra III	Orenco	Orenco
7—Buck'n Creek	7—Copperman	7—Buck'n Creek	7—Buck'n Creek	7—Copperman	7—Copperman
Brown China	Buck'n Creek	Knight Call	Brown China	Port	Buck'n Creek
Copperman	Brown China	Copperman	Copperman	Buck'n Creek	Knight Call
8—Willy	8—Maevic	8—Willy	8—Willy	8—Willy	8—Willy
Blon Gla	Caressante	Blon Gla	Fairhaired Boy	Maevic	Like Green'k
Maevic	Blon Gla	Caressante	Caressante	Blon Gla	Caressante

Obituary

MRS. EVA BONDY

Memorial rites for Mrs. Eva Bondy, 71, mother of Beulah Bondi, were conducted yesterday at Pierce Brothers Valley chapel. Also surviving her is a son.

Chooses Troy Orr

William Wellman, head of United Service Organization, has chosen Troy Orr, U's ad manager, to speak the message to the industry of our artists and all our talent to be devoted to entertainment at training camps.

Skouras Aids Indies Fight Against Dual Programs

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

tre operators' committee to discuss the projected restoration of single feature bills.

Skouras' wire, received too late for presentation at yesterday's closing exhibitor session, said that while he could not take credit for sponsoring the elimination of double bills, he stood ready to meet with the Independent exhibitor committee at any time to discuss any problems affecting the industry.

F-WC chief said in his wire that he was 'delighted to be able to say that the independent theatre owners in this territory have consistently evidenced their desire to cooperate in all matters' and that the same spirit permeates 'our organization'.

'With such a background it has always been a pleasure to meet with any committee of the Pacific Coast Conference', Skouras said, 'and I am looking forward to meeting with its representatives.'

Concrete action which independent exhibitor leaders hope will sound the death knell of double feature programs, developed rapidly at yesterday's closing convention sessions of MPTOA and PCC at the Ambassador hotel.

A strong resolution condemning the dual feature policy, and calling upon all exhibitors, both circuit and independent, to help eradicate the evil, was adopted in the closing minutes of the MPTOA session. Earlier, following unanimous approval, L. O. Lukan, PCC trustee from Seattle, a rabid proponent of single bills, and Bob Poole, executive secretary of the Conference, were instructed to wire all important producers, including the heads of the Skouras theatre operations, to obtain an expression of their attitude against double features.

Late in the afternoon two of the producers contacted, David O. Selznick and Walter Wanger, had already replied. Both pledged their full cooperation. Their wires were read before the MPTOA delegates by Poole, who also spoke briefly on double bills, characterizing them as a racket which must be eliminated from the industry.

Poole, previously, pointed out a few striking observations, commenting on the present b.o. slump, and said he felt that duals were a contributing factor to this condition. 'We must do something', Poole stressed, 'to eliminate that which is an untrue presentation of pictures. We of the PCCITO have adopted a definite policy against duals and we urge the support of every exhibitor in this fight.'

Ill in Pix

PATRICIA COLLINGE is temporarily out of the cast of 'The Little Foxes' at Samuel Goldwyn's while recovering from operation for impacted wisdom tooth. She is expected to return to the cast Monday.

MRS. LEON SHAMROY, wife of 20th-Fox cameraman, underwent an operation yesterday at Wilshire hospital.

NBC Suit Over Fight Broadcasts Dismissed

New York, June 12.—NBC's suit against 20th Century Sporting Club, Mutual Broadcasting System and Gillette Razor, over rights to broadcast the fights from Madison Square Garden was dismissed today in Supreme court by Judge Lloyd Church. Court ruled that since NBC's contract was oral it is not valid under state law if not consummated within a year.

Hersholt to Chicago

Jean Hersholt aired for Chicago yesterday to meet the Danish Ambassador, Henrik De Kauffman, for a discussion of child welfare problems. He returns Monday.

PCCITO 11-Point Program

● Continued from page 7 ●

priority of runs, clearance, price, terms, rebates, adjustments, allowances, settlement or availability of prints in favor of a theatre in a given competitive area belonging to or affiliated with a distributor or producer, theatre circuit or booking combination, to the detriment of a theatre in the same competitive area not so affiliated.

JOHN QUALEN
as
"OLAF JOHNSON"

Personal Management
JERRY HERDAN
EVERETT N. CROSBY, Ltd.

"OUT OF THE FOG"
WARNER BROS.

Keough Demands New Approach To Pic Relationship

Austin C. Keough, vice president and general counsel for Paramount, speaking at the MPTOA session yesterday afternoon, claimed that distributors don't like the five-picture block selling idea any more than the exhibitors. Keough delivered an exhaustive report on conditions preceding and leading to the consent decree and called for a new approach to exhibitor-distributor relations. He denied that the consent decree was to be regarded as an instrument of oppression in the hands of distributors to club exhibs into submission. He contended, however, that pictures will cost more money because labor and materials cost more and cited one instance where the cost of a production was recently boosted $300,000 above normal.

Keough said that film salesmen and branch managers must never be encouraged to think of the consent decree as a means of taking advantage of theatre operators but suggested that exhibitors seek arbitration of any complaints instead of sending squawks directing to Washington.

Following the introduction of Gene Autry and John H. Harris, chief barker of the Variety Clubs of America, at the opening of the session, Congressman John M. Costello of Los Angeles also advised exhibitors to try to solve their own problems instead of turning to the government for legislation. Costello said that in going to the government the industry was inviting government control until its operations would be circumscribed by legislative enactments.

HOPPER HELPS PRESS

Hedda Hopper next came to the platform in defense of the Hollywood press fraternity. She said she could not understand why everybody at the convention, including her good friend Walter Wanger, had been trying to bury the correspondents and declared that honest criticism never hurt anybody. Not every picture could be described as colossal or stupendous or audiences would become skeptical of all films. Miss Hopper also announced that she had made a short with William S. Hart which would soon be offered.

Arthur H. Lockwood, president, MPTOA of Connecticut, late in the afternoon presented a complete and comprehensive summary of the various problems besetting the industry, indicating that operation under the consent decree had many advantages. He thought that in buying blocks of five certain theatres would now be able to present a variety of stars from various producers at their theatres instead of being limited to any one product.

Lockwood referred to the serious shortage of prints and reported that in many territories exhibitors lose availability playdates because of the shortage. The speaker blasted Walter Wanger's suggestion of mollycoddling experimental films and cautioned exhibitors against letting distributors overcome their sales resistance.

Sidney Lust, Washington, D. C., in a brief address, charged that at least one major company had withdrawn pictures which had been sold in the lower brackets and is holding them to resell later at higher prices.

AROUSED PCC MEMBERS BLAST DISTRIBS AT FINAL SESH

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

operators who could not afford the cost of two Grade A films on a single bill. The exhibitor gathering also adopted a program comprising 11 points in which adherence to the Trade Practice Code is favored as against the present consent decree.

Rotus Harvey, trustee from San Francisco, called on leading distributors who are affiliated with chain theatres to halt dual bills, and said that if Paramount, Metro and Fox couldn't control their circuits they should get rid of them, instead of trying to run the independent theatres. Harvey declared that distributors should not expect to make up loss of revenue due to their own incompetence or misunderstanding of industry problems by exacting higher prices from the independent operators.

So-called discriminatory practices of producers and distributors by which circuit and affiliated theatres are given arbitrary preference over independents could be quickly stopped, it was said, if producers and distributors exacted the same selling terms from their own circuits as from independents.

A strongly-worded wire was sent to producers and distributors who have gone on record favoring single bills, commending them for their action and urging that strong and vigorous steps be taken to bring about an early resumption of single feature programs.

With regard to bringing pressure to bear on the chains to stop dualing the question was raised on the floor of the convention as to whether the low-priced independent houses would follow the single bill policy. L. O. Lukan, ardent proponent of the single bill policy, declared that no serious harm could come from duals in low-priced houses and other exhibitors supported the contention that if first runs set the example the majority of other theatres would follow suit.

WIRE INDUSTRY HEADS

Jack Berman, Los Angeles trustee, chairman for the day, expressed the opinion that the transition from dual to single bill policy was not expected to take place overnight due to the preponderance of lower quality pictures which would be eliminated only over a period of time as the single bill policy becomes firmly established.

One of the most important motions adopted at the session was a plan whereby the PCCITO will pay the costs involved in test cases affecting exhibitors which are brought to arbitration. The PCCITO was thereby authorized to fight through any test cases affecting theatre owners if of general interest. Exhibitors requiring financial backing of the PCC will appeal to their local association, which will in turn forward it to the PCC for consideration by Attorney Albert J. Law, who will act on any complaint which is ruled a test case. Another resolution was adopted to the effect that all exhibitors consult with their local association before taking any action under the consent decree.

A close check on any further attempted expansion of chains, either by purchase or building of new theatres, was advocated in the adoption of a resolution calling on exhibitors to report all cases where such expansion could be construed as a move to force independents out of business. Attorney Law said that the portion of the consent decree referring to theatre expansion was ambiguous, but that any move threatening the existence of an independent theatre could become subject to investigation by the Department of Justice, and he advised exhibitors to report all such cases. Expansion of theatre chains not signatory parties to the consent decree could be investigated by the Department of Justice under the Sherman anti-trust laws.

SHORTS COMPLAINTS

A resolution in regard to attempted forcing of shorts, trailers and newsreels on exhibitors was adopted whereby it was agreed that complaints are to be filed with local associations and eventually forwarded to the Department of Justice in Washington.

Among other measures proposed at the meeting was a plan whereby the PCCITO would compile film classification charts, based on the opinions of unbiased reviewers, as a service to exhibitors. Along with the review charts classing films according to merit, it was proposed to appoint an official, with the same duties as Joe Breen had in the Hays office, who would stamp pictures with a seal of merit where warranted.

Steps to curb the junior admission evil which is now spreading rapidly were forecast in a measure authorizing the appointment of a committee to correct abuses. It was stated on the floor that lower admission prices were now being granted not only to elementary and high school students but to university students as well, with the result that theatre grosses in competitive situations in college towns were being seriously dented. The convention was adjourned following the appointment of four standing committees to deal with the various resolutions presented. Bob Poole stated that more committees may be added if necessary.

Sprinkling of Stars At Exhib Fadeout

The four day MPTOA-PCCITO convention wound up last night with a dinner at the Earl Carroll nitery which drew a sprinkling of movie stars, a few of the industry's top execs and a total attendance of 1,200, house capacity. Elaborate representation from the studio star rosters as originally planned failed to appear. Among those reported on the floor, however, were Ginger Rogers, Rita Hayworth, Regis Toomey, Mary Martin, Edith Fellowes, Y. Frank Freeman, Harry Cohn and Sol Siegel. It was a strong exhibitor turnout with a few industry publicists, exchange managers, and others also in evidence. Borah Minevitch's Harmonica Gang, one of the sock floor show turns, wowed the mob.

Roland Young Set

Roland Young gets a leading role in the Metro untitled Greta Garbo starrer.

RKO Sales Convention Plans Complete For 300 Attendees

New York, June 12.—RKO's annual sales convention opens here Saturday with more than 300 delegates attending, the largest number in the company's history. Present will be all district and branch managers, salesmen, and in some cases office managers.

Andy Smith, in addition to screening several pictures for the group Monday, will give a resume of the sales progress during the past year, which placed RKO ahead of its prior, 1939-40, season. Harry Michaelson, shorts sales head, also will make his report, showing that RKO had about 800 more shorts contracts than in the previous year. Also on the first day's agenda will be the announcing of winners of the recent sales drive on which prizes of approximately $20,000 will figure. There will be prizes to 100% salesmen and branch managers also.

Ned Depinet will announce 1941-42 product on Tuesday, while Wednesday, when George Schaefer talks, the sales policy will be outlined, the consent decree fully discussed, etc. Delegates will be given a banquet Tuesday night.

Reginald Armour, J. R. McDonough, Perry Lieber and Rodney Pantages plane out today for New York to attend the RKO sales convention. Herbert Wilcox left by air yesterday and training out tomorrow are William Dieterle and his production associate, Charles L. Glett.

William Spotted

Warren William has been set for third Lone Wolf lead role at Columbia in the temporary titled 'Lone Wolf Double Cross.' William starts on picture as soon as he completes work in 'Wild Geese Calling.'

Nichols Scripts East

Dudley Nichols will take the script of 'Swamp Water' back to his farm near Stamford, Conn., to make revisions after conferences with Darryl F. Zanuck at 20th-Fox. He leaves Sunday by train.

Korda to London (8)

Alexander Korda leaves for London from New York on the Clipper on July 8. Korda, who has taken over Denham Studio Laboratories, is making the trip to England to check conditions.

Don Costello Set

Don Costello has been signed for feature role in MG's 'Whistling in the Dark' which S. Sylvan Simon starts directing tomorrow. Fred J. Leonard offices set the deal.

SUNDAY NITE
Charley Foy's Supper Club
Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Edgar Bergen, Rudy Vallee, Sophie Tucker, Ritz Bros., Marx Bros., George Jessel and Frank Fay
POSITIVELY
Will Not Appear
BUT
JERRY LESTER
Positively Will Appear
Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. and
Ventura Blvd. at Coldwater Canyon
SUnset 11482
SUNDAY

CLC ORDERS DISNEY PRODUCTS ON UNFAIR LIST

★ Continued from page 1 ★

United States were being asked to request their members not to attend theatres showing Disney pictures.

At the same time, it was learned that Harold V. Smith, who is acting as a mediator in the strike, was asking Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, to meet with Walt Disney today in an effort to negotiate an agreement that would end the walkout. It was believed the first two points Casey would insist upon before agreeing to act would be recognition of the Screen Cartoonists Guild as collective bargaining representative and agreement for all strikers to return to their jobs.

The Central Labor Council issued the following statement, after a Council committee composed of Prexy Harry Sherman, Secretary J. W. Buzzell and Lew C. G. Blix had spent several days in conference with Disney executives:

'Two weeks ago the unions in Hollywood which are involved in the Disney studio controversy requested the Central Labor Council to place the Disney Studio and its products upon the official unfair list of the labor movement. In accordance with the rules, this matter was referred to the executive board of the Council with power to act, and the board appointed a committee which has been in almost constant negotiation with Mr. Disney since that time.

'Mr. Disney attempted to create a false issue, mainly that no election had been held in the plant, in spite of the fact that there is a strike in the plant and that more than a majority of the men and women employed in the departments where the controversy is, are out. The real issues involved are the question of wages, conditions and recognition of the union, which involved a return to work of all of the striking employes, which Mr. Disney does not want to agree to.

'Thursday morning the committee reported to the executive board of the Central Labor Council that it felt it had exhausted every possible effort to bring about an amicable settlement of the strike. And the executive board, acting with the authority given it by the Council, has declared the studio and its products unfair. The Council will call upon the American Federation of Labor unions throughout the United States to refuse to attend theatres showing Disney pictures and to continue to do so until such time as the controversy is ended.'

More than 1,000 members of the Screen Cartoonists Guild and strike supporters and sympathizers participated in a mass demonstration in front of the plant yesterday. The marchers included actors, writers, publicists and other representatives from film unions and guilds. Anticipating the mass demonstration, Disney officials dismissed the workers inside the plant yesterday at 4:30 p.m. instead of 5:30 p.m., so they would not have to go through the mass picket lines.

The employes who have refused to join the strikers adjourned to a nearby school house to hold a meeting, but fled when pickets approached the school. They had been waiting until 5:30 p.m. to hold their meeting so they could not be accused of meeting on company time, which resulted in one of their former organizations being branded as a company union, with the result that the National Labor Relations Board ordered Disney to disestablish relations with it.

LEVY RAPS DISTRUST IN EXHIB-DISTRIB RANKS

Advancing the viewpoint that exhibitors, themselves, are much to blame for existing conditions in the exhibition field, Herman M. Levy, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut, at yesterday's closing MPTOA convention session, addressed the meeting with an exhibitor attorney's impression of the government consent decree. Levy, a veteran in exhibition legal affairs, said that he felt strongly that this decree or any other decree or regulatory process would accomplish small good, if any, unless the bitterness, strife and distrust that permeates exhibitor-distributor relationships are eliminated.

'In general', Levy said, 'distributors look upon exhibitors as disgruntled, ungraceful, chronic complainants who go to Florida each year on their losses from B pictures. In no industry are customers of a producer or manufacturer treated with less respect. Once a year, for a few days, just before the contract is signed, they may receive fine treatment, but after the signing and for the rest of the year, the tongue of the distributor is mute, his ear is deaf and his attitude patronizing and disrespectful. That attitude forms the basis of the distributor's philosophy. From it springs many evils—unreasonable clearance and runs, withholding prints, ''playing favorites'' with the big fellow to the injury of the small one. The distributors refused to clean house and eliminate those evils, so the government attempted to do it for them.

'The exhibitor, too, has been somewhat at fault. He has built up a specious philosophy based on the following elements:

'(1) Whatever is good for distributors cannot be good for me;

'(2) Distributors are ogres of Jack-and-the-Beanstalk type;

'(3) A refusal to recognize that a picture is the distributor's property and, unless he contravenes the law, he may do with it what he wishes;

'(4) A firm conviction that the distributor releases two or three good pictures a year and spends the rest of his time lying awake nights figuring out how to make the rest bad.

'And it is with these thoughts firmly implanted in his mind that the exhibitor carries on his negotiations with distributors.

'WHO IS TO BLAME?'

'Who is to blame for all of this? Is it what Ed Kuykendall has called ''. . . a stubborn shortsighted refusal (by distributors) to cooperate in working out a fair, practical trade practice program''? Is it refusal of distributors to compromise until their backs are to the wall, as illustrated by the consent decree? Or is it some other cause, or group of causes? Whatever the reason, distributor-exhibitor relationships were bitter and unhealthy prior to the decree. Then came the decree, but it did not accomplish the government's avowed purposes at the time of the bringing of the suit, it was accepted as the lesser of two evils by the distributors and it was wholeheartedly and unequivocally objected to by exhibitors for whose benefit the suit was brought and the decree entered into.

'The decree is here to stay for a while anyway, whatever its merits and demerits. It is, therefore, an utter waste of time to do anything but determine in what ways it has benefits for the exhibitor and how they may be taken advantage of.

'Those abuses that distributors are responsible for, to-wit, playing favorites, permitting overbuying, setting up unfair standards of clearance and runs, and others, they must eliminate, decree or no decree.

'In fairness to distributors, it must be stated that many of the complaints of arbitration filed have been adjusted either before or during the trial. (Parenthetically I want to state at this point that the trade press has been of tremendous help in carrying complete stories on arbitration cases so that exhibitors have been able, if they wished, to take advantage of the progress and results of cases instituted.) The process of arbitration is long, tedious and expensive for exhibitors; so distributors should grant the concessions they do after arbitration is begun, before. The American Arbitration Association points with pride, as well it might, to the results of an arbitration complaint in Boston where in two days a case for ''some run'' by an exhibitor against distributors was adjusted amicably, thereby accomplishing what two years of litigation prior thereto had been unable to accomplish. Quite paradoxically, that quick and satisfactory result is a condemnation of distributors who would allow two years of litigation to go on concerning something which they later voluntarily granted!

'Exhibitors, on the other hand, must be reasonable in what they ask for. They must not seek what they would not themselves give or consider fair.

Charges FCC Memebrs Usurped Powers

■ Continued from page 1 ■

supervisors to enforce anti-trust and unfair trade laws, he declared, while making plain he thinks there are abuses in the broadcasting business and more strict controls are necessary.

Interrupted near the outset of his testimony, Craven suggested the danger the anti-monopoly rules will in the end foster another type of monopoly—meaning that the big stations will get more of the business at the expense of little outlets— and rules will have more devastating effect than present trade practices. He acknowledged exclusive contracts in some instances may violate public interest and 'one chain company' (NBC) has too many outlets.

Braden Urges MPTOA To Arbitrate Differences

Arbitration of motion picture differences was strongly advocated before the MPTOA convention session yesterday by J. Noble Braden, executive secretary of the American Arbitration Association, here from New York for the exhibitor powwow. 'To arbitrate is the American way', was the slogan advanced by the AAA chief, who stated that by this method the spread of ill-will is limited and the infection of others prevented. Good will is thus engendered and unity promoted. An arbitration clause in all contracts, Braden said, is an evidence of good will.

Braden outlined the workings of the AAA at some length and told the exhibitors just what steps are necessary for them to bring proceedings before it. He also dwelt briefly on some of the accomplishments of the AAA with references to motion picture arbitration and said the first award, in Boston, was handed down just 27 days after proceedings had started. In contrast, he pointed out that the previous owner of the house had for two years been endeavoring to get relief through the courts and was finally forced out of business.

'In following the keynote of your leaders', Braden said, 'you are faced with two responsibilities. First, you have a most important share in the responsibility for the success of the consent decree. For the first time in anti-trust litigation an industry has been given a judicial system of its own—an opportunity for self-regulation.

'Your second responsibility is in National Defense. Unsettled disputes are a menace to unity and American defense. An unsettled dispute creates ill will, clogs the industrial channel, slows up production, upsets business confidence, delays payments, impairs credits and in a thousand ways hampers not only the business of those directly involved, but all branches in which they have any connection. It promotes discord and makes easy prey for the enemy within.'

Robt. H. McNeil Attends Closing Sessions

Robert H. McNeil, operating head of Golden State Theatres circuit arrived here yesterday from San Francisco to attend the closing sessions of the Exhibitor conventions at the Ambassador hotel, and to confer with local associates on product and operation. Mike Naify, who operates the T&D Jr. circuit, affiliated with Golden State as a Fox-West Coast subsidiary, has been here for several days.

Louise on Blurb Trip For Harmon Pic

Anita Louise planes for Ann Arbor, Mich., Wednesday (18) to be the guest of Tom Harmon at the University of Michigan's Senior Ball Friday (20). Actress, who will appear with Harmon in the Columbia picture, 'Harmon of Michigan', stops over in Chicago to do a radio broadcast Thursday. Picture starts first week in July with Charles Barton directing and Wallace MacDonald producing.

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Vol. 32 No. 7 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, June 16, 1941 5 Cents

SWG, PRODUCERS AGREEMENT

WASHUP IN DISNEY FITE BREWING

A washup of the Screen Cartoonists Guild strike at Walt Disney Studio appeared in the making last night, although further mediation will be necessary before the situation reaches the inking stage. Both sides have made certain concessions, and the strikers meet at 10 a.m. today to vote on the latest counter proposal of the company.

The workers are practically certain

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

Elizabeth Fraser Bow

Elizabeth Fraser, who was signed to term pact at Warners while in the Lunt-Fontanne show, 'There Shall Be No Night', will make her film bow in 'One Foot in Heaven'. She has the role of the parson's daughter.

MacMurray's 'Darling'

Fred MacMurray will star in Paramount's 'Take a Letter, Darling'. Claude Binyon is completing the screenplay and the picture is scheduled to start July 14.

Carey In 'Sundown'

Harry Carey will have the role of the big game hunter in Walter Wanger's 'Sundown', which is now working on location at Acoma Rock, N. M. Carey reports early this week.

Karp, Ginsberg to H. O.

Jacob H. Karp, executive assistant to Y. Frank Freeman and Henry Ginsberg, planed east Saturday for Paramount home office conferences.

Lowe 'Human' Yarn

Edward T. Lowe is writing screen play, 'Newspaper Men Are Human', for George Arthur's production at Republic.

PREVIEWED

MOON OVER MIAMI
(20th-Fox)

THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
(Par)

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON
(RKO)

(Previews on page 3)

2 H'D ARMY SHOWS TERMED GREATEST GOODWILL TREK

By MORI KRUSHEN

Del Monte, June 15.—Hollywood trotted out a dazzling array of top calibre talent for trainees at Camp Hunter Liggett and Fort Ord over the weekend in a 'sneak preview' or 'test show' which may be the forerunner of the type of army entertainment to come. This two-day, 700-mile junket through the winding mountains leading to the Monterey Peninsula via train, bus, car, racing jeeps and army trucks was one of the greatest goodwill builders

■ Continued on page 9 ■

GUILD MEETS TONIGHT; VOTE ON ACCEPTANCE

The Producers have reached an agreement with the Screen Writers Guild negotiating committee. While details of the proposed pact have not been reduced to writing, a general membership meeting of the Guild has been called for tonight at the Roosevelt hotel to vote on its acceptance.

It is reported that the negotiating committee is well pleased with the deal, and that both the committee and the SWG executive board will recommend that the membership give its approval. Such recommen-

★ Continued on page 8 ★

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	182
Major studio calls	215
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	397

Ascap's 20 Million Net Suit

New York, June 15.—Board of directors of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has authorized Schwartz & Frohlich, general counsel for the Society, to file suit for $20,000,000, asking treble damages under the Sherman antitrust law against NBC, CBS, National Assn. of Broadcasters and Broadcast Music, Inc. More than 1,000,000 musical numbers controlled by Ascap have been banned from the two networks since Jan. 1.

Ascap also may enter the hearing on the radio industry now going on

♣ Continued on page 6 ♣

MCA TAKES OVER CBS TALENT ORGS

Columbia Management, along with the parent CBS talent organization in New York, Columbia Artists, passes today to control of Music Corporation of America. Deal was ratified over the weekend by CBS board of directors in New York. MCA will continue to utilize the Management offices at Columbia Square for an-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

PAR ANNOUNCING 44 FEATURES

Toronto, June 15. — Paramount launches its Canadian convention today at the Royal York hotel and will announce a total of 44 features, five Hopalong Cassidys and 85 shorts, including cartoons and the George Pal Puppetoons for the 1941-42 season. Three-day session will cover complete discussions on sales poli-

◆ Continued on page 8 ◆

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, June 15.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Hut Sut Song	Schumann
Intermezzo	Schubert
Things I Love	Campbell
Maria Elena	Southern
Daddy	Republic
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
My Sister and I	BMI
South of North Carolina	Porgie
You and I	Willson
Dolores	Paramount

WB $2,782,544 NET FOR 26 WEEKS

New York, June 15.—Warners announced a net operating profit of $2,782,544 in the 26 weeks ended March 1, as compared to $1,518,497 in the corresponding period of the previous year. Net, before charges of amortization, depreciation and normal Federal income taxes were deducted, was $6,381,844. Company's cash in the United States on March 1 totaled $10,932,279, as against $7,445,285 at the end of the last fiscal year, ending last Aug. 31.

Hickman Assigned

Darryl Hickman goes into Paramount's 'Glamour Boy.'

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Joda's Joe**
Copper Toe
Flying Stripes
2d RACE—**Soberano**
Tory Tom
Martin Macaw
3d RACE—**Fetching Child**
Valdina Joan
Swan
4th RACE—**Molasses Mibs**
Pacifica
Vegas Justice
5th RACE—**Orenco**
Clarcarole
Hi Stranger
6th RACE—**Ship Biscuit**
Two Ton Tony
Vain Bo
7th RACE—**CIRCLE M ENTRY**
Hysterical
Woof Woof
8th RACE—**My Porter**
Friendly Paul
Gay Jacket
CHANCE BET—**Frat Boy** (2)
Selections consensus, page 9.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Billy Hamilton film editor on RKO's 'Unexpected Uncle'.

Gil Valle is assistant director on Universal's 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'.

John E. Burch is assistant director on Hal Roach's 'Tanks a Million'.

Barbara Britton signed for role in Paramount's 'Reap the Wild Wind'.

Ern Westmore is makeup consultant on Walter Wanger's 'Sundown'.

Alfred Hitchcock and his wife vacationing at Santa Barbara Biltmore.

Sergei Petschnikoff is unit manager on 'When Ladies Meet' at Metro.

Warners holds press preview of 'Underground' at studio Wednesday.

Trevor Bardette is in added scenes for Edward Small's 'International Lady'.

Richard Marvin, radio director of William Esty agency, due in Sunday for a week's stay.

Felix Bernstein of Metro research department is technical advising on 'Chocolate Soldier'.

Rufe Davis will be honor guest at Oklahoma Frontier Day festival at Tulsa early in July.

Leo Chalvel, who was in Broadway's 'Time of Your Life', in town on pending picture deal.

Bobby Worth and Stanley Cowan cited by pic mag for its song of the month award, 'Do I Worry'.

Karen DeWolf has optioned three-act comedy, 'Roses Are Red', for strawhat tryout in Connecticut next month.

Shirley Ross entertaining her sister, Janis Gaunt, and latter's fiance, Wayne Malone, on leave from Camp Roberts.

Frank Bull will sportcast Big Ten-Pacific Coast Conference meet tomorrow at 8 p.m. over KMPC from the Coliseum.

Charles Skouras, Fox West Coast head, and Andy Krappman, his aide, pulled out for Seattle and Cheyenne over the weekend.

Gladys George is being sought by John Tuerk, Broadway producer, for role in new play, 'The Distant City', in New York this fall.

Five Russian engineers who have been in this country studying sound technique at the RCA plant at Camden, N. J., were visitors on set of 'This Night Belongs to Us' with Gregory Ratoff.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood is a place where conventioners gather for a convention which they don't attend. They are too busy hanging around studio sets.

Hollywood Inside

CLAUDE LEE, public relations head of Paramount, has completed a comprehensive study envisaging a coordinated industry effort to offset malicious and misleading conceptions of the picture business wherever they may be found. Lee, who was taken into New York from Gainesville, Fla., by Barney Balaban about two years ago, plans to present his plans to various regional exhibitor conventions as they materialize. Under the proposal to improve the industry's standing with the public every Paramount theatre manager, salesman, branch manager and others representative of the company, will be drafted in the move to establish closer and better contacts between theatres and the communities which they serve. Lee's plan would embrace every major company, independent theatre owners, producers and the trade press, with the object of impressing the theatregoers in every situation with the valuable contribution which films are making towards advancing and improving conditions within the nation. It is Lee's contention that some of the most important contributions to national well-being being made by various branches of the industry have failed of sufficient recognition outside the trade. As an instance he cites that while visiting studio lots in Hollywood he found one top star after another away on special calls to army camps, and noted that little of any mention of this had been made anywhere. Lee believes that his public relations ideas will perhaps have a better chance of being absorbed and put to the test when presented to regional rather than national exhibitor conventions since there are fewer distractions from the business sessions during regional confabs.

☆ ☆ ☆

SCRIPT readjustment to meet the requirements of studio formula at the expense of studied mood and temper of the South American people is couched in the complaint of Harold Daniels, who authored the story from which RKO scenarized and produced 'They Met in Argentina'. Knowing of the difficulties encountered by film producers in picturing with fidelity the custom and mannerisms of the Latin people, Daniels pitched in the midst of them before writing his story, living with the Argentines and absorbing every detail of their national characteristics. He sold the yarn to Lou Brock, who, according to Daniels, revamped enough of the story to share story credit. 'I attended the preview', said Daniels, 'and all that I recognized of my brainchild was the game of El Pato. My story was sadly mutilated and all those little touches that the Argentines would have enjoyed were tossed out. My brother wrote me that he saw "They Met in Argentina" in the east and now he disclaims being my brother. I guess Hollywood doesn't want stories of the Latin countries written by those who know the country and its people so that our pictures will engender a friendlier relation with South American republics.' Brock is remaking 'Argentina' in Spanish for the Latin-American market but Daniels hasn't been asked to give the studio the benefits of his slant on the type of films those nationals would patronize and enjoy.

☆ ☆ ☆

MARIE GASELLE RACHMANN, widow of Sam Rachmann, who was responsible for bringing Ernst Lubitsch and Pola Negri to America, received word that her son, Fred Rachmann, who was at the Paramount studio, Joinville, dubbing American films for eight years, is now in Lyon, occupied France. Fred Rachmann, a native Austrian, is expected to come here shortly to join his mother who obtained her American citizenship two months ago. Paramount officials are getting him a quota number. Message to Mrs. Rachmann, a former star of the New York German theatre, was first word she had since the French capitulated to Germany.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE disclosure that Muriel Bower had been denied an unemployment insurance claim because legal representatives of Producers had protested her refusal to accept a $5.50 call, has resulted in a deluge of work offers for the player. She was even called yesterday on an $11 ticket, which being Sunday called for time and a half in addition. The Screen Actors Guild has announced it is making an investigation of the unemployment insurance protest, and other unions also are making an inquiry into the new Producer setup to check all unemployment claims by industry workers.

☆ ☆ ☆

BECAUSE he believes he has worked out, with Olsen and Johnson, a technique for getting audience participation in the film version of 'Hellzapoppin'' comparable to this feature on the stage, Jules Levey, producer of the Universal release, is keeping the script strictly under cover until film shall have been completed. Only six copies of the screen play have been handed out, and these go under lock and key when not actually in use. Members of cast will get only abridged editions of the script during filming.

☆ ☆ ☆

TO ACCOMMODATE those who were promised tickets to the Chase & Sanborn broadcast but had to be disappointed because of the java show being routed to nearby army camps, Edgar Bergen has decided on a pitch in Biltmore Bowl for Sunday's airing. Figured that with Bowl's capacity of 1,200, against NBC's 400, the disappointees of the past few weeks will be amply accommodated. Bergen's final broadcast of the season will probably originate at Camp Roberts (29).

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FIRST instance of a studio being erected for a single radio show is that of the double decker stage built around a four-manual organ for KHJ's 'Haven of Rest.' Structure will resemble the quarter deck of a steamship, to carry out the motif of the program's 'Good Ship Grace.' Technical facilities are being installed to allow for frequency modulation broadcasts. Paul Myers, one of the characters on the airshow, is erecting the studio near the old Walt Disney plant.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

The slapstick ruled the 'burly' stage in days of long ago,
Creating laughs for roughnecked males whose domes were thick and low.
The rugged jokes were frowned upon by men of lofty brow,
But every studio in town is playing slapstick now.

★ ★ ★

'The Yearling' was too balky for the Hollywood jockeys and had to be sent back to the pasture.

★ ★ ★

With all the Hollywood luminaries performing in training camps, the new slogan is: 'Join the Army and See the Stars."

'Moon Over Miami' has two essentials of a winning musical picture. Betty Grable and no plot.

Although he never was given screen credit, Admiral Dewey was author of the title, 'I'll Take Manila.'

★ ★ ★

Hollywood is honking high these days, recalling bygone Autumns in northern Wisconsin. 'Wild Geese Calling' is soaring into production, and now comes 'Snow Goose.'

★ ★ ★

James Stewart, private, looks more handsome on the front page of that magazine than James Stewart, star, ever looked on the screen.

★ ★ ★

Prof. Mike Jacobs, maestro of New York's leading institute of mayhem, is going in for a linguistic uplift. When Joe Louis and Billy Conn exchange their lethal persiflage Wednesday night, the Bronxian voice of Sammy Taub will be missing from the air lanes. Instead, you will hear the vocal nuances of Don Dunphy, the new 'Golden Boy' of broadcasting, rendering the clinch-by-clinch details, and Bill Corum between rounds painting colorful backgrounds in his best University of Missouri lingo. Prof. Mike's sudden switch is not 100% cultural. He is getting more dough from Gillette razors than he got from Adam hats.

There are one-punch fighters and one-picture actors who shine briefly after a lucky break. It takes a champion to stand up through a series of 'B' productions.

While 'They Met in Bombay' is not exactly a deathless dramatic masterpiece, Clark Gable is the world's most romantic jewel thief.

★ ★ ★

An author wrote a story, which he lamped on yonder screen
And wondered as his brainchild reeled through many a dizzy scene.
The tale he penned so lovingly had vanished in the air.
'It's news to me', the author said, and went away from there.

★ ★ ★

Take it from the Marx Brothers, 'The Big Store' is their Closing Out Sale.

★ ★ ★

Jack Carson, who played in 'Strawberry Blonde' and shifted to 'Navy Blues', is going into 'New Orleans Blues'. He overlooked 'How Green Was My Valley.'

Film Previews

The Shepherd of the Hills

(*Drama in Technicolor*)

Paramount production and release. Starring John Wayne, Betty Field, Harry Carey. Featuring Beulah Bondi, James Barton, Samuel S. Hinds, Marjorie Main, Marc Lawrence. Cast: Ward Bond, John Qualen, Fuzzy Knight, Tom Fadden, Olin Howland, Dorothy Adams, Virita Campbell, Fern Emmett. Producer, Jack Moss. Director, Henry Hathaway. Photography, Charles Lang, Jr., W. Howard Greene, Color art director, Natalie Kalmus. Associate color art director, Henri Jaffa. Musical score, Gerard Carbonara. Art direction, Hans Dreier, Roland Anderson. Film editor, Ellsworth Hoagland. Previewed June 14. Running time: 98 mins.

'The Shepherd of the Hills' should be a heavy grosser, for it has beauty, simplicity, dramatic intensity, carefully calculated tear-jerking, acting that few of the performers in it have ever bettered, superlative direction and production. Moreover, it comes at a time when many fans are fed up with war pictures, and has about it the quality of charm and escape that ought to make it more than welcome in a war-weary world. The picture could, if it is exploited properly, do the business that was done by Paramount's earlier Harold Bell Wright story, 'The Trail of the Lonesome Pine'.

Even the most sophisticated picture-goer, if he is honest with himself, will be moved by the story. Harry Carey comes to the Ozarks to buy some land, arriving just as Tom Fadden has been shot by revenue agents and is being tended by his daughter, Betty Field. He binds the wound, saving Fadden's life. John Wayne, one of the bitter Matthews tribe which controls moonshining in the mountains, tries to prevent Carey from buying Moanin' Meadow, which the mountaineers think is haunted. Wayne wants the land to stay desolate and untouched, for his mother is buried there. He has sworn to kill his father, who deserted the family before he was born. Throughout his childhood and into his young manhood his cruel aunt, Beaulah Bondi, has poured the poison of her bitterness against life into him. She has a deaf mute, half-idiot son, Marc Lawrence, whom Wayne protects. Her husband, James Barton, knows that tragedy has twisted all kindness from her, but he and all others in the settlement are under the witch woman's spell. Carey's kindliness counteracts the poison of her hatred. Through his influence the mountain people grow friendly and industrious again. When he sends Marjorie Main to the city to have her old, blinded eyes operated upon, the whole community, save Beaulah Bondi, loves him. Then, as the bandages are removed from Miss Main's eyes and she sees, for the first time in her life, the people and the mountains about her, she recog-

☘ Continued on page 9 ☘

Moon Over Miami

(*Romantic Musical*)

20th-Fox release of a Harry Joe Brown production. Cast: Don Ameche, Betty Grable, Robert Cummings, Charlotte Greenwood, Jack Haley, Carole Landis, Cobina Wright, Jr., Lynne Roberts, Robert Conway, George Lessey, Condos Brothers, Jack Cole and Company, Robert Greig, Minor Watson, Fortunio Bonanova, George Humbert, Spencer Charters, Mel Ruick. Directed by Walter Lang. Screen play, Vincent Lawrence and Brown Holmes. Adaptation, George Seaton and Lynn Starling. From play by Stephen Powys. Songs by Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger. Dances staged by Hermes Pan. Photographed in Technicolor, by Peverell Marley, Leon Shamroy, Allen M. Davey. Musical direction, Alfred Newman. Art director, Richard Day and Wiard B. Ihnen. Sets, Thomas Little. Film editor, Walter Thompson. Costumes, Travis Banton. Previewed at Alexander, Glendale, June 13. Running time: 92 mins.

For the average picture patron this piece of elegant filmusica will hit close to 100% entertainment satisfaction and will prosper accordingly. The array of names stack up invitingly. It displays its feminine allurements in the timeless traditions of the musical, keeps the triple-edged romantic equation well warmed, provides entrancing melody, is lush in the Technicolor graces of the gowns, the trappings, the beautiful backgrounds of the Florida spas and shore, and has a story sufficiently coherent to hold the amusement values in pattern and dialog which neatly punctuates the comedy.

This is Harry Joe Brown's first at 20th-Fox under his new producer arrangement, and it gets him a solid and precedental credit for a piece of sparkling diversion geared precisely to the popular favor.

The veteran players extend themselves in roles to their manifest liking — Don Ameche, Charlotte Greenwood, Jack Haley, Robert Cummings—and the newer ones do themselves proud in parts which boost them decisively. Betty Grable, Carole Landis, Cobina Wright, Jr., Ameche and Cummings are playboy buddies and rivals who become the targets for the more or less romantic and also mercenary assault by two girls from a Texas hamburger spot who are trying to kite a small inheritance into fortunate marriage, Betty Grable and Carole Landis. Their aunt, Miss Greenwood, poses as a maid. They take up elaborate quarters in Miami and start working on the rich husband prospects. The schemes backfire, but everything turns out filmusically dandy under the Miami moon when the right partners are finally oriented.

Walter Lang does a distinguished job of direction to assay all the values in the romantic, the musical and the spectacular phases of Vincent Lawrence's and Brown Holmes' sparkling screen play and George Seaton's and Lynn Starling's adaptation of a play by Stephen Powys.

Picture has an unusually fresh quality and a pictorial vividness

Continued on page 9

The Reluctant Dragon

(*Combined Cartoon and 'Live Action' Fantasy Feature*)

RKO release of a Walt Disney production. Cast: Robert Benchley, Frances Gifford, Buddy Pepper, Nana Bryant, Clarence Nash, Florence Gill, Hamilton McFadden, Alan Ladd, Maurice Murphy, Jean Fenwick, Jimmy Luske, Verna Hillie, and Walt Disney, Norm Ferguson, Ward Kimball and other members of the studio personnel. Based on story by Kenneth Grahame. Studio sequences directed by Alfred Werker. Screen play, Ted Sears, Al Perkins, Larry Clemmons, Bill Cottrell, Harry Clork. Musical Score, Frank Churchill, Larry Morey. Photography, Bert Glennon. Film editor, Paul Weatherwax. Art director, Gordon Wiles. Technicolor photography, Winton Hoch. Voices: Barnett Parker, Claud Allister, Billy Lee, Raymond Severn. Previewed June 13. Running time: 73 mins.

This is another extension of Walt Disney's picture making media and methods, an interesting venture into the possibilities of combining cartoon animation with the live action of real personalities. In it Disney demonstrates the screen still has vast unexplored or barely touched territory of visual and oral entertainment. And it is not only appropriate but also a fascinating subject that the producer takes his own plant in Burbank as the background and structure for his adventure of 'The Reluctant Dragon'.

Disney's previous cartoon features, 'Snow White and the Seven Wwarfs' and 'Fantasia', have given exhibitors a gauge on the potential audiences for these venturesome film novelties. Every person who was entertained by these Technicolored animations can be counted on as definitely interested in the tricks of the cartoon craft. So it seems a smart stroke of showmanship and legitimate self-exploitation for Disney to have used his own shop, the haunt and cradle of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck and all the other name animations, for his third cartoon-feature box office bid. And, incidentally, as against the more than a million which 'Snow White' and 'Fantasia' each cost, 'The Reluctant Dragon' was brought in for less than $500,000.

Robert Benchley tours the Disney studio. One phase of the entertainment is in what he sees and hears and learns, and his reactions to these studio phenomena. His wife, Nana Bryant, has sent him to sell Disney a story idea, a fable of a dragon. Benchley undertakes this distasteful job very reluctantly. Guided through the studio toward the producer's sanctum, Benchley makes detours into various departments to escape his preemptory young guide, Buddy Pepper. He blunders into the animation department, the sound studios, the camera rooms, the paint and chemical laboratory, the story creation sessions, picking up a very pretty employe en route, Frances Gifford. Technical miracles are unfolded for the audience's eyes

● Continued on page 9 ●

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THE William H. Pines celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Saturday night in the Cocoanut Grove, hosting party of 20. . . . Universal shorts department sent out lapel size American flags for Flag Day. . . . Harry Brand is back at his 20th-Fox desk after three weeks vacation at Grand Canyon and Sun Valley. . . . James Newill, after engagement at St. Louis doing the lead in the operetta, 'New Orleans', planes in today to do some Decca recordings before heading for Broadway to appear again in the musical. . . . Joe Kirk and Jerrie Kruger, comedian and singer, have opened at the Florentine Gardens. . . . Priscilla Lane's mother formally announced the engagement of her daughter, at a reception given Saturday night, to non-pro John Barry of Victorville. . . Jerry Lester, emcee at Charlie Foy's 'Club', bedded with sore muscles. . . . Margaret Ettinger on business trip to Las Vegas by Western Airlines Friday, returning today.

'Stumpy' Simms, 70-year-old Negro groom who worked for Tom Mix for 27 years, was out of a job several hours after Mix's properties and ranch were auctioned off recently. But Mrs. Buck Jones, seeing the old man at the sale, telephoned her husband, and now Simms is working at the Jones ranch, Haciendo del Charro, as special groom to the actor's horse, 'Silver'.

MEMBERS of the 'Dr. Kildare' troupe gave Nell Craig a birthday party Saturday. She has played role of Nurse Nosey Parker since inception of series. . . . Dorothy Cordray, vocalist with Jan Garber's orchestra, has arrived from New York via American Airlines to act as queen of Lions Club convention which gets underway Wednesday. Songstress also will audition for two advertising agencies considering her for fall radio programs. . . . Carolyn Lee trained out Friday with her mother for their home in Martin's Ferry, Ohio. She will take a six weeks vacation.

Ella Logan, film and radio player, was elected president of Bundles for Scotland, a new war relief organization. Bill Thompson and Scotty Brown are vice presidents and Captain Harvey is secretary, with headquarters at 1606 Cahuenga Blvd.

COWGIRLS minus their buckskins will be looked over Wednesday afternoon at Beverly Hills hotel swimming pool by those experts of pulchritude, Abbott and Costello, to see if the waddyettes can qualify for scenes in Universal's 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'.

WILLIAM MORRIS
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Under contract
M-G-M

Conference Today On UA 400G Bid For Fairbanks Stock

Conference on probate law governing sale of property owned by an estate will take place this afternoon at 4 p.m. in Superior Judge Jess E. Stephens chambers, as the latest move around United Artists bid of $400,000 for the 4,000 shares of UA stock owned by the late Douglas Fairbanks. Sylvia Fairbanks and her attorney, Sol A. Rosenblatt, have planed in from New York to protest the sale of the Fairbanks stock, claiming UA's offer is too low.

Attorneys for the interested parties, United Artists, the Guaranty Trust, the Bank of America, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., and Robert Fairbanks, and the widow, Mrs. Fairbanks, will participate in today's confabs on points of law. United Artists bid came up for hearing last Monday before Judge Stephens, but Judge Isaac Pacht, representing Mrs. Fairbanks, obtained a postponement of sale until Wednesday at 11 a.m. to allow time for possible higher offers for the stock.

MCA TAKES OVER CBS TALENT ORGS

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

other 60 or 90 days, and then consolidate activities at its Bevhills quarters.

Three members of Management's sales staff, Amory Eckley, Rudy Polk and Sam Armstrong, are retained by MCA, along with their secretaries, Ruth Russell and Louise Metzler. William Forbes, head of Management, returns to his old post at KNX as aide to Donald W. Thornburgh, CBS Coast head, relieving Hal Hudson who becomes program service manager for Columbia Pacific network.

William McMurtrie of Management staff returns to CBS, and Jack Stanley has resigned. Clerical and secretarial staff is being absorbed either by MCA or KNX.

Frisco Chatter

Foundation is in and walls now going up for the new NBC building at Taylor and O'Farrell.

Ann Holden of KGO booked to speak in Pasadena July 11 for the Alpha Chi Omega national convention.

Dan McLean's Embassy getting new seats and carpets. House still struggling with vaudeville Thursdays and Fridays. MCA is booking.

Aaron Goldberg has taken over the Regent in Oakland with a view toward turning it into a newsreel. Goldberg operates the Newsreel here.

'Citizen Kane' in its third week here, still very profitable. Emil Bondeson is urging RKO to hold flick beyond the four weeks for which the house has been leased; matter now under advisement in NY.

Eddie Skolak ordered by Flood estate to vacate the Capitol theatre by June 22. Tried to get into the long-dark President and discovered that's going to be torn down, too—also for a parking lot. Entire burley company of 50 still without a new home.

Harry Carey Accoladed On 33rd Film Biz Anni

Admitting that he did 'a little eyebrow acting now and then' and that the encomiums heaped upon him by other speakers were not true but that he's 'never going to tip them off, because that's part of the racket, too', Harry Carey proved himself a warm and generous host to some 300 friends at a celebration of his 33rd anniversary in motion pictures, staged Saturday afternoon at his Saugus ranch.

The actor was presented with a scroll signed by 500 top film people. Ralph Morgan made the presentation speech, followed by Betty Field, who gave Carey a watch from Paramount. Then his wife, Olive Carey (once his leading lady in films) and his son, Steven, and daughter, Ellen, gave him a beautiful painting of two of his favorite horses. Edwin Schallert, Los Angeles Times drama critic, was master of ceremonies.

'The best part of this business', Carey said in his brief response to the speeches, 'is the friends you make. Of course, when the paycheck is coming in regularly, you get a kind of dollar dignity. The weeks you don't get it, you've got your friends.

'I've had my share of success. It got this place for me. We had to homestead it and raise kids and calves and some other things. We've had fire, flood and short grass years, which came pretty close to having famine, too. I had a lot of great things to say,' he concluded, 'but I'm damned if I can remember them.'

On the thousand-acre ranch the guests danced, drank cocktails, ate enormous grilled steaks and watched reels from old pictures in which Carey, Charlie Chaplin, Clara Kimball Young, Richard Barthelmess, Edna Purviance, George Stewart, Harold Lloyd, Lillian Gish, William S. Hart, Gladys Hulette, Rudolf Valentino, Maurice Costello, Buster Keaton, Bebe Daniels, Victor McLaglen, Mary Pickford, Dolores Costello, Dolores Del Rio, Norma Shearer and other old-timers appeared. Some of the pioneer actors who came to the party included William Farnum, William Desmond, James Kirkwood, Jane and Eva Novak and Claire Windsor.

Preceding the ranch celebration there was a press preview of Paramount's 'The Shepherd of the Hills', in which Carey has a top role.

Among those who turned out also were Harry Sherman, Eddie Bracken, Esther Fernandez, Preston Foster, Margaret Hayes, Martha O'Driscoll, Dona Drake, Samuel S. Hinds, John Qualen, Duncan Renaldo, Frances Farmer, William Nigh, Monte Blue, Marjorie Main, Ella Neal, Frances Gifford, Virginia Dale and several score others.

Denver Elitch Theatre Celebs 50th Anni At Tonite's Show

Denver, June 15.—Elitch Gardens opens its Golden Jubilee year tomorrow night, celebrating 50 years as a summer theatre, with Ruth Matteson and Don Woods in 'Skylark'. Opening night event will have Bide Dudley, New York critic originally of Denver, m.c.'ing and Gov. Ralph Carr and Mayor Ben Stapleton will be among the speakers.

Others in the 'Skylark' cast include Viola Roache, Helen Bonfils, Jacqueline DeWit, Augusta Dabney, Arthur E. Gould-Porter, Richard Irving, Lawrence Fletcher, Freddie Sherman and Emmett Rogers. George Somnes, husband of Helen Bonfils, in back for his seventh year as director. Other plays on the summer schedule are 'The Male Animal', 'Philadelphia Story', 'Ladies in Retirement', 'The Little Foxes', 'Golden Boy', 'George Washington Slept Here', 'Old Acquaintance', 'The Royal Family', 'The Guardsman' and one other to be selected.

Darmour Rolls 'Claw'

Larry Darmour today starts a modernized version of 'The Iron Claw' into production at Columbia. Serial was first made in the early days by Pathe. James Horne will direct. Cast, topped by Charles Quigley, includes Walter Sands, Joyce Bryant, Forrest Taylor, Hal Price, Paul Ellis, Marion Sais, Frank Larue, Norman Willis, John Beck and Lew Sargent.

In from the East

Lou Costello (AA)
Bud Abbott (AA)
J. V. Connelly (AA)
Sol A. Rosenblatt
Sylvia Fairbanks
Luther Davis
John Cleveland
Norma Shearer (TWA)
Dorothy Cordray

Heading East

Gradwell Sears
Sam Schneider
Jacob H. Karp
Henry Ginsberg
Carolyn Lee
Perry Lieber (TWA)
Darryl F. Zanuck
Gordon S. Mitchell
Virginia Dale (UP)
Nancy Kelly (TWA)
Bob Wachsman (TWA)
Florence Gill (UP)
Arthur Lockwood
Austin Keough
Ruth Robin (UP)
M. A. Lightman
Gabe Yorke (UA)
Andy Krappman (UA)
Charles Skouras (UA
Bob Hope
Kenneth Thomson

Belita at Work

Belita returns today, voluntarily, for her sequence in Republic's 'Ice-Capades'. She will have screen credit as the star of 'The Ice-Capades of 1941.'

Stauffer Leaving Y&R To Direct Radio For New York Agency

Joe Stauffer, for the past three years Coast radio head for Young & Rubicam, has been named radio director of the Kenyon & Eckhardt agency in New York. His successor here has not yet been appointed, but understood that Tom Lewis, now a Y & R radio exec in New York, may take over the local office so as to be with his wife, Loretta Young.

A graduate of West Point, Stauffer passed a year with the U. S. cavalry before going into the agency business. He joined Y & R in 1934 as producer of programs sponsored by General Foods, Bordens, Colgate, Packard and other accounts. Transferred to the Hollywood office two years later to produce the Packard show, he later became talent buyer for the agency's Coast programs. He was shortly after elevated to manager of the Hollywood office when Tom Harrington moved to New York as radio head for the agency.

AIRDROME PLANNED AT MARINE CAMP

As a result of the decision of government officials to establish a marine camp at Niland, Calif., the Silver Crest Theatres, Calipatria, Calif., have closed a property deal and plan to start construction of an airdrome theatre in Niland within the next few days. While the marine camp will have a government theatre, additional activity makes it possible for another house to be operated part-time.

The airdrome theatre will have 750 seating capacity and will be in operation within a month. It will be replaced in the fall with a 500-seat theatre. E. W. Metzger, manager of the Calipatria theatre for Silver Crest, made the deal for the Niland house in conjunction with E. N. Sturdivant, Somerton, Ariz.

Hope Out Tomorrow For 2-wk. Vacash

Bob Hope leaves for New York tomorrow immediately after his broadcast for two weeks vacation. He may go to Canada to do a Red Cross broadcast. Is due back here at Paramount for 'Louisiana Purchase' July 7.

Dale, Robin Breeze

Virginia Dale, Paramount actress, and Ruth Robin, former vocalist with the Phil Harris orchestra, trained out yesterday aboard the UP streamliner for New York. Miss Dale will do personals in the east as part of Paramount's exploitation campaign on 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye.'

Rambeau, Silvers Air

Marjorie Rambeau and Phil Silvers share the guest list on Rudy Vallee's Sealtester (19). Following week's booking goes to Mischa Auer.

Ann Gillis Airer

Ann Gillis has been set as lead of the new Pepsodent show which replaces the Bob Hope program for the summer months.

Hulick's 'Quizzer'

New York, June 15.—Bud Hulick will help start off 'Quizzer Baseball' July 2 as summer replacement for Eddie Cantor.

D. O. Selznick Takes S. Barbara House For Summer Stock

David O. Selznick has taken over the Lobero theatre in Santa Barbara as a house of summer stock and intends to operate it in the tradition of eastern summer theatres. Under Selznick's supervision, John Houseman, his production associate in Selznick Productions, will be managing director.

Intention is that Hollywood talent, of both stage and screen, which has had to go east to refresh itself or get a change of pace during the summer months, calling for much loss of traveling time, will have ample opportunity to get local audience reaction. Selznick plans not only to give players adequate stage facilities, but to groom new young talent, to encourage screen writers who want to take a crack at writing plays, and established stage dramatists who seek tryouts.

Basic stock company will include Selznick's contract film players, but guest stars not under his contract also will be invited to work with Houseman. A leading New York stage director is to be assigned to work under Houseman. The Hollywood Summer Theatre, as it is to be called, will be available to entire film industry.

Present schedule calls for production of a play each, running a week, for Ingrid Bergman, Joan Fontaine, Vivien Leigh, if she returns from England in time, and Alan Marshall.

Part of the theatre plan is to uncover new plays for film material, but all plays must be submitted through regular agents to Val Lawton at the Selznick studio. But such plays, if by non-professional writers will not be considered for the first season of the project.

An eastern division of the Hollywood Summer Theatre will be in charge of Katharine Brown in the New York office of David O. Selznick Productions.

NY Court Dismisses Jim Tully Action

New York, June 15.—U. S. District court here has dismissed Jim Tully's $50,000 suit for alleged violation of civil rights laws, naming William K. Howard, Odessco Productions, Inc. and Paramount Pictures, Inc., as defendants. Tully claimed the advertising for the Odessco picture, 'Home Town', released by Paramount, used his name without permission.

Ward At Roach

Edward Ward has been signed by Hal Roach as director of music on the streamlined features.

a.m. Dailies

Ritter, Fay Married—
Tex Ritter, film cowpoke starring in a series of westerns at Columbia, and Dorothy Fay, who played the femme lead in four of his pictures, were married Saturday at Prescott, Ariz., in the First Congregational church.

Toomey Gets Award—
Regis Toomey was named as the outstanding Catholic actor of the year by the Catholic Woman's Club of Los Angeles.

MAJORS FRAME PROTEST ON NEW INDIA IMPORT QUOTA

New York, June 15.—Major film companies in New York are framing a protest against the new import quota adopted by India which will restrict film product to 50% of the total shipped into that country during the previous year. New quota goes into effect Sept. 1 and the majors here will make their protest through the U. S. State Department.

Many of the foreign sales managers for the majors have no objection to the 75% restriction which India placed on American films over a year ago but protest that the new 50% measure is too severe. They say that a distributor who might have sent in 40 films during the 12-month period ending Oct. 30, would now be able to ship only 20.

Against those protesting are other foreign sales managers who favor the new quota in preference to the freezing of 50% of the money. They point out that the import law has the redeeming feature of permitting full withdrawal of money, while other nations are freezing most of the U. S. picture coin. New quota naturally means that distributors would import only the most important pictures and managers are inclined to believe features will return almost as much profit as under current regulations permitting a larger number of films.

India's 75% restriction will have been in effect 14 months by (30) and made the percentage operative on the number of pictures imported in the previous year.

Foreign sales chiefs reveal that U. S. distributors are getting only about 30% of their total revenue from the British Isles at present, the remainder staying in Great Britain under the prevailing frozen coin pact.

Thornburgh's Speakers For Admen Session

Donald W. Thornburgh, chairman of radio department of Pacific Advertising Clubs Assn., is lining up speakers for Radio Day, July 1, at Santa Barbara convention of the coast admen. Hill Blackett, agency exec, tentatively set for a session from the rostrum. Harry Witt and George Moskovics attend the meet for CBS, while Don Lee net will be represented by Louis Allen Weiss and Wib Eickelberg.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY DOUBLE-HEADERS

Los Angeles, 5-2; Portland, 4-0.
Sacramento, 5-2; Hollywood, 4-1.
Oakland, 12-9; San Diego, 2-6.
Seattle, 5-6, San Francisco, 8-5.

SATURDAY SCORES

Los Angeles, 3; Portland, 2 (11 innings).
Oakland, 3; San Diego, 2.
Seattle, 8; San Francisco, 5.
Only games scheduled.

FRIDAY GAMES

Portland, 5; Los Angeles, 2.
(Angels won unfinished game of April 6, 5-4.)
Sacramento, 4-2; Hollywood, 0-1.
Seattle, 4; San Francisco, 1.
San Diego, 6; Oakland, 4.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Darmour-Columbia)
'The Iron Claw'
Dir.: James Horne
Asst.: Carl Hiecke

Harris Will Discuss Variety Clubs Tent For S. C. Tonight

Proposal of establishing a Southern California tent for Variety Clubs will be discussed by John H. Harris of Pittsburgh, national head of the organization, with a committee of exchangemen, theatre men, studio executives and radio representatives at the Walter Wanger studio this evening, following a private dinner.

Los Angeles will entertain the Variety Clubs national convention for 1942. Although move to establish a tent here has long been under consideration, this conference will be first actual step toward local organization. Later efforts also will be made to establish tents in Seattle, Portland and San Francisco.

Metro Confirms Report 'Yearling' Postponed For Several Months

Metro on Saturday confirmed Daily Variety's previous story that the troublesome production, 'The Yearling', had been abandoned. Further filming on the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings novel, dealing with folk in the Florida scrub, has been postponed for at least a year, due to cast trouble, difficulties encountered on location and request by Victor Fleming to be relieved of the direction, after studio had already invested a million dollars in story and preparations.

King Vidor, who was asked to take over direction and who worked on reorganization plans for several weeks, now goes back to his previous assignment, preparations on J. P. Marquand's 'H. H. Pelham, Esquire'.

USO Bowl 'Cast (29)

Coast-to-coast broadcast from the Hollywood Bowl for the benefit of the United Service Organizations drive will take place Sunday (29) and Edward Arnold, chairman of the Permanent Charities Committee of the motion picture industry will start plans for talent lineup for the event.

Births

SON, seven pounds, to Mrs. Ralph Wilshin, at Cedars of Lebanon (13). Father is in technical department of National Screen.

REPUBLIC PICTURES PRESENTS THEIR NEWEST CO-STARS
JOHN WAYNE and ONA MUNSON

IN
THE LADY FROM LOUISIANA
NOW PLAYING . . . PARAMOUNT THEATRE . . . LOS ANGELES

Zanuck, Mitchell Plane To Washington On New Army Films

Lieutenant-Colonel Darryl F. Zanuck and Captain Gordon S. Mitchell, of the Army Signal Corps Reserves, planed to Washington yesterday to confer with War Department officials on future Army training film production. The Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is now in process of completing training films in all of the studios participating in the Council's activities, and the Washington parley is to determine details of the next six months training film program.

Colonel Zanuck will submit a number of completed training films for War Department approval. He also will attend showings at which these films will be reviewed by the chiefs of the various branches who will use the pictures in their troop training. Major Charles S. Stodter, Signal Corps War Department liaison officer attached to the Research Council staff, also is making the trip to Washington to sit in on the conferences. The three officers expect to return to the Coast Thursday (19).

Solomon Wins Step In RKO Play Suit

New York, June 15.—RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., plea to have infringement suit brought by Jesse Solomon against the company and Matt Brooks, Eddie Davis, Anthony Veiller and Mortimer Offner, dismissed has been denied by Judge Samuel Mandelbaum in the U. S. District court here. Solomon charges plagiarism of his play, 'It Goes Through Here', in the picture 'Radio City Revels' and seeks an injunction, accounting of profits and damages.

Dual Bill Elimination Session Today

First meeting to devise means for the elimination of double features will be held at 10 o'clock this morning in the office of Samuel Goldwyn. L. O. Lukan of Seattle, who is leading the fight of Coast exhibitors for return to single billing, will give the theatre operators viewpoint and what means are being pursued to combat the long shows. Lukan's report will later be submitted to other producers for remedial measures.

Ill in Pix

DO DEFOREST, young actor who was burned by exhaust pipe during motorcycle accident while learning to ride for role in 20th-Fox's 'We Go Fast', is back at work, with nurse in attendance, and spent weekend in White Memorial hospital. He also may spend next couple of nights at hospital, to be kept under observation.

IRENE FRANKLIN, former musical comedy star, is reported critically ill at an Englewood, N. J., hospital, following a cerebral hemorrhage. She is 57, and has been residing at the Actors Fund Home at Englewood.

HARRY WARREN, at the Cedars, improving.

GUS EDWARDS' condition imported improved.

NBC'S BLUE SPARED AXE

Washington, June 15.—Constant harpooning of Federal Communications Commission has resulted in a postponement of the rules wiping out NBC's blue network. Hard-boiled regulators backed down to the extent that the chain's affiliate can keep going, as is, beyond the August deadline.

Under a barrage from the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, the reformers decided by a 4-0 vote, with one member not participating, that the present commandments would work a serious hardship on the industry. Solicitous regulators, accordingly, voted to make it clear to NBC that affiliates can renew their contracts, subject to the one-year limitation. New order stipulates that effective date of the rule forbidding any transmitter to affiliate with a chain company with more than one web can be postponed from time to time to make readjustments, under the second-thought action.

Revision of the Federal Communications Act but not postponement of the anti-monopoly regulations looked probable at the end of the second week's Commerce Commission's hearing to provide freer competition in broadcasting. Though few members have attended since the first couple of days, solons most interested in the question of radio regulations seem disposed toward clarification of the statute to remove doubts about the amount of authority given FCC. As far as the reform commandments are concerned, it looks as though the industry will have to go to the courts for help. Plea for more specific declaration of congressional policy was made by Commissioner T. A. M. Craven, leader of the two-man minority which yowled the regulations will lead to chaos and anarchy. Idea of overhauling the statute was applauded by Senator Wallace H. White of Maine, co-author of the original radio law and sponsor of a regulation requesting the comish to suspend the anti-monopoly rules.

While Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana, the committee chairman, agreed the law isn't as clear as it ought to be, Craven warned that instead of curbing monopoly and helping the little stations, the regulations under fire are almost certain to make the rich richer and the poor poorer. Making it plain he thinks there are abuses and conditions needing correction, he insisted the majority has usurped power and gone a long way toward virtual government control over every phase of broadcasting. If the rules are upheld, there's almost nothing the regulators can't do, and Congress had better think twice before conferring such sweeping authority, the chief dissenter warned.

Regulations are tantamount to 'new legislation changing the pattern' of American radio, Craven declaimed. Majority group which imposed the rules has no idea what their effect will be, he charged, adding there was no full discussion and even one of the majority has serious doubts if it is in the public interest to forbid time optioning entirely. Congress ought to extend the provisions of the law requiring equal treatment for political candidates in order to meet complaints about unfairness in scheduling talks on controversial public questions, Craven told isolationist senators who have been complaining that radio is one-sided on the war issue. The comish cannot punish licensees without undertaking to censor broadcasts, he insisted, though Senator Wheeler argued every operator ought to be told by the regulators he must be impartial. Wheeler suggested stations which play favorites violate their promise to serve public interest.

Remarking the rules are 'the economic sword of 'Damoceles', Craven predicted the effect will be an emphasis on commercial programs to the point where incentive for developing sustainers will be eradicated. Mutual's support of the regulations, he opined, is due to the fact that the junior web is 'just a little hungrier because it is a late arrival at the feast.'

Political influence charges were bandied again when Mark Ethridge, operator of WHAS, Louisville, took the stand to explain the industry wants to be investigated now. Senator Charles W. Tobey of New Hampshire earlier had quizzed Craven about wire-pulling, with the regulator saying he personally knew of no improprieties or favoritism. Ethridge repeated his St. Louis remarks about three cases where people friendly to the administration got special consideration, adding he does not allege corruption. One case involved a station owned by Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, he elaborated, but declined to go into detail because he lacked complete proof.

Ascap's 20 Million Net Suit

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

before the Interstate Commerce Commission, with a delegated spokesman from the Society charging NBC and CBS with acting as chief conspirators in a move to destroy not only Ascap but that section of the music industry affiliated with the Society. Board of directors will decide at a special meeting Monday whether to put this proposal into effect and who is to do the speaking before the Senate committee.

Ascap directors declared over the weekend that once the society files its intended suit, the action will stand and its calling off will not be made a condition of any contract that later may be entered into with the networks.

Writer-members of the board have named a nominating committee to present candidates for writer-member vacancies to the board. Nominating committee for the writers comprises Leo Robin, Howard Dietz, George Whiting, Jacques Wolfe, Jerry Livingston and John Redmond.

Odd-Reel Experimental Film About Ready For Selznick Start

David O. Selznick is about ready to produce the first of his odd-reel package entertainment experimental films as one attack upon the double feature situation. Under this project, a number of stories, each running anywhere from 500 to 5,000 feet in length, will be made as a group entity, with intention of selling them together in a total length of some 13,000 feet, or 3,000 feet shorter than the standard double feature. They are designed to constitute a complete balanced show, when supplemented by a newsreel.

First of the group production, Selznick states will be titled 'Tales of Mystery and Imagination', the second series 'Tales of Passion and Romance'. They will have all-star casts. The first are from the Edgar Allen Poe collection of tales, the rest have been selected from various sources. Each picture will be made for what it is actually worth, dramatically, Selznick says, without regard for previous standards of film footage.

Receiver Appointed In NY For Austrian Ascap Subsid.

New York, June 15.—Henry M. Propper, under a $1,000 bond, has been appointed receiver for the property of the Staatlich Genehmigte Gesellschaft Der Autoren, Komponisten Und Musikverleger, Austrian subsidiary of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, by Justice Samuel I. Roseman in the New York Supreme court.

Propper's appointment was made on the request of Franz Sobotka, A.K.M. stockholder and creditor, who has claim of $20,101. Sobotka, who koined the society in 1932, claims the society is being dissolved in Austria since the Reich pusch in that country March 12, 1938. More than $100,000 in claims are on file with Ascap against its Austrian subsid, plaintiff asserts.

Ted Pierce Returning To Schlesinger

Ted Pierce, former story head for Leon Schlesinger cartoon studio, resumes post (23) after more than a year with the Fleischer studios in Miami.

Abbott, Costello In

Bud Abbott and Lou Costello planed in Saturday from premieres of Universal's 'In the Navy' at New York and Philadelphia.

Title Changes

'Shadows of Their Wings', Warners, to 'Captains of the Clouds'.

'Amateur Angel', Columbia, to 'The Gentleman Misbehaves'.

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Warners Sets Record In Using Borrowed Talent for Boom

Warners currently is using more borrowed talent than at any time in its history, due to extended production boom and exchange of players with other lots. Twenty-seven outsiders now are in prominent Warners roles, have recently completed parts, or will be in pictures soon to hit the cameras.

Borrowed or off-the-lot names are Fred MacMurray, Ralph Bellamy, Allen Jenkins, Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan, Philip Dorn, Kaaren Verne, Thomas Mitchell, John Qualen, Barbara O'Neil, Constance Bennett, May Robson, Marlene Dietrich, Frank McHugh, Jack Oakie, Martha Raye, Jack Haley, Mary Astor, Gladys George, Peter Lorre, Robert Cummings, Fredric March, Martha Scott, Betty Field, Lloyd Nolan and Maria Ouspenskaya.

WASHUP IN DISNEY STRIKE BREWING

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

to turn thumbs down on the proposal because it provides for an 80 or 90% Guild shop instead of a closed shop, and does not include Art Babbitt in the agreement to reinstate all employes as of March 15. Disney, however, has agreed to appointment of a board of review to pass on the release of all workers necessary under a retrenchment policy. He also agreed to a secret ballot election by any unbiased party.

The SCG will not approve any settlement that does not call for a closed shop and reinstatement of all employes. It was pointed out that even under a closed shop union contract, the employer has the right to hire outside men necessary, with the understanding that they join the union within a specified time.

The stage for a compromise settlement was set at a conference Friday between Walt Disney, Bill Garrity, Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, and Harold V. Smith, business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695. Smith, who has been acting as a mediator in the strike, asked Casey to step into the picture as a representative of RKO to use his influence in trying to arrange an amicable settlement.

A meeting of all studio unions has been called for today to discuss the question of providing financial support for the strikers. The Screen Actors Guild has contributed $1,000, and indicated that further support will be given if necessary. Laboratory Technicians Local 683 voted $500. The Teamsters and other unions also have voted financial support.

If the deal is turned down today, a further mediation meeting is expected to be arranged by Smith, with Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, representing the Screen Cartoonists Guild.

Col Distribs 'Five Men'

Columbia has acquired world distribution rights, outside Great Britain and Australia, for 'Five Men', story of Nazi submarine survivors filmed under working title of '49th Parallel', and made with British cast.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

Following tabulation of network popular music performances is confined to WOR, New York outlet for Mutual Broadcasting System. Compilation herewith covers the week beginning June 6-13 (Friday) from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., and is based on data provided by accurate reporting service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry:

Title	Publisher	Total
Aurora	Robbins	15
I Understand	Feist	13
You're Dangerous	Santly	13
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	12
Intermezzo	Schubert	11
Love Me a Little Little	Mayfair	9
Harbor of Dreams	Miller	9
Beau Night	Berlin	9
Begin the Beguine	Harms	8
Dolores	Paramount	7
Bewitched ('Pal Joey)		7
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro-Bernstein	6
Corn Silk	BVC	6
One I Love Belongs	Forster	6
Tale of Two Cities	Harms	5
Hut Sut Song	Schumann	5
Chapel In the Valley	Witmark	5
When Sun Comes Out	BVC	5
Kiss the Boys Goodbye ('Kiss the Boys Goodbye')	Famous	5

Exec Boards of 10 IA Locals Sesh On Federation

The joint executive boards of the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes meet tonight at headquarters of the Makeup Artists to approve the Constitution and By-Laws of the new Federation of IATSE Locals. It was reported that a motion also might be offered requesting the resignation of Prexy George E. Browne, Willie Bioff and all appointed officers of the IATSE. One local has already made this request.

Negotiating committees representing the 10 locals meet with Pat Casey tomorrow to resume negotiations on standard conditions applying to all crafts. Casey is to discuss the demands with studio executives today to get their views before resuming his parley with the unionists.

The wages and conditions demands of the individual unions will not be taken up with the Producers until the standard conditions have been disposed of, at least as many as can be disposed of without going into the question of wages. These standard demands include minimum calls, computation of overtime, provisions for nearby and distant location, ratio of apprentices and helpers, cancellation of calls, etc. As soon as the individual demands are taken up, the Producers will submit counter proposals, which are certain to include an eigh-hour day instead of the current six hours.

Thomson Goes East

Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, trained out Saturday for New York. He was reported to be making the trip in connection with the South American cultural program of the Whitney committee, but also was expected to huddle with officials of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America on the Communist controversy in Actors Equity Assn.

Recall Julie Bishop

Julie Bishop has been called back from vacation for additional scenes and retakes on 'Flight Patrol' at Warners.

Six Special Trains To 20th Confabs Here; Program Readied

Six special trains have been chartered to bring the 500 delegates and officials from all over the country for 20th-Fox's national sales convention here July 16, 17 and 18.

Company heads say this will be the most important business gathering in the history of 20th-Fox because complete plans for production and distribution under the government's consent decree will be set. Switch in convention plans, which previously had the meeting slated for Chicago, was to enable sales force to meet studio's new players, directors and producers and to go over properties recently purchased or in preparation.

Nine pictures are scheduled to be in production at the time of the convention, 'How Green Was My Valley', 'A Yank In the R.A.F.', 'Charley's Aunt', 'Wild Geese Calling', 'Belle Starr', 'Marry the Boss's Daughter', 'Riders of the Purple Sage', 'Men At Large', 'Weekend In Havana'.

Veidt Joins 'Dark'

Conrad Veidt gets one of the leads in Metro's 'Whistling in the Dark.'

William Scully Named President of Junior Directors Guild

William Scully was elected president of the Junior Screen Directors Guild last night at the annual meeting of the organization at the Hollywood A. C. James Dewey Starkey was elected vice-president; Virgil Hart, secretary, and Edward F. Mull, treasurer. Hal Walker, the retiring prexy, was unable to attend because of illness, and appointed Joseph McDonough as chairman of the meeting.

William Scully, James Dewey Starkey and Frank Shaw will represent the assistant directors on the Screen Directors Guild board of directors. The members paid tribute to J. P. McGowan, SDG secretary, for his 'untiring work in arranging a book of credits for assistant directors which is indispensable to the membership and which now is being generally used by the Producers.'

The Junior board of directors is now composed of Jasper Blystone, William Scully, Frank Shaw, Walter Strohm, Joe Youngerman, Henry Brill, Virgil Hart, Edward F. Mull, Williard Sheldon, Clem Beauchamp, Art S. Black, Sam Nelson, James Dewey Starkey, William Tummell, Eli Dunn and Al Fisher.

James McDonough spoke on the Wage-Hour Law, which becomes effective today in the film industry. He pointed out that second assistant directors had expressed a desire to remain under the Wage-Hour Law, and that this decision had been approved in the final classification announced by the Department.

RKO Starts 'Uncle'

RKO started 'Unexpected Uncle', Tay Garnett producing and Peter Godfrey directing, on Saturday, several days ahead of previous schedule.

Marsha Hunt Set

Marsha Hunt is assigned femme lead in Metro's 'New York Story.'

Story Buys

Paramount has bought a group of yarns called 'Dr. Broadway', by Borden Chase, which are to be made in a series of feature pictures. Stories have appeared in magazine form, dealing with experiences of a young, unattached doctor who treats interesting Broadway characters. Sol C. Siegel will produce.

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Par Announcing 44 Features at Its Toronto Meeting

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

cies, feature and shorts product and the screening of prints of new season pictures already completed and ready for release.

Addresses will be made by Barney Balaban, president; Austin C. Keough, vice-president and general manager, and Robert M. Gillham, head of eastern publicity and advertising. Neil F. Agnew, sales head, will discuss product and sales at today's and tomorrow's sessions, while Delbert Goodman, managing director for Dominion of Canada, will outline sales and operations in Canada. Oscar Morgan, shorts sales manager, will preside at a discussion of short subject and news selling, to take place tomorrow, after which screening of completed product will be held.

Canadian representatives for Paramount will be given an outline of the company's features scheduled for production and release during 1941-42, a number of which are already completed and awaiting the start of the new season.

Among the new product is 'For Whom the Bell Tolls', 'Louisiana Purchase', 'Botany Bay', 'Rurales', 'Hold Back the Dawn', completed with Charles Boyer, Paulette Goddard and Olivia de Havilland in the leads; 'Nothing But the Truth', with Bob Hope and Paulette Goddard, finished; 'Skylark', Claudette Colbert, Ray Milland and Brian Aherne starrer which is completed; 'Road To Morocco', slated for Hope, Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour; 'Birth of the Blues', completed, with Crosby, Mary Martin and Brian Donlevy; 'Tomorrow's Admirals', 'Sullivan's Travels', in work with Veronica Lake and Joel McCrea; 'New York Town', Mary Martin and Fred MacMurray; 'A Great Man's Lady', the completed Barbara Stanwyck, Joel McCrea, Brian Donlevy starrer; 'King and Queen of the Jungle', with Dorothy Lamour; 'Pride of the Bahamas', 'Channel Port', 'Santa Anita', 'Night of January 16th', finished.

'World Premiere', with John Barrymore, Frances Farmer and Ricardo Cortez, completed; 'Holiday Inn', 'West Point Widow', finished; 'Glamour Boy', 'The Murder Farm', a Bob Hope-Paulette Goddard mystery comedy; 'Angel In Furs', for Dorothy Lamour; 'Buy Me That Town', completed; 'Among the Living', completed, with Susan Hayward, Frances Farmer and Harry Carey; 'China Pass', 'The Fleet's In', musical with Eddie Bracken, Dorothy Lamour, Cass Daley; 'Tex Guinan'.

'Miss Susie Slagle's', 'Take a Letter Darling', 'American Empire', with Richard Dix; 'We Take This Woman', co-starring Hope and Jack Benny; 'Mr. and Mrs. Cugat', with Fred MacMurray; 'Happy Go Lucky', for Bing Crosby; 'Hula Honeymoon', 'Out of the Frying Pan', 'You Go Your Way', 'Henry Aldrich For President', finished; 'War Town', 'Blonde Venus', with Veronica Lake; 'The Remarkable Andrew', with Ellen Drew, Brian Donlevy and William Holden; and five Hopalong Cassidy westerns from Harry Sherman, plus the usual complement of short subjects and newsreels.

AFM ADOPTS CAN MUSIC WRIT AT SEATTLE WINDUP

Seattle, June 15.—Resolution for immediate and aggressive steps toward a control of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. canned music situation was passed at the 46th annual convention of the American Federation of Musicians yesterday as business sessions wound up the conclave. Of the seven resolutions bearing on canned music, convention adopted one and referred the other six to the executive board.

Resolution okayed calls for the executive board to intercede with the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. to reduce the amount of records and transcriptions used on its networks, and to take whatever steps were necessary to increase the hiring of live musicians by the corporation.

Other six, in being referred to the board for action, however, came in for plenty of talk and all discussion of the canned music situation was greeted with the declaration that the AFM will take immediate steps toward some type of limited control so that the musicians of the nation will receive some recompense for the widespread and increasing use of records and electrical transcriptions for commercial purposes.

Outside of the passing of the resolution concerning the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., the AFM 46th annual convention failed to develop much of the expected fireworks. Among the chief actions was the reelection of all present international officers and members of the executive board, which, with a resolution approving all actions for the past year by President Petrillo, put a definite stamp of approval on present policies.

A small but vociferous minority fought for the passage of a resolution calling for the election of officers and approving of important matters by a referendum vote of the entire membership, but after several hours of debate the resolution was decisively defeated. A resolution calling for the itemized publication of all Federation salaries was passed overwhelmingly after much debate.

Other actions of the convention included the limiting of 'personal appearances' of traveling members until okayed by the local in whose jurisdiction the appearance occurs; and ruled that traveling bands or orchestras playing state and second class district fairs be restricted to their show engagements only, this to prevent multiple appearances which work against local musicians. Further regulation of traveling bands, termed the 'backbone of the Federation' by Advisor J. N. Weber, was defeated.

Two resolutions urging the retention by the Federal government of the WPA musical projects were passed, and the report of the WPA committee revealed that so far the musical projects have not suffered as great a reduction as other projects. The executive board was directed to continue the fight to include traveling musicians in old age pensions and social security laws. Present defense emergency was recognized by the passage of a resolution calling on all patriotic Americans to avoid industrial difficulty.

Delegates at the convention raised the salaries of the secretary and treasurer, and, not forgetting themselves, raised the per diem from $15 to $22.50, and gave themselves seven days for the convention.

Dallas, Texas, was chosen as the 1942 convention city.

SWG, Producers In Agreement; Guild Will Vote Tonight

★ Continued from page 1 ★

dations would be practically certain to result in a favorable vote, since the membership has already expressed full confidence in its negotiating committee, and as a general rule follows the recommendations of the board. The proposals were discussed at a meeting of the negotiations committee and executive board Saturday, at which time a call for the general meeting was broadcast.

It is understood that the proposal provides for a minimum wage of $125 per week instead of the original $50 offered by the Producers. The proposed deal also would prohibit all flat deals for less than $1,500. The deal would be a long term contract, probably seven or eight years, but with a proviso for reopening on certain points yearly, as in the case of contracts between the Producers and the Screen Actors Guild and Screen Directors Guild.

It is understood that both sides have agreed it would be next to impossible to set a definite line of demarcation as to material written by a writer during his layoff period. The writers have been insisting on sole ownership of all such material, but it was pointed out it would be difficult to determine just when the story idea was conceived, although it might be actually written during a layoff period.

It was said the Guild is to be given control of screen credits, full protection of story ideas offered by scriveners, notification of all writers assigned to story, virtual Guild shop, etc. The deal was negotiated by a committee headed by Prexy Sheridan Gibney. Other members of the committee include Sidney Buchman, Mary C. McCall, J., Dwight Taylor, Ralph Block, John Howard Lawson and Dore Schary.

50G Action Dismissed

New York, June 15.—Standard Picture Productions, Inc., $50,000 suit against Du-Art Film Laboratories, Inc., has been dismissed in U. S. District Court here for failure to prosecute. Standard had charged Du-Art with retaining the negative, work print and accessories on 'The Headleys at Home' and sought return of the picture or $50,000.

Ratoff Joins Small

Gregory Ratoff has been signed by Edward Small to direct 'The Corsican Brothers', Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. starrer written by Howard Estabrook, to go into production July 15.

Renew Danielson

Cliff Danielson's player contract has been renewed at Metro.

J. N. Skelton New Biz Rep for Studio Carpenters 946

J. N. (Jim) Skelton is the new business representative of Studio Carpenters Local 946, having defeated H. E. Loudon and D. E. Russell in the annual election. Skelton succeeds William Castle, who declined to stand for re-election after serving for three consecutive terms.

Henry (Hank) Lofquist, of 20th-Fox, and Charles A. Sproul, of Metro, were elected president and vice president respectively, without opposition. J. W. (Jack) Vance was re-elected recording secretary for his sixth term, and Walter E. Sparks was named financial secretary, James F. Connolly was elected treasurer, R. F. Buchanan trustee, David Shapiro, conductor, and Stanley Smardak warden.

Delegates to the District Council are Ben Simmons, P. J. Green, P. B. Connolly, Robert Buchanan, J. F. Kearns, Roy Wilson, Andrew Hill, George Dow, L. M. Merritt, E. J. Roberts, J. H. O'Brien and P. F. Hurst. Delegates to the Central Labor Council are Hugh Allan, Walter Brestel, Jack Coopersmith, A. M. Hart, R. W. Isenberg, P. J. Montgomery, Ben Price, R. B. Sharp, R. L. Warford.

'Vinegar Tree' at El Cap 'Kane' Closing (25)

'The Vinegar Tree' opens at the El Capitan theatre Thursday (26) with Billie Burke in the lead and Paul Cavanagh, Charles Waldron, Leona Maricle, Eleanor Lawson, Henry Wadsworth supporting. Play is now in its sixth week at the Alcazar in San Francisco. 'Citizen Kane', the RKO-Orson Welles picture, closes at the El Capitan (25).

Obituary

HERSCHELL MAYALL

Herschell Mayall, pioneer picture player, brought into films by Thomas H. Ince, died in St. Mary's hospital at Detroit last Tuesday, after being stricken several days prior with a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 78 years old and left no known relatives. At the time of his death Mayall was playing character roles in such radio serials as 'The Lone Ranger' and 'The Green Hornet' over station WXYZ, where he had been connected for nine years.

Mayall was for six years in the legit theatre in San Francisco prior to the earthquake, and shortly after was signed by Ince and appeared in pictures for 18 years, appearing in top roles in many of Hollywood's pioneer films.

MAURICE KATZ

Philadelphia, June 15.—Maurice Katz, 77, Yiddish playwright and novelist, died here yesterday. He formerly was editor of The Jewish World.

Fannie Sutton Rites

Funeral of Mrs. Fannie A. (Aunt Fannie) Sutton, 77, vaudeville topliner in the 1890's and later operator of the Sutton Family theatre, was held Friday, following her death last Wednesday after a heart attack in her Santa Monica home.

2 H'D ARMY SHOWS TERMED GREATEST GOODWILL TREK

■ Continued from page 1 ■

for show business yet to be presented.

Major-General Charles P. Thompson, at Camp Hunter Liggett, one of the U. S. Army's ablest public relations officers, said it constituted the highest type of public service the motion picture industry could contribute to national defense.

On Saturday the doughboys at Camp Hunter Liggett started tramping into the Amphitheatre, dusty and tired from field maneuvers, at around 1 p.m. and waited patiently until 4 p.m. for the show to start.

Approximately 22,000 of the 35,000 boys at Liggett Saturday and 15,000 of the 22,000 at Fort Ord today, shouted, whistled and cheered themselves hoarse during the two hours and 10 minutes of the costliest star lineup yet presented in an army camp. When the show was over, thousands of soldiers stood silently on the dust-covered hillsides to give the show people the right-of-way to Del Monte. It was a slick, showmanly, evenly balanced big time production with Jack Benny, George Jessel, Burns and Allen, Claudette Colbert, Marlene Dietrich, the Ritz Brothers, Ray Bolger, Dick Powell, Joan Blondell, Carole Landis, Virginia O'Brien, Franklin D'Armour, the Navy Blues Sextette, Nat Young's orchestra. Packed with glamour femmes, swell music, ace comics, the show ran off like clockwork.

In terms of coin the talent could scarcely be assembled on any single bill, Uncle Sam excepted.

Jack Benny, suffering a slight flu attack and running a temperature Saturday morning, would likely have cancelled a commercial engagement under the circumstances.

It cost about $5,000 to finance the trek, with the Hollywood agents and producers putting up the coin to pay for transportation and accommodations at the swank Del Monte hostelry, pending establishment of a fund to reimburse or take care of such expenditures in the future.

Jack Benny, accompanied by Mary Livingstone, headed the star-studded cast presented by the Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation. With Benny indisposed, George Jessel was drafted at the last minute to pinch-hit as master of ceremonies and divided the assignment as Benny recovered sufficiently to go on later. Both Jessel and Benny were in top form. For the men in uniform it was a most memorable day of an army career.

Symbolic of camp reaction was a buck private, admittedly A.W.O.L., who preferred to take a chance of getting 60 days in the guard house rather than miss the show.

Mark Sandrich directed the production and was aided by Bill Morrow on the script.

'Manila' For Powell

'I'll Take Manila' will be Eleanor Powell's dancing starrer at Metro, to be directed by Eddie Buzzell as a Jack Cummings production. Miss Powell is in rehearsal for a bull-fight dance under guidance of Dr. Alfonso Gaona, matador from Mexico City.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	**Bob Hebert**	**Paul Lowry**	**Bernard**	**Martha**	**Jim Mitchell**
1—Copper Toe	1—Auld Lang S'e	1—Auld Lang S'e	1—Flying Stripes	1—Copper Toe	1—Quick Over
Quick Over	Copper Toe	Copper Toe	Copper Toe	Flying Stripes	Copper Toe
Iron	Aunt Begee	Flying Stripes	Auld Lang S'e	Queens Navy	Auld Lang S'e
2—Soberano	2—Soberano	2—Soberano	2—Soberano	2—Soberano	2—Tory Tom
M'tin Macaw	Tory Tom	Tory Tom	Tory Tom	Tory Tom	Soberano
Frat Boy	M'tin Macaw	M'tin Macaw	M'tin Macaw	Vain Star	Don Listo
3—Valdina Joan	3—Iverna	3—Miss Crusader	3—Valdina Joan	3—Navajo	3—Valdina Joan
Navajo	Valdina Joan	Swan	Fetch'g Child	Valdina Joan	Swan
Ne Plus Ultra	Swan	Valdina Joan	Swan	Swan	Navajo
4—Vegas Justice	4—Vegas Justice	4—Quercus	4—Molasses Mibs	4—Pacifica	4—Pacifica
Pacifica	Molasses Mibs	Molasses Mibs	Vegas Justice	Molasses Mibs	Molasses Mibs
Molasses Mibs	Pacifica	Vegas Justice	Count Us	Vegas Justice	Count Us
5—Smoky Snyder	5—Orenco	5—Sweepalot	5—Orenco	5—Orenco	5—Smoky Snyder
Orenco	Smoky Snyder	Orenco	Smoky Snyder	Iron Bunker	Orenco
Gridine	Hi Stranger	Smoky Snyder	Iron Bunker	Smoky Snyder	Sweepalot
6—Two Ton T'y	6—Two Ton T'y	6—Two Ton T'y	6—Two Ton T'y	6—Vain Bo	6—Two Ton T'y
Vain Bo	Vain Bo	Circle M entry	Albert Jay	Two Ton T'y	Vain Bo
Ship Biscuit	Ship Biscuit	Aethelwold	Vain Bo	Ship Biscuit	Aethelwold
7—Battle Colors	7—Battle Colors	7—Circle M entry	7—Woof Woof	7—Battle Colors	7—Big Ben
Hysterical	Hy-Cop	Hysterical	Hysterical	Hysterical	Battle Colors
Woof Woof	Hysterical	Lassator	Hy-Cop	Woof Woof	Woof Woof
8—Gay Jacket	8—Friendly Paul	8—Gay Jacket	8—Gay Jacket	8—Gay Jacket	8—Gay Jacket
Friendly Paul	My Porter	Friendly Paul	Friendly Paul	Friendly Paul	Praetorian
Praetorian	Praetorian	Praetorian	Praetorian	My Porter	Friendly Paul

Film Previews

The Shepherd of the Hills

Continued from page 3

nizes the resemblance between Wayne and Carey. Wayne tries to get his rifle to kill Carey and end the curse he believes is on his family. Lawrence grabs it and runs to throw it over a cliff. In front of the horrified villagers, Miss Bondi wrestles with the mute for the gun and, in the struggle, wounds him. Later she makes a funeral pyre of her cabin, dying in the flames with her dead son. Wayne goes to the lonely meadow to kill Carey. Miss Field tries to stop him, warning him that he will murder her love for him, too, if he shoots Carey. The power of the curse is too strong. But, as Wayne lifts his gun, Carey shoots him first, to save the son from patricide. Doctors from the city keep him alive and Wayne recovers fully when he learns that Carey had been missing for so many years because he was serving a prison term for killing a man and not because he wanted to desert his wife and baby.

Seldom has a picture been so well cast as this one. Wayne's role fits his talents perfectly. He is a splendid actor. Miss Field is superb. Carrence, as the mute, is standout. Marjorie Main also is excellent.

The best of support is given by James Barton, Samuel S. Hinds, Ward Bond, John Qualen, Fuzzy Knight, Tom Fadden, Olin Howland, Dorothy Adams, Virita Campbell and Fern Emmett.

Henry Hathaway's ability as a director was never more brilliantly demonstrated than in this picture. Jack Moss proves that he ranks among the industry's top producers. The color photography is fine. Charles Lang, Jr., and W. Howard Greene, working with Natalie Kalmus, Henry Jaffa, Hans Dreier, Roland Anderson and Ellsworth have made a picture of poignant beauty.

Musical score by Gerard Carbonara is excellent.

It will take some great picture, during the rest of the year, to prevent 'The Shepherd of the Hills' from knocking over some of the 1941 Academy awards.

Moon Over Miami

Continued from page 3

which utilizes for best results the Florida backgrounds and underwater vistas from diving bells at Silver Springs and the Cypress Gardens used for the spectacular puddle jumping race which is an outstanding feature.

The camera work by Peverell Marley, Leon Shamroy and Allen M. Davey has not been excelled for clarity and lensworthiness, with many scenes more nearly approaching the third-dimensional illusion than anything recalled by this reviewer.

Leo Robin and Ralph Rainger again justify their long cleffing fellowship with a generous contribution of lilting and persuasive songs which run from tender ballad to fierce and riotuous congas, as in 'The Kindergarten Conga', a beguiling novelty. Titles of the others, suggestive, are 'Hurrah for Today', 'Miami', 'I've Got You All to Myself', 'Loveliness and Love', 'You Started Something', 'It That Good?' and 'Solitary Seminole', a spectacular Seminole Indian number in ensemble.

Ameche, Miss Grable, Jack Haley, Miss Greenwood all do their share of warbling, and effectively for their individual assignments. Ameche and Miss Grable pair off; Cummings and Carole Landis; Miss Greenwood and Jack Haley. The love scenes are superbly directed by Lang and emotionally socked by the four chiefly involved. Miss Landis, particularly, takes a long stride ahead, showing poise, dignity, sincerity and acting skill which will carry her far if properly handled. Others in the cast showing effectively are Lynne Roberts, Robert Conway, George Lassey, as the debonair father of Robert Cummings; the Condon Brothers and Jack Cole & Company in specialties, Robert Grieg, Minor Watson, Fortunio Bonanova.

Alfred Newman upholds his high standard with excellent music direction. Hermes Pan staged the dances with distinction. Travis Banton's costumes were of striking design and beauty in the Technicolor dazzle, and Richard Day and Wiard B. Ihnen, art directors, and Thomas Little, with his set decorations, add their definite touches of elegance to the production.

The Reluctant Dragon

● Continued from page 3 ●

through Benchley's inquiries.

A second phase of the entertainment is the several animation stories reeled off for Benchley. A brief and hilarious one is the fierce ride of a personified train. An elaborate one is about 'Baby Weems', the prodigy who spoke at the age of two days and set the world topsy-turvy.

Fiction phase climaxes in the fable of The Reluctant Dragon, a soft-hearted, poetic monster, who, like Ferdinand the Bull, prefers flowers, etc. Billy Lee, an eager young tyke of a harassed village where a dragon slayer, The Knight, is a great hero, brings the two together. They stage a terrific and spectacular battle to satisfy the public, then exchange poetic lore in peace. This dragon-knight encounter is one of Disney's best pieces of creative animation. The voices of the knight (Claud Allister) and the dragon (Barnett Parker) add greatly to the fabulous amusement.

Kenneth Grahame contrived the story basis, a deft piece of literary-pictorial designing. In the 'Dragon' sequence, Ed Penner and T. Hee did the story; for the 'Baby Weems' sequence, Joe Grant, Dick Huemer and John Miller.

Screenplay is by Ted Sears, Al Perkins, Larry Clemmons, Bill Cottrell and Harry Clork, a superior assembly of many nicely integrated elements.

Alfred Werker brought sympathetic and artistic understanding and excellent workmanship to the direction of the studio sequences. Cartoon sequences had Hamilton Luske as director, with Jim Handley, Ford Beebe, Jr., and Erwin Verity as assistants.

Bert Glennon handled the dramatic camera, and Winton Hoch directed the Technicolor photography, with Natalie Kalmus as color director. Gordon Wiles, Ken Anderson, Hugh Hennesy and Charles Philippi share the splendid art direction. Ub Iwerks and Josh Meador did the special effects.

Clarence Nash, the voice of Donald Duck, and Florence Gill, the voice of Clara Cluck, score in a quack-wacky duet. Frank Churchill and Larry Morey provided the excellent music score.

Please accept my appreciation and thanks—

Looking back on my thirty three years in motion pictures they prove to have been happy ones mostly because your cooperation helped me through the good years and your friendship and loyalty through the bad ones.

To you boys on the lights, you grips, props and carpenters; you make-up crews, painters and boys and girls in the art departments; you set dressers, transportation departments and wardrobe departments; you cameramen, assistant cameramen, still men and stand-ins; you in the sound departments; you assistant directors and unit managers; you publicity workers and advertising departments; you secretaries and script girls; you fellow actors and directors; you producers; you salesmen, exhibitors and the ladies and gentleman of the press . . .

"You've been grand to ride with."

Harry Carey

Copy (2)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF THE SHOV

Vol. 32 No. 8 43 Hollywood, California, Tuesday, June 17, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

SWG APPROVES CONTRACT

NEW KICKS IN DISNEY BATTLE

Mediators in Walt Disney controversy were still hopeful last night of effecting an early settlement of the studio strike, although the initial peace proposal of the company was turned down yesterday by unanimous vote of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. The Guild, however, immediately handed a counter proposal to Harold V. Smith, who is acting as strike mediator, for submission to Disney executives.

The counter proposal calls for a

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

John Justin Injured In R.A.F. Scuffle

John Justin, who played the lead in 'The Thief of Bagdad', has been seriously wounded while serving in the R.A.F., and is now in military hospital at Yatesbury, England, according to word received here. First report was that he had been killed in action.

Elmer Rice at Par

Elmer Rice yesterday checked in with Mark Sandrich at Paramount to write the screen play for 'Holiday Inn', developed from idea by Irving Berlin, to star Bing Crosby and Fred Astaire. Sandrich will produce and direct the dance musical.

MG Renews Sothern

Ann Sothern was signed to new term contract at Metro yesterday. Upon completion of her current starrer, 'Ringside Maisie', she plans a brief vacation in Alaska and returns to step into 'Panama Hattie' in July.

Garbo Pic Goes Wed.

Still untitled, Metro's Greta Garbo starrer faces cameras tomorrow under direction of George Cukor. Joseph Rittenberg will handle camera.

PREVIEWED

NO GREATER SIN
(States Rights)

THE PARSON OF PANAMINT
(Par)

(Previews on page 3)

Lease-Lend Can Help Pix

FILM Industry, which has a load of coin frozen in the foreign market, especially England, appears to have missed a trick by not trying to take advantage of the provisions of the Lease-Lend Bill, which doles out billions of dollars for aid to the non-Axis countries.

It's an acknowledged fact that the Industry is in a very difficult state as a result of the loss of foreign markets. Currently there is no continental European business. Trade in the British Isles, notwithstanding the bombings and destruction of many theatres, has been excellent during the war, but the American producers' coin, with the exception of compara-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

RKO FIRST TO ANNOUNCE BLOCK-OF-5 SET TO SELL

New York, June 16.—First of the companies to announce a definite block of five pictures to start off consent decree selling for 1941-42 was RKO, which gave the more than 300 delegates gathered at the Waldorf-Astoria for the company's 10th annual sales conclave today a list of five titles to open the season. Among the group are what the company classifies as two top budgeted features.

Leadoffs in the quintet are 'The

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	118
Major studio calls	154
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	272

Milestone Rejects 'Joan'

Lewis Milestone will not direct RKO's 'Joan of Paris'. Milestone and the studio couldn't get together on the deal. David Hempstead, who will produce, is seeking a new director.

FAIRBANKS, UA TRIAL UP (23)

Following a conference late yesterday before Superior Judge Jess E. Stephens of attorneys acting in United Artists' offer of $400,000 for the 4,000 shares of UA stock owned by the Douglas Fairbanks estate, trial was set for Monday (23), at which time United Artists' purchase application will be considered.

At yesterday's conference Attor-

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Korda Due Thursday

Alexander Korda, who planed to New York last weekend on company business, is due back Thursday.

Biz Reps of 10 IA Locals Confer on Wages Today

Business representatives of 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes confer with Pat Casey today to start negotiating wages, hours and conditions for 10,000 film technicians. The demands were discussed yesterday at a parley between Casey and studio executives representing the major companies. The Producers are said to have frowned on the request for substantial wage tilts and other improvements.

The joint executive boards of the various IA locals met last night at

■ Continued on page 8 ■

MINIMUM PAY PER WK. $125

The Screen Writers Guild last night unanimously approved in principle a seven-year agreement with the Producers. While the contract has not yet been reduced to writing, it provides for an 85% Guild shop the first three years, and 90% thereafter. Speculative writing is eliminated, and the SWG is given control of screen credits. The minimum pay for film scriveners will be

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Metro Asserts B. Cohen Safe in Africa

Ben M. Cohen, former Metro manager in Calcutta, en route to his new post in Durbin, South Africa, was among those reported safe on African shore after long lifeboat voyage from the sunken American steamer, Robin Moor, according to advices received at studio yesterday.

Selznick Sets Kelland

Horace Kelland, son of Clarence Budington Kelland, has been appointed head of the literary department of Myron Selznick, Ltd., New York branch of Myron Selznick & Co.

WB Terms Kelsey

Warners has signed Fred Kelsey to a term contract. Actor's first assignment is in 'One Foot in Heaven.'

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Sundria**
Radio Crusade
Queen Bargo
2d RACE—**Jubilo**
Scotch Bread
Wise Greenock
3d RACE—**Tonas**
Count Dean
First Choice
4th RACE—**Congressman**
Only Girl
Count Chat
5th RACE—**Rita Osuna**
Slappy
Justice Nap
6th RACE—**Orra**
Don Grafton
Galvale
7th RACE—**Wing and Wing**
Argonne Woods
Jeff's Pride
8th RACE—**Little Long**
Be Quaint
Cargador
CHANCE BET—**Delmarie (8th)**
Selections consensus, page 6.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Charlotte Claflin in from Indiana to ogle the races.

Horace MacMahon taking his first breather in 16 weeks from picture work.

Edward Ashley back from male lead in New York stage play, 'The Happy Days'.

Jimmy McHugh planed in yesterday after attending funeral of his father in Boston.

Dick Keplinger, special eventer at KOMO, Seattle, here for confabs with John Swallow at NBC.

Rudy Vallee addresses L. A. Advertising Club today on 'My Experiences With Advertising Agencies'.

United Artists will stage a preview of 'Three Cockeyed Sailors' at the Fox Boulevard theatre today at 1 o'clock.

Garson Kanin reports for army duty (25), according to notice received yesterday from his Beverly Hills draft board.

Radio tale, 'She Gets the Air', by Don Forbes, Richfield Reporter, and Jeanne Spencer, being peddled around the studios.

Special Crossley rating on Tommy Riggs' Old Gold Coast show hit such a high mark that no one guessed within 10 points of it.

Gus Kahn and Dave Dreyer are collaborating on a musical comedy with a family background for New York presentation this fall.

Patrick Michael Cunning left last night for New York to look over the television publicity field before embarking on production here around July 1.

Metro shorts department tossed luncheon shower for Dora Einzig, secretary to Producer Jack Chertok, who is engaged to marry Michael Porter, non-pro, in August.

Republic, during June and July, was to have had 16 pictures under way, but casting troubles have so far held up the start of any of those scheduled for early in June.

Louis K. Sidney will hie on a fishing excursion along the Columbia river and finish vacation in Canada immediately after final preview of the Marx Brothers' 'The Big Store'.

Carlton Miles, former Minneapolis drama critic, now handling the advance for 'Tobacco Road', is in town trying to unload a few scripts. 'Road' will do nine weeks on the Coast beginning in August.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood is the only place where you can see a kid with a $1,000-a-week studio contract all flustered up about getting a high school diploma.

Hollywood Inside

SMALL town indie exhibitor is nursing a peeve against one of the smaller distributing organizations, contending that after he had booked one of the company's better pictures, and had already advertised it, booking was cancelled arbitrarily in order to permit a larger account in a different town first opportunity to screen it. First exhib feels particularly chagrined because he contends the company in question was built to its present strong position solely through small-town exhib business, and says he sees no good reason why the picture in question should be yanked from his house simply because another exhib, some distance away, is in position to pay a higher film rental, thus forcing him to break faith with his customers after his programs had been printed and distributed.

☆ ☆ ☆

IN RESPONSE to suggestions received since David O. Selznick announced that he would operate the Lobero theatre in Santa Barbara this summer as a Strawhatter for Hollywood and guest talent, Selznick yesterday decided that any successful play tried out there will be trouped east in time for fall production on Broadway. Selznick would naturally finance the production. Play would be trouped across country, instead of going directly to Broadway, to give time and test audiences to iron out any faults. This doesn't mean, Selznick said yesterday before leaving for New York, that guest star who appears in the Santa Barbara production necessarily will head the cast east. Entire recasting might be made for the New York production.

☆ ☆ ☆

ARBITRATOR HERBERT CAMERON, sitting in judgment on the first motion picture controversy brought before the American Arbitration Association, that of O. C. Lewis of San Gabriel against major distributors, is expected to hand down a written decision which will probably take 10 days or two weeks to prepare. Defendants introduced testimony last weekend by which they hope to blast Lewis' contention that he is entitled to a revised clearance for his Mission theatre in San Gabriel, and issue now rests solely with the AAA arbitrator. Outcome of this first case is expected by interested parties to have a bearing on future clearance actions tried before the association.

☆ ☆ ☆

MYSTERIOUS reason for sound recording that wasn't up to standard on the Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy pictures was solved the other day at RKO, where the ventriloquist and his dummy are working. As in previous pictures the sound seemed to fade a bit now and then. Finally, it was determined that the mike boom, when Charlie McCarthy's lines were being spoken, was shifted away from Bergen and then back to Bergen when he addressed Charlie. Now they leave the mike in front of Bergen all the time. Works fine.

☆ ☆ ☆

DEAL whereby Fanchon & Marco would take over the El Capitan theatre as a Hollywood showcase for Paramount pictures, is hanging fire due to pending product adjustments. F&M were to have taken possession immediately following the current run of 'Citizen Kane', but transfer has been temporarily held up until such time as deal for Paramount pictures in the film colony is worked out by Marco Wolf. In the meantime, house will play 'The Vinegar Tree', legit, for several weeks, starting (26).

☆ ☆ ☆

TWENTIETH-FOX is sending an import expert to Bermuda where censors have held up two more reels of background material from England for 'A Yank in the R.A.F.' The film, shot by the R.A.F. under direction of Leslie Baker, had already been cleared in England, the studio says. Film was taken off a Pan American Clipper from Portugal.

☆ ☆ ☆

HOLLYWOOD will be astounded to know that Louella Parsons has a press agent. Though Lolly has been writing under by line for around quarter of a century she has Arthur Eddy handing out copy on her. Wags around figure her personal coverage is not sufficient to acquaint the public she has news value.

☆ ☆ ☆

ART LINKLETTER'S 'Who, What, Here and Why' on KNX has been taken under sponsorship by LA Times on a straight time buy. Most programs auspiced by the downtown sheets are on a trade-deal basis, a barter of space for time. Half hour show, dealing with news events, takes off (30).

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS will go to a Saturday opening for 'Underground', starting this weekend and figures on several 12-day weeks to enable it to break 'Manpower' on Thursday, July 3, to cash in on the holiday biz. Schedule change applies to company's Downtown and Hollywood theatres.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE late Grover Jones and Stuart Anthony collaborated on the screenplay at Paramount's 'The Shepherd of the Hills'. Harold Bell Wright wrote the original story. By inadvertance these credits were omitted from Daily Variety's preview of the picture yesterday.

Lab Techs, Pelton Talk Over Wage Demands

Demands of Laboratory Technicians Local 683 were discussed yesterday at a conference between Fred Pelton and a 683 negotiating committee. The local turned down the initial offer of the Producers, which was said to call for wage increases ranging from three to 11 cents per hour for the various classifications.

Balaban, Zukor, Holman In Fri. for Confabs

Arriving from New York with Barney Balaban on Friday for conferences with Y. Frank Freeman, Buddy DeSylva and Henry Ginsberg at Paramount will be Adolph Zukor and Russell Holman. Likely that Stanton Griffis, chairman of Par executive committee, will join them early next week.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Though Vaude is dead and laid away
Its soul goes marching on today.
Like old John Brown
It goes to town
In many a motion picture play.

★ ★ ★

Always a daring adventurer in the field of drama, Dave Selznick is about to put on strawhat shows among the high hats of Santa Barbara.

★ ★ ★

Another Selznick innovation is the idea of producing pictures of varying footage according to their literary values, a direct violation of the Hollywood code that drama is divided into two classes — feature lengths and shorties. The ideal picture program would be conducted like a track meet, from the 100-yard dash up to the Marathon.

Beauty, as a director says, is unnecessary on the screen, but the make-up foundries continue to work overtime.

Now comes vacation time, when the Hollywood citizen becomes a tourist to avoid the tourists flocking into Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

What with one screen test after another, 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' is going to have a terrific appetite.

★ ★ ★

An actor on a diet may be striving hard to beat
The surplus weight that often goes with starchy foods and meat,
Or maybe he is out of work and can't afford to eat.

★ ★ ★

Ann Gillis is sprouting up in a youthful vamp role, but whatever became of the boy friend who played Tom Sawyer?

★ ★ ★

Postmaster at Nassau is just about ready for a nervous breakdown, with Madeleine Carroll and Ed Griffith sending out all those postcards.

★ ★ ★

Those versatile boys, Abbott and Costello, are doubling as buck privates in the Navy.

Laird Cregar would feel right at home in the top role of 'The Corsican Brothers.' It calls for a twin job.

Most ambitious comedy title of recent years is 'Jump for Joy.'

★ ★ ★

Katie Hepburn eased into town incognito, which is much better than easing out that way.

Tom Mitchell is up and around again, as genial as ever, except when you mention the horse-and-buggy era.

That personal touch on the Los Angeles theatre marquee:
'Affectionately Yours'
'Ziegfeld Girl'.

★ ★ ★

Marlene Dietrich is going east for

● Continued on page 5 ●

Film Previews

The Parson of Panamint

(*Drama*)

Paramount release. Stars Charles Ruggles, Ellen Drew, Phillip Terry, with Joseph Schildkraut, Porter Hall, Henry Kolker, Janet Beecher, Clem Bevans, Douglas Fowley, Paul Hurst, Minor Watson, Frank Puglia, Harry Hayden, Russell Hicks. Director, William McGann. Producer, Harry Sherman. Associate producer, Lewis J. Rachmil. Screenplay, Harold Shumate and Adrian Scott, based on the novel by Peter B. Kyne. Photography, Russell Harlan. Art director, Ralph Berger. Assistant director, John Sherwood. Wardrobe, Earl Moser. Film editor, Sherman A. Rose. Associate film editor, Carroll Lewis. Sound, Charles Althouse. Set decorations, Emile Kuri. Musical direction, Irvin Talbot. Music score, John Leipold. Previewed June 16. Running time: 84 mins.

Intensely moving and human drama is Peter B. Kyne's story of a fighting parson as brought to the screen by Harry Sherman. In every department it reflects the utmost use of technical advantage and talent and carries an audience appeal far beyond that usually associated with dramas laid in the mining towns of the old, gold-hungry west.

Its story has been seen on the screen before, but so well have scripters Harold Shumate and Adrian Scott built the screen play from the Kyne novel that there is a freshness and a tight-moving continuity that holds close attention. The story concerns a young parson, brought into a rowdy mining camp to spread the gospel, his struggles with the respectable elements, and the wicked, his trial for an accidental killing and near lynching, and the fading of the town's glory when the gold which was its life is gone.

Charlie Ruggles scores a perfect job as the old prospector who tells the town's story in flashback, with himself as one of the principals. Ruggles has never been seen to more advantage. Ellen Drew is the dance hall singer saved by the parson, and brings spirit, beauty and talent to the role, in addition to a standout vocalizing of 'Rock of Ages'. Phillip Terry fulfills all the promise he has shown in previous Paramount assignments as the young parson, gifting the character with an understanding, intelligent delineation.

The smaller parts are filled by a troupe of players who make their footage stand out. Joseph Schildkraut, swell as the gambler. Porter Hall, great as a crooked, but respectable mine operator. Henry Kolker, the pious judge. Janet Beecher, helper to the parson. Clem Bevans, a delight as the liquor-soaked cook. Paul Hurst, Douglas Fowley, Minor Watson, Frank Puglia, in an unusually good spot, Harry Hayden and Russell Hicks are among those who add importance to their parts.

William McGann's direction captures the spirit of Kyne's writing and enthuses the players to earn himself a top credit. Lewis J. Rachmil, as associate producer to Sherman, shares in the showmanly honors. Russell Harlan's photography adds considerable to the story; the film editing has been wisely performed, and the musical background socks over every dramatic point.

Hogan Does 'Port'

Michael Hogan has been signed at Paramount to do a polish chore on the screenplay of 'Channel Port'.

No Greater Sin

(*Melodrama*)

University Films production, presented by Edward A. Golden. States Rights release. Cast: Leon Ames, Luana Walters, Malcolm McTaggart, Adele Pierce, John Gallaudet, Guy Usher, Bodil Ann Rosing, Henry Roquemore, Frank Jaquet, Tristram Coffin, Lee Shumway, William Gould, Adelaide Whytal, J. Arthur Young, Jessie Arnold, Rolf Harolde. Producer, Jeffrey Bernerd. Director, William Nigh. Original story, Mary Ransone. Screenplay, Michael Jacoby. Film editor, Robert Golden. Phitography, Harry Neumann. Previewed June 16. Running time: 81 mins.

This is chiefly a vociferous preachment against neglecting the cure and prevention of venereal disease, embellished with a thin coating of dramaturgy to make the theme palatable. It can, however, be considered a topical contribution at this time, for the story revolves about deplorable conditions existing near an army camp and a small town whose population has been swollen away above normal by heavily increased defense work in the factories. The sociological importance of the subject dealt with, combined with public curiosity and interest in a problem which has been clouded in ignorance, overshadows the mild dramatic content of the production. Aside from a powerful courtroom sequence, it's a conventional recital about a young man, suffering from syphilis, who goes to a quack doctor for relief in order to effect a cure before his impending marriage. He gives up all his savings for medical fees. After marriage, with a baby coming, the boy discovers he has been duped; he had not been cured; and that he has unwittingly infected his wife. He kills the quack who imperiled his happiness, and rather than offer any testimony in his own defense which would necessitate revealing the nature of his own and his wife's affliction in public, prefers to accept the death penalty.

There is the inevitable struggle by friends to eliminate the sense of false shame and the boy finally comes through with the truth, bringing about an acquittal.

A film of this kind, tieing in pointedly with the defense effort and the additionally grave menace to the health of both army and civilian defense workers at this time, may well serve to awaken public opinion in many communities. The picture calls for open treatment of the probelm and stresses the dangers inherent in refusing to recognize it openly through a sense of hypocritical modesty. It's a finger-pointing crusade rather than entertainment, and a bit overlong for the spots intended for.

Several members of the cast contribute excellent performances, notably Leon Ames, as the cleanup health commissioner, Malcolm McTaggart, the male lead, Adele Pierce, as the wife, Rolf Harolde, as the vice king, and Luana Walters. Others in support are adequate.

Mickey Black Better

Report from Baltimore is that Mickey Black underwent a second operation by Dr. Walter E. Danby, noted brain specialist, at Johns Hopkins yesterday, with patient in fine shape last night.

D. O. Selznick Planes East on Capra Product Setup

David O. Selznick planed for New York last night by TWA to confer with Arthur Kelly and other United Artists executives on final details of the Selznick-Frank Capra production deal and probably to affix the binding signatures.

Selznick also will confer with Rose Franken, author of 'Claudia', who, together with her husband, William Brown Meloney, will come to Hollywood to write the screen script.

Conference, as well, is scheduled with Henry Luce, prominent in United China Relief, for which Selznick is chairman of Hollywood division.

FAIRBANKS, UA TRIAL UP (23)

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

ney Sol Rosenblatt, acting for the widow, Mrs. Sylvia Fairbanks, protested the UA bid on the grounds that it was an inadequate amount of money for the stock, and claimed that offer was a private one between the Guaranty Trust, Bank of America and United Artists. Rosenblatt asserted that the UA by-laws provide for the sale of a UA owner's stock at the book value plus 25%.

Rosenblatt claimed that the Fairbanks stock was worth from $800,000 to $1,250,000, against the UA offer to purchase at $100 per share, or $400,000. Attorney stated that, basing its value on the company's earnings for the past five years, it would be worth around $1,250,000, while basing it on dividends, plus 25%, would give it a value of $875,000, and that UA's earnings for the past year made the stock worth at least $800,000.

Trial had originally been set for tomorrow in probate court, but new developments caused it to be put over to Monday.

Edward Arnold Out On USO Benefits

Edward Arnold is in Frisco to address United Service Organizations meeting, and then proceeds to Denver for a talk before the Rotary convention on the drive to obtain funds for camp recreation through the USO.

In from the East

Richard Quine (TWA)
Lou Holtz (TWA)
Jean Hersholt (TWA)
Edgar Bergen (TWA)
Rev. Norman Vincent Peal and wife (SF)
Tom Lewis
Ben Selvin
Elmer Rice
Jimmy McHugh
Louis Bromfield

Heading East

William Scully
Harry Sherman (UA)
Charles S. Einfeld
Patrick Michael Cunning
David O. Selznick
Bill Heineman

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

HEDDA HOPPER will bio-dramatize the career of Richard Arlen for a week beginning (30) and Edgar Bergen for two weeks starting July 7. . . . Sheila Ryan, 20th-Fox player, will award the California State lightheavy title belt to the winner of tonight's bout between Pat Valentino and Oscar Rankins at the Olympic Auditorium. . . Ben Frommer, mimic, opened at the King's Club in Culver City. . . . Basil Rathbone has been tagged to speak at the official banquet of the 22nd biennial convention of the National Federation of Music Clubs on June 23 at the Ambassador. . . . Brian Donlevy yesterday left New York with Mrs. Donlevy for station wagon tour through New England to wind up vacation which brings player back here by train (25) to step into Paramount's 'The Remarkable Andrew.'

Universal's stunt of picking the ten 'most beautiful cowgirls in the world' will be switched from the Beverly Hills hotel to the studio. Alex Gottlieb, Arthur Lubin, Henry Clive, Nick Castle and Abbott and Costello will be the judges and the ten chosen go into 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'. Stunt comes off tomorrow.

MARY JO JAMES, formerly with the Seattle Repertory theatre, checked in at Warners yesterday under term contract she recently signed. . . . W. C. Fields off to Soboba Hot Springs to boil out before reporting to Universal after July 4 for 'Never Give a Sucker an Even Break.' . . . Sam Israel, Walter Ramsey and Dorothy Manners leave for Mexico City vacation at end of week. . . . Vincent Mahoney off to Ensenada for week's rest.

Dorothy Maguire, star of the stage play, 'Claudia', in New York, is used as model for illustration in July Red Book of another 'Claudia' character story written by Rose Franken. Play is recognizable in the drawings.

ROUBEN MAMOULIAN will be guest speaker today noon at the Southern California Motion Picture Council luncheon at the Beverly Wilshire. Director will address group on 'The Art of the Motion Picture'. . . . Sir Victor Sassoon paid a visit to the Goldwyn lot yesterday and indulged in his hobby of shooting 16mm. pictures of actors appearing in regular feature films, using Bette Davis and others in 'The Little Foxes' as subjects. He sails for Shanghai today, after a long Hollywood stay. . . . Harry Carroll opens his new Tin Pan Alley Night Club on Ventura Boulevard tomorrow night. . . . Mrs. Jack Runyon (Decla Dunning) returning to New York Thursday after a fortnight of assembling cinema features for national mags. . . . One thousand soldiers of the 15th Infantry, part of troops assigned to North American airplane, returning to Camp Hunter Liggett, yesterday toured 20th-Fox studios, in 10 truck convoys.

Guild Hands Counter Proposal To Disney In Strike Move

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

full Guild shop, and reinstatement of all employes as of May 15. The Disney offer called for an 80 or 90% Guild shop, and return of all workers except Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney unit of the SCG. Both sides have already agreed to appointment of an arbitration board to pass on all dismissals under the retrenchment plan of the studio.

In the counter proposal it was pointed out that Disney would have the right to hire outside creative artists even with a full Guild shop. The only requirement would be that the artist join the Guild within a specified time if he remained in the employ of the company. This provision is incorporated in all union and guild contracts.

A committee to work out a program of financial support for the striking cartoonists was named yesterday at a meeting of business representatives of 20 studio guilds and unions. Members of the committee are Dave Lory, Laboratory Technicians Local 683; Joseph Tuohy, Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399; Pat Somerset, Screen Actors Guild; L. C. Helm, Studio Utility Employes Local 724, and Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer.

Representatives attending the meeting yesterday included Joseph Tuohy and Ralph Clair, Studio Transportation Drivers Local 399; L. C. Helm, Studio Utility Employes Local 724; Al Speede, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 40; Dave Lory, Laboratory Technicians Local 683; Harold V. Smith, Sound Technicians Local 695; Herbert Aller, International Photographers Local 659; Cappy DuVal, Affiliated Property Craftsmen Local 44; William Barnett, Motion Picture Studio Grips Local 80; Zeal Fairbanks, Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727; Charles Ferguson, Motion Picture Set Electricians Local 728; William Edwards, Associated Motion Picture Costumers Local 705; Ben Koenig, Makeup Artists Local 706; Herbert Sorrell, Moving Picture Painters Local 644; C. J. Gillette, Musicians Local 47; John Swartz, Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165; Ben Martinez, Studio Plasterers Local 755; Pat Somerset, Screen Actors Guild; Michael Blankfort, Screen Writers Guild; Society of Motion Picture Film Editors, Edmund D. Hannan and John Lahners; Studio Carpenters Local 946, William Castle and J. N. Skelton; D. T. Wayne, Studio Machinists Local 1185; Ted Taylor, Screen Publicists Guild; Attorney George E. Bodle, Screen Office Employes Guild. Each local and its membership will be asked to pledge a definite amount to aid in financing the walkout.

Smith was in contact with Walt Disney last night, and it was believed that suggestions of Smith and Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, would eventually result in an amicable settlement. The SCG has expressed a willingness to participate in an election by the National Labor Relations Board, but the NLRB cannot act on such an election so long as charges remain on file in the Disney case. If an agreement is reached on other points, however, these charges could be withdrawn.

BOXING TONIGHT
State Light-Heavy Championship
Pat Valentino VS. Oscar Rankins
OLYMPIC
AUDITORIUM

Lease-Lend Can Help Pix

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

tively small amounts brought out under the two United States Embassy agreements, is frozen in England.

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PICTURES produced with American dollars form the backbone of the supply used in the English theatres. In order to keep up the morale of the English during this terrible crisis, entertainment is needed even more so than it has been in the past. Consequently, the film industry should be able to see that some of those billions of dollars that are being disbursed under the Lease-Lend bill should reach it, without penalty or cost to the English government.

The industry, therefore, should consolidate in a united effort to secure from the Lease-Lend fund an amount at least equal to its rightful currency that now is frozen in England.

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EVERY company, big and small, needs this money. The independent producer needs it particularly, because he must finance his future production, and cannot wait indefinitely for it until the freeze is over, without virtually wrecking his economic structure and possibly going out of business. For the banks that have been loaning production money on so-called residual values are gradually reaching the point where they will not advance any coin on foreign residuals.

There also are blocked currency conditions in many of the South American countries, as well as nothing being forthcoming from the Axis-controlled nations; but it is English money that represents the big blocked money.

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CONSEQUENTLY, a concerted drive should be made by the industry through the Lease-Lend bill to get most, if not all, of blocked coin in England, through an arrangement whereby the Motion Picture industry could get from the United States government in dollars, on the $4.00 to a pound basis, all frozen pounds. Then each of the English distributing agents of the American film companies could turn over to the British government all blocked or frozen pounds for which the dollars are paid out in this country.

Now is the time to take that action, before all of the Lease-Lend coin is doled out, and should the move prove successful the industry would be able to carry on and turn out bigger and better entertainment to help bolster the world during these trying times and stress.

—A. U.

Ill in Pix

NORMAN RIVKIN, formerly with Universal publicity department, was stricken with an acute attack of appendicitis while up from Camp Haan on leave, and was rushed to St. Vincent's hospital, where he was operated upon Sunday.

GRAHAM BAKER reported to his producer desk at RKO yesterday after an illness of 10 days with the flu, and resumes preparations on 'Valley of the Sun', which Horace McCoy is scripting.

BILLY WILLIAMS, RKO process cameraman, is ill at home with a nervous breakdown.

Story Buys

20th-Fox has bought 'The Yankee Ostrich', original yarn by George Wilcoxson, dealing with the first American lobbyist.

Bondeson Plans Musiker 'Sunev' At Frisco

San Francisco, June 16. — E. B. Bondeson plans to produce an intimate musical show entitled 'Sunev' ('Venus'), with book by Higgins More, New York playwright, and songs by Sterling Sherwin, of San Francisco. Bondeson, who resumes active production with 'Sunev', was director of musical shows for the Golden Gate Exposition and general manager for Henry Duffy and Clifford Fischer, among others.

Tom Lewis Here on Burns, Allen Airer

Tom Lewis, radio exec of Young & Rubicam, got in yesterday from New York to iron out the kinks in the deal which will bring Burns and Allen back to the air next fall under sponsorship of Swan soap.

Bob Hope Checks Out Tonight for Vacash And Toronto 'Cast

Bob Hope checks off for the summer after tonight's Pepsodent broadcast, resuming Sept. 24. He will give his replacement program, 'A Date With Judy', a sendoff on the finale by introducing Ann Gillis, who plays the title role in the family serial. Others of the cast so far set are Paul McGrath and Margaret Brayton. Script is being concocted by Jerry Schwartz and Aleen Leslie. Bill Lawrence produces.

Hope heads east tonight for a two-week vacation and Red Cross broadcast from Toronto (25). On his return he goes into 'Louisiana Purchase' at Paramount.

RWG Kicks on CBS Changeover to MCA

The Radio Writers Guild has adopted a resolution protesting transfer of the Columbia Artists Bureau by CBS to Music Corporation of America without obtaining the consent of air scripters affected. The resolution submitted to Donald W. Thornburgh, CBS Coast head, requests that RWG members be given the privilege of securing a release from Columbia Management before the deal is consummated.

Louise Campbell Set For Strawhatters

Louise Campbell will do several weeks of summer stock in the east, opening early in August at Erie Pa., in the starring role of 'Private Lives'. She follows this with a return three-week stand at Skowhegan, Me., breaking in a new show and appearing in two revivals.

Stevens Joins Osborne

Gil Stevens, pianist at the Grace Hayes Lodge, leaves the valley spot next week to join the Will Osborne orchestra when it opens at the Biltmore Bowl.

Ed. Loew Audition

Freeman Keyes, agency exes, last night auditioned a Marine turn with Edmund Loew and a standby for Victor McLaglen. Toothpaste outfit is interested.

Colbert, Ameche Luxer

Claudette Colbert and Don Ameche are bracketed in Lux broadcast Monday of 'Little Shop Around the Corner'.

Krafft Ends 'Bronc'

John Krafft has completed treatment on 'Buckin' Bronc', a Three Mesquiteers, at Republic.

Births

GIRL, weighing eight pounds, born to Mrs. Maury Holland at Good Samaritan Sunday. Father produces the Chase & Sanborn radio show.

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HOLLYWOOD + MIAMI BEACH
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No Minimum Except Fri. & Sat.
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Mona Maris Will Do Pair for Argentina Sono Film Co.

Mona Maris will leave for Buenos Aires as soon as she finishes in Warners 'Law of the Tropics.' Actress has signed a deal to make two pictures for the Argentina Sono Film Motion Picture Company and will also do some Pan-American goodwilling for the Whitney committee.

Jock Whitney plans to leave for South America some time in July and she will help to prepare the ground for the tour he will make.

Joe Fisher to Canada On British Benefits

Joe Fisher, indie distributor in Singapore, who has been in this country for several weeks, leaves today for Canadian points to stage benefits for the British War Relief fund. Fisher was advised by cable yesterday that 'Forty Thousand Horsemen', produced in Australia, with Universal distributing it worldwide, grossed $11,700 at the 1,560-seat Capital theatre in Singapore, where picture was put on last week for the benefit of the British War Relief. Betty Bryant, star of the film, flew from Sidney, Australia, to Singapore to be on hand for the performance. On the same night Fisher was staging a similar war relief benefit show in Santa Barbara.

Eight Members Named To Equity Council

New York, June 16.—At a special meeting of Actors Equity council this afternoon, eight members were named to that body, replacing those who resigned. Two vice-presidential posts vacated will be filled in the fall. New councillors are Walter Gilbert, Ben Smith, Evelyn Varden, Jose Ferrer, Donald Randolph, Robert Ross, Alexander Clark and Roy Roberts. Bert Lytell is due in Washington this week to arrange an investigation of the charges that reds dominate the council.

Morosco 'Basquerie'

Walter Morosco has been assigned at 20th-Fox to produce 'Basquerie', romance of the Basques in the Pyrenees by Eleanor Mercein. Lee Loeb and Harold Buchman will write the script.

Retakes

● Continued from page 2 ●

a personal appearance to step up the horsepower of 'Manpower.'

★ ★ ★

Competition among the neighborhood houses—Cosmetics Night and Ovenware Night. Cosmetics is an odds-on favorite, at least, among the fillies.

★ ★ ★

'Marry the Boss's Daughter' is not only a good film title but sound financial advice. Many a captain of industry has won his commission that way.

★ ★ ★

At dawn the farmer leaves his fields of hay
And spurs his iron steed at break of day
And hastens to the studio
To grab a lot of easy dough
Performing in a motion picture play.

WRITERS GUILD OK'S PACT WITH PRODUCERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

fixed at $125 per week after the contract has been in force for one year.

The minimum employment period for writers on a week-to-week basis and receiving up to $250 per week, will be two weeks. For those receiving more than $250 per week but less than $500, the minimum employment period will be one week.

For writers employed on 26 to 52 weeks' contract the layoff periods shall be in blocks of not less than three weeks, except when the layoff occurs at the end of the contract term.

CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The contract provides for appointment of a committee for conciliation and revision of the agreement, but its powers shall be limited to settlement of differences between the Producers and the Guild on provisions definitely included in the basic contract.

The right to arbitration is granted, with a proviso that the arbitrator shall be somebody other than the American Arbitration Society. It is understood the Producers objected to the selection of the Society.

Writers employed on a week-to-week basis and receiving $500 per week or less shall be entitled to one week's notice of contract cancellation if they have been employed for eight weeks. If they have been employed for 52 weeks the notice period of cancellation shall be two weeks.

The first option period for writers shall be at the end of three months, the second and third at the end of six months, and thereafter one year. This does not apply to options to do another picture, nor if the writer himself wants an extended layoff.

The Producers agreed to supply the writer with two copies of his contract, so that one may be filed with the Guild. Requests of the writers for separate contracts for studio, screen and radio work was denied.

$125 FOR ALL WRITERS

A minimum wage of $125 per week for all writers, including shorts, was agreed upon, to become effective within one year after signing the contract. In the meantime, any writer who has worked 52 weeks in the industry prior to signing of the contract will be immediately entitled to a minimum of $75 per week. Any writer who has worked 52 weeks in the industry prior to signing of the contract and has at least one screen credit shall be entitled to a minimum of $100 per week immediately. Any writer employed in the industry, but who has not worked 52 weeks, shall be credited with 50% of his employment time to be applied on the one-year writing period and he shall be entitled to a minimum of $75. Writers under contract will not be affected by the minimums.

The contingent payment clause was granted by the Producers in principle, provided payment is dependent upon the material being written at request of the Producers.

All flat deals for features under $1,500 are ruled out. Flat deals for westerns and action pictures must be for not less than $1,000. No minimum is fixed for flat deals for shorts except that they must not be for less than the minimum wage scale. There will be two option periods for flat deals, rather than three. One-third payment will be made upon submission of the treatment and the remainder on the acceptance of the story.

Vacations with pay were denied for writers receiving up to $200 per week, but it was agreed this question could be opened for arbitration at the end of three years. It also was agreed that a writer upon request must be notified of any other writers assigned to the same story he is working on.

Extra expenses for location work will be granted. The SWG is given the right to allocate screen credits, and is recognized as the sole bargaining representative for all writers in California.

REOPENING ANGLE

The seven year pact is subject to reopening after the first three years and thereafter at intervals of two years, for the question of revising flat deals, minimum wage and vacations with pay.

A standing committee is to be appointed by the two groups to handle any revisions in the screen credits that may come up.

It also was agreed that writers employed at a studio will have the right to attend sneak previews of pictures he has worked on.

The ownership of material written during layoff periods is not included in the contract, the Producers taking the position that there was no way of definitely determining whether the story was conceived when the writer was employed or while he was on layoff.

Action of the SWG of accepting the proposals eliminates any possibility of a writer strike. Attorneys for the Producers will now begin reducing the various provisions to contract form. It will then be submitted to counsel for approval before the two groups officially sign.

Duet for MacDonald

Betty Burbridge is developing original story, 'School Girl', at Solumbia for production supervision by Wallace MacDonald. Paul Yawitz is scripting 'Honolulu Lu', Lupe Velez vehicle, also for MacDonald's supervision.

'Caroline' Out (25)

General release date for RKO's Ronald Colman starrer, 'My Life With Caroline', has been set for (25). Picture will have pre-showing at Radio City Music Hall one week earlier.

WB Sets Releases

Warners has fixed release dates on 'Kisses for Breakfast', July 5; 'Manpower', July 12; 'Bullets for O'Hara', July 19, and 'Bad Men of Missouri', July 26.

Richard Quine at MG

Richard Quine, male lead from 'Sister Eileen', planed in from New York over the weekend to take up assignment at Metro.

Jack Warnock Cinch For Re-election As Local 644 Head

Jack Warnock will not be opposed for re-election as president of Moving Picture Painters Local 644. Other candidates nominated at the membership meeting last night are Ernest Hoffman, vice-prexy; Fred West, treasurer; Frank McLean, William Ball, Lamonte Thomas, Ralph Peckham, Elmer Rusk and Alex Sinel, financial secretary; Carl Head, recording secretary; George Stout, conductor; William Young, warden.

Howard Misner, Ernest Hoffman, Fred West and Adolph Friedman were the only nominees for delegates to the Painters District Council, assuring all of them for election. Three delegates to the national convention in Columbus, Ohio, in September, will be elected from the following nominees: Lamonte Thomas, George Hollinger, Ernest Hoffman, Jack Warnock, Herbert Sorrell, Howard Misner, Otto Geiser, William Pierce and William Ball. Herbert Sorrell does not have to stand for re-election as business representative, having recently had his term extended to three years.

Carmen Miranda Set For 'Hellzapoppin' Play

Carmen Miranda will be featured in Olsen and Johnson's 1942 stage version of 'Hellzapoppin', which will be produced on Broadway in the fall. Brazilian torcher is under personal contract to the two comedians, who will start the show when they finish their picture chores at Universal.

Neil Hamilton Assigned To Rep Serial

Neil Hamilton has second lead, a heavy, in Republic's serial, 'King of the Texas Rangers', starring the ex-gridder Sammy Baugh. Hamilton reports at studio July 2. He has been called back for one day's added scenes in RKO's 'Look Who's Laughing.'

Victor Moore Due Soon For 'Purchase' Pic

Victor Moore comes in from New York within two weeks and reports at Paramount to prepare to repeat his stage role in studio's picturization of 'Louisiana Purchase'. Only other member of the original cast so far slated to appear in the picture is Zorina.

Col Reties Wm. Castle

Option on William Castle, contracted several ways at Columbia, has been picked up for another year. He is currently directing dialog on 'Ladies in Retirement.'

Beatrice Roberts Lead

Beatrice Roberts gets the top role opposite Johnny Mack Brown in Universal's 'Arizona Cyclone', which starts today under the direction of Ray Taylor.

Horman Works 'Rio'

Arthur Horman has been assigned at Warners to work on the screenplay of 'Carnival in Rio', Technicolor musical starring Dennis Morgan.

Planck's 'Ladies'

Robert Planck will photograph Metro's 'When Ladies Meet'.

Special SPG Session Tonight on Closer Union Setup

A special membership meeting of the Screen Publicists Guild has been called for tonight to consider proposals calling for closer cooperation between film unions and guilds in handling negotiations with the Producers. A representative of the Screen Writers Guild will explain the allied setup being sponsored by the scriveners. A representative of the Screen Cartoonists Guild also will speak on the strike at the Walt Disney Studio.

George Thomas, SPG secretary, in his call for a special meeting, stated:

'Never before in the history of Hollywood labor, your executive committee believes, has there been greater need for collaboration and mutual action on the part of Hollywood guilds and unions, than there is at present. We feel we can no longer deny that the problems and actions of other guilds and unions have a direct effect on the Screen Publicists Guild. For this reason the executive committee has called a special membership meeting.'

Grace Hayes in Fight On Nitery Closing

Grace Hayes will appear today in the City Attorney's office to fight a move to have the dance license for her Lodge in San Fernando Valley cancelled. Miss Hayes will answer charge that the music and noise from her place disturbs neighboring property owners by offering letters from the Encino and North Hollywood Chambers of Commerce endorsing her Lodge, as well as other testimonials from groups of citizens in the valley. Complaint was the result of a petition by the Midway Hotel, on one side of the Lodge and by Carrie Perkins, property owner, on the other side. Miss Hayes has operated her place for the past three years without previous complaints, she said.

ADAIR OFFERS

No. 1—So. of Ventura and 10 minutes from Hollywood. Three wooded acres shut off from the world by its own private gate at the dead-end of a paved road. Nestled in the hills, yet all of the ground is surprisingly level. A lovely little home, lending itself to the Valley's informality. Guest house, servants quarters, 6-car garage. Total price $17,500, or owner will consider dividing.

No. 2—Level acre knoll with modern 8 room ranch house, So. of Ventura. Patios and planting cost several thousand dollars. Today's price: $9,450.

No. 3—Today's best buy is a garden acre with an almost new small home. Drive by 13138 Magnolia, but do not disturb the tenants. $4,950. The grounds alone are worth $3,500.

No. 4—2 bedroom furnished cottage at Lake Arrowhead, $1,500—terms.

Closed Sundays

WM. C. ADAIR
12518 Ventura Blvd.
STUDIO CITY
STanley 71742 or SU-20256

Today's Inglewood Consensus

	LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1	Sundria Magic Mab Hillfilly	Sundria Rhetoric Magic Mab	Sundria Par Play Radio C'sade	Sundria Magic Mab Radio C'sade	Sundria Magic Mab Hillfilly	Sundria Radio C'sade Hillfilly
2	Red & White Wise Green'k Jubilo	Jubilo Scotch Bread Gold Trophy	Scotch Bread Jubilo Gold Trophy	Scotch Bread Jubilo Wise Green'k	Gold Trophy Scotch Bread Red & White	Lucia's Sun Jubilo Mask and Wig
3	Count Dean Accordion Tonas	Count Dean Tonas First Choice	Tonas Count Dean Foxster	Tonas Count Dean Fervorita	Fervorita Count Dean Tonas	Foxster Count Dean Tonas
4	Congressman Only Girl Commendable	Congressman Only Girl Count Chat	Congressman Only Girl Commendable	Congressman Only Girl Commendable	Patriotic Congressman Count Chat	Only Girl Commendable Patriotic
5	Slappy Kekawaka Taj	Kekawaka Slappy Taj	Slappy Kekawaka Rita Osuna	Rita Osuna Scotch Strait Slappy	Slappy Rita Osuna Scotch Strait	Slappy Rita Osuna Taj
6	Orra Max Forst Black Bread	Orra Uallno Don Grafton	Orra Don Grafton Uallno	Orra Galvale Stringalong	Orra Don Grafton Stringalong	Black Bread Orra Parmenarch
7	Wing & Wing Argonne W'ds Jeff's Pride	Wing & Wing Mad Sue Argonne W'ds	Mad Sue Wing & Wing Arjac	Wing & Wing Arjac Argonne W'ds	Wing & Wing Arjac Mad Sue	Jeff's Pride Wing & Wing Mad Sue
8	Cargador High Strike Be Quaint	Cargador High Strike Be Quaint	Be Quaint Hasten Henry Cargador	Hasten Henry High Strike Cargador	Cargador Be Quaint Little Long	Cargador Hasten Henry Delmarie

SDG Revisions Up at Prod. Session (25)

Demands of the Screen Directors Guild for contract revisions will be taken up Wednesday (25) at a meeting between Producers and Guild representatives. The Producer negotiating committee headed by Y. Frank Freeman has called in Moe Siegel because of his familiarity with the proposals submitted by the Guild. These proposals call for minimum salaries for directors on small budget pictures, 90% Guild shop, etc.

'Mr. Bug' Tunes Taken By Famous Corp.

Five tunes from 'Mr. Bug Goes to Town', the Fleischer feature-length cartoon being produced for Paramount, will be published by Famous Music Corp. Numbers are 'We're the Couple in the Castle', 'I'll Dance at the Wedding', 'Katy-Did, Katy-Didn't', all by Hoagy Carmichael and Frank Loesser, and 'Boy, Oh Boy' and 'Be My Little Baby Bumble Bee', both by Sammy Timberg.

Jane Withers 'Deb' as 1st Under New Pact

'Small Town Deb' will be Jane Withers first picture at 20th-Fox under her new seven year contract. Ethel Hill is writing the screen play from an original by Jerry Walters. Succeeding picture for Miss Withers will be 'Young America', a yarn based on the 4-H Clubs of juve farmers. Sam Engel is writing original screen play.

Blake's 'Selectmen'

The controversy over the cognomen for 'Draftees' and 'Selectees' may be ended with Charlie Blake's latest original, 'Selectmen', using an old New England term. Story is strictly comedy version of pair of hoofing draftees who break all records in a vain attempt to be drafted. Lou Irwin is matching bids from two studios.

Tim Holter Goes (19)

'Riding the Wind', third of the Tim Holt westerns for next season, goes into production Thursday at RKO from the Bernard McConville original scripted by Earl Snell.

Fessier's 'Marriage'

Michael Fessier yesterday was signed by Universal to work on the screenplay of 'Marriage of Inconvenience', which William Seiter will produce and direct.

Obituary

IRENE FRANKLIN

Irene Franklin, former stage and screen star, died yesterday in Englewood, N. J., following a stroke suffered late last week. Miss Franklin, who admitted being 57 years old, was listed in the theatrical Who's Who as 65. She spent her last days in the Actors Fund Home in Englewood.

Starting her career on the stage as a child, Miss Franklin, a native of St. Louis, made her last appearance in a film entitled 'Saratoga', in which Jean Harlow was starred. As a tot she appeared in such productions as 'Editha the Burglar', 'Fire Patrol', 'Immigrant', 'Chris and Lena', 'Prodigal Father' and 'Shore Acres'.

When she was about 10, Miss Franklin toured the London music halls, and later played the Australian and American vaudeville circuits. Her first broadway appearance was in 'The Orchid' in 1907. 'Summer Widow', 'Hands Up' and 'Passing Show of 1917' were some of her others.

EMMA SADLER

Funeral services were conducted yesterday at Pierce Brothers Chapel for Mrs. Emma Sadler, 66, formerly part of the Sadler dance team composed of herself and Charles Sadler, her husband. Interment followed in Inglewood cemetery. The Sadlers toured the country from coast to coast for many years, their last appearance being at Paris Inn. Mrs. Sadler, who died June 14, is survived by her husband, Charles R. Sadler, and a daughter, Zola Morgigno.

Father of William Horsley, of Hollywood Film Enterprises, and the late David Horsley, film pioneer, Robert Horsley died in Sunland Sunday at the age of 94. Funeral services will be held today at the L. G. Scovern Mortuary, Glendale, followed by interment at Forest Lawn.

RKO, Pommer Settle Their Difficulties

Dispute between RKO and Erich Pommer has been settled and the producer returned to his desk at the studio yesterday to await a new assignment following a lengthy illness caused by heart trouble. Studio has had its suit for declaratory relief filed in Superior court, to determine whether illness clause pact could be enforced, dismissed after getting together with the producer.

Irene Hervey Femme Lead in 'Clipper'

Irene Hervey has been assigned by Universal to the femme lead in 'Bombay Clipper', opposite William Gargan. Completed cast for picture to start Wednesday under direction of John Rawlings includes Charles Lang, Maria Montez, Cissie Loftus, Truman Bradley, Rich Davis, Lloyd Corrigan, Turhan Bey. Marshall Grant is associate producer.

Bert Wheeler East on Personal Chores

Bert Wheeler started by motor for New York last night to begin five weeks of personal appearances. He opens at Loew's State, New York, June 26, then plays week in Washington, two in Baltimore and winds up at Atlantic City. Leo Fitzgerald handled the bookings.

RKO Switches Lensers

RKO has switched camera assignments on 'Weekend for Three' and 'Unexpected Uncle', with Russell Metty remaining on the former film instead of taking over 'Uncle' as originally planned. Robert de Grasse gets the camera spot on the latter picture.

Open New Agency

Charles Seiter and George DeNormand opened agency on the Strip to handle directors, players and writers. Both agents had been on their own for some time.

Set Morgan Wallace

Morgan Wallace has been signed at Metro for a supporting role in 'Honky-Tonk' through the Beyer-MacArthur agency.

VACATION TIME IS HERE!
For an ideal summer vacation—fishing, boating, swimming and horse back riding.
MOWITZA LODGE Greenough, Montana
Owned and operated by THELMA WERTHEIMER of the COLONIAL HOUSE, Palm Springs, Calif.
For Reservations call HI 0600

RKO FIRST TO ANNOUNCE BLOCK-OF-5 SET TO SELL

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Devil and Daniel Webster', now being completed, and 'Before the Fact', already finished. First, produced and directed by William Dieterle, has Edward Arnold, Walter Huston, James Craig, Anne Shirley, Jane Darwell and Simone Simon in the leads. In 'Before the Fact', made by Alfred Hitchcock, Cary Grant and Joan Fontaine co-star. 'Father Takes a Wife' is the third of the five, bringing Gloria Swanson back to the screen with Adolphe Menjou, Desi Arnaz, John Howard, Helen Broderick and Florence Rice.

'Parachute Battalion', with Robert Preston, Nancy Kelly, Edmond O'Brien and Harry Carey, and 'Lady Scarface', featuring Dennis O'Keefe, Frances Neal and Judith Anderson, complete RKO's initial block of five.

Opening session was called to order by Ned E. Depinet, vice-president. In addition to branch managers, top salesmen and office managers from each exchange, all district and division managers were on hand. Representing the studio in addition to Prexy George J. Schaefer were Reginald Armour, Joseph I. Breen, J. R. McDonough, Perry Lieber, and Producers William Dieterle, Charles L. Glett, Herbert Wilcox, Orson Welles and Max Kravatz. Guests included W. G. Van Schmus and Gus Eyssell of Radio City Music Hall, and Jack Pegler of the Lord & Thomas agency.

Approximately 150 members of National Screen Service, now holding its national convention here, were invited to attend today's product announcement, and also to be guests at a luncheon. Early business of the RKO convention included the screening of the first block-of-five features for the 1941-42 program at the Trans-Lux theatre. Complete program for next year will be announced at the Tuesday session.

New members of the RKO sales staff who have joined the organization since the last convention were introduced by Depinet. List of promotions revealed that every advancement since the 1940 convention has been made from within the company's ranks.

Short subject program for 1941-42 was announced. There will be 16 featurets, comprising the program of two-reel comedies and musicals offered by the company.

There will be six comedies starring Edgar Kennedy, six Leon Errol vehicles and four comedy musicals starring Ray Whitley. Bert Gilroy will produce all of the 16 two-reelers.

Gilroy announced that two of the Kennedy comedies, 'I'll Fix It Myself' and 'Westward Ho-Hum', have been completed, also two of the Whitley musicals. They are 'California or Bust' and another to be titled. Two of the Errol scripts are ready for shooting.

Einfeld Goes East For H.O. Confabs

Charles Einfeld, Warners ad and publicity chief, heads for New York toward end of week to hold series of home office conferences. Will work on plans for company's annual sales meet, also on opening plans for 'Sergeant York', which starts roadshowing at Astor theatre either July 4 or 11. Other roadshowings will be Chicago, Hollywood, Nashville and Philadelphia, where Veterans of Foreign Wars convention will be held; Milwaukee during American Legion convention, and Asbury Park, Atlantic City, and other seashore resorts. Picture will be released in late fall. Einfeld will be east for about four weeks.

With the opening of 'Sergeant York', Warners also will open 'Manpower' the same day at the Strand in New York. One week later, July 12, a third of the studio's important pictures, 'The Bride Came C.O.D.', will go into another New York house.

'Manpower' will be put into national release on August 12.

PICTURESQUE COTTAGE FOR RENT

Beautifully situated in lovely Encino. 3 bedroms, 3 baths, maid's room and bath, 2 garages. Furnished or unfurnished. Use of excellent tennis court. **For appointment call GRanite 0431.**

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Universal)

'Arizona Cyclone'
Dir.: Ray Taylor
Asst.: Charles Gould

Henry Fonda Topper For WB 'Animal' On 20th Loanout

Warners yesterday borrowed Henry Fonda from 20th-Fox to play the top role in 'The Male Animal', the Broadway legiter which the Burbank studio will put before the cameras in August. Priscilla Lane will co-star with Fonda.

Elliott Nugent, who was co-author of the play with James Thurber, has been signed to direct the picture.

U's 'Navy' Holdover Seen at Pan - RKO

Universal's 'In the Navy', featuring Abbott and Costello with Dick Powell, likely will be held for a third week at the RKO and Pantages theatres. Comedy is breaking records at the day-date houses on its initial week and already has been set for a second stanza, with a third probable. Opus likely will break $32,000 on its first seven days.

Print Situation Easing Up Here On F-WC Move

Print situation is starting to ease up substantially in many of the local film exchanges, due to embargo on tagging recently set up by Fox West Coast. As a result a number of the distributing organizations are already starting to get extra prints on some of their outstanding pictures, and more are expected to follow suit during the next few months.

F-WC has decreed that hereafter tagging or bicycling of prints will cease so far as their theatres are concerned. Ultimatum issued by the circuit puts it squarely up to the various exchanges to supply a sufficient number of prints to take care of bookings, and will put an end to the practice of tagging one print between two or three theatres, as has been done hereabouts for a number of years.

Under the new setup it is the plan of F-WC to have a sufficient number of prints from the exchanges to take care of all bookings, and each house is to be provided with an individual print, thereby eliminating the time, worry and expense caused by bicycling between houses, sometimes five miles or more apart.

GRAND OPENING TONIGHT

Earl Carroll's NEW SHOW
"SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT"

"DOC" ROCKWELL
BORRAH MINEVITCH'S RASCALS
THINK-A-DRINK HOFFMAN
BUSTER SHAVER with OLIVE and GEORGE
BERYL WALLACE THE DEBONAIRS
ST. CLAIR and DAY GENE SHELDON
BARNEY GRANT BILL BRADY
INA HAYWARD MADELYN MEREDITH
MORINE HOWELL • MARIE WILSON • BERNICE SMITH
LESTER HORTON DANCERS
MANNY STRAND and CHUY REYES BANDS
60 MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRLS IN THE WORLD

Costumes and Scenery by Jean LeSeyeux
Ensembles by Larry Ceballos • Ballet by Lester Horton
Music and Lyrics by Ray Gilbert and Bobby O'Brien

NO INCREASE IN PRICE
$3.00 Includes DINNER

MARCEL LAMAZE CUISINE

Earl CARROLL THEATRE
SUNSET near VINE ★ HOllywood 7101
MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

PCC Committee Told Of Plans To Erase Dual Practice

Samuel Goldwyn yesterday told a committee representing the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners that he was 100% in favor of the elimination of dual feature programs and that he could be depended upon to use his every influence in the restoration of single bills to the theatres of the nation.

A meeting was held in the Goldwyn offices, attended by the producer and Reeves Espy, with Bob White of Portland, Ned Calvi and Bob Poole of Los Angeles. White functioned in the absence of L. O. Lukan of Seattle, who is leading the exhibitor fight on the Pacific coast for the elimination of dual bills.

'Beggar' at Pasadena as Festival Opener

Pasadena Community Playhouse opens its seventh annual midsummer drama festival Monday (23) with 'The Beggar on Horseback'. Playhouse will stage eight comedies during the eight-week period. Regular Playhouse season closed Saturday (21) with the run of 'Manana Is Another Day.' Stephen Howard, Ellanora Needles, Regan McCasey, June Evans, Peggy Noonan and John Hoffstadt head the cast of the George S. Kaufman play, 'The Beggar', under the direction of Frank Ferguson.

Parker on 'Danger'

Norton S. Parker is set at RKO to do the screenplay on 'Come On Danger', one of the 1941-42 Tim Holt westerns which Bert Gilroy will produce. Writer was set by William Herndon and story will be a rewrite of a picture done by George O'Brien on the lot several years ago.

Ellis Advises 'Reap'

Capt. Fred Ellis has been retained by Cecil B. DeMille to act as technical advisor on ships and nautical customs of 100 years ago for 'Reap the Wild Wind', Paramount Technicolor production.

Treat 'Bad Angels'

Robert Lees and Fred Rinaldo have been signed by Sol Siegel, executive producer at Paramount, to write treatment on the story, 'Two Bad Angels'. Deal set by Paul Kohner.

Kuller, Fimberg Direct

Sid Kuller and Hal Fimberg are directing 'Jump for Joy', all-Negro musical revue starring Duke Ellington, which opens at the Mayan July 10.

Title Changes

Warners 'Two Steps to Heaven' to 'Here Come the Girls'.

Warners 'La Bahiana' to 'Carnival of Rhythm'.

FOR CHARTER

For summer season or longer; 106-foot schooner with two launches; four double staterooms with individual lavatories; owner's bathroom and guest toilet. . . . Owner furnishes Captain, Engineer and complete crew of five.

OL. 2981

Biz Reps of 10 IA Locals Confer on Wages Today

■ Continued from page 1 ■

the Makeup Artists headquarters to consider a Constitution and By-Laws for the Federation of Locals, which has advised the Producers they will handle their own negotiations without aid or interference from the IATSE International. There also has been some talk of the locals trying to block an International resolution which provides that funds of the organization may be used to defend suits or other court actions against the IATSE or its officers. They said this resolution would permit the funds of the organization to be used to foot the expense of defending George E. Browne, IATSE prexy, and Willie Bioff, who are facing trial on charges of extorting $550,000 from four major picture companies.

Duke Clark to Name Variety Clubs Group

Duke Clark, Paramount branch manager, has been delegated to name a committee to apply to national officials of Variety Clubs for permission to establish a Southern California tent. The proposal was discussed last night at a meeting of exchange men, theatre men, studio executives, etc., presided over by John H. Harris, national head of the organization.

Seattle Park Head Kills Off Jive

Seattle, June 16.—There will be no swing music at Seattle park concerts this summer. This edict was handed down by B. S. Lafferty, head of the park board music committee, when queried as to whether there would be any jive played by Jackie Souders' orchestra which has the contract for the summer concerts. Souders has had a dance band around Seattle for several years but the concerts of straight concert music, interspersed by popular numbers, will be played by a 30-piece band.

Bromfield Goes Home

Louis Bromfield has left for his Ohio home after talking over his screen play assignment on 'For Whom the Bell Tolls', the Ernest Hemingway novel, with Paramount executives. Bromfield will work for a time at his home but plans frequent trips to the studio for confabs. Picture is slated to be put before the cameras in October by Sam Wood.

Pete Smither Rolls Mon.

Pete Smith's fifth Quiz short Specialty starts production next Monday, having been shoved ahead of 'How to Hold Your Husband—Back.' Joseph Ansen is finishing script.

'Whistling' in Work

Metro put into production yesterday 'Whistling in the Dark', featuring Red Skelton, Ann Rutherford, Virginia Grey and Conrad Veidt. S. Sylvan Simon is directing.

Art Schmidt Leaves

Art Schmidt, in charge of publicity for Loew's in New York, heads east tomorrow after conferences at Metro studio on summer and fall product.

Hernandez Again

Walter Lantz has engaged Joe Hernandez to narrate untitled race track animated cartoon for Universal release.

Young on 'Avenger'

Universal has signed Clarence Upson Young to develop his own original story, 'The Phantom Avenger.'

In Hiding

At insistence of Olsen and Johnson, Joe McDonough, vet Universal assistant director, will have to wear a gorgeous read headpiece with a marcel wave over his partially bald topper during the entire filming of 'Hellzapoppin'.'

20th Sets Combers on Eastern Strawhats

Summer stock houses in New England and east will be covered thoroughly by 20th-Fox talent scouts this season. Joe Holton will look in on the strawhatters in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Charles Goetz similarly will scan houses in Pennsylvania, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maryland. Ivan Kahn will cover the West Coast, as usual.

Marcia Ralston Given 'Americanos' Lead

Marcia Ralston draws the femme lead for Universal's 'The Americanos', first of the studio's seven for next season starring Dick Foran, Leo Carrillo and Andy Devine. Picture starts tomorrow under the direction of William Nigh.

WB 'Heaven' Lensing

Casey Johnson, Elisabeth Risdon and Ernest Cossart are the latest additions to Warners 'One Foot in Heaven', which started shooting yesterday under direction of Irving Rapper. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, New York clergyman, checked in as technical advisor.

'Blind' at Alhambra

'Flying Blind', next of the Pine-Thomas productions for Paramount, starts work tomorrow on location at Alhambra airport under the direction of Frank McDonald. Troupe then moves to the Baldwin estate for exteriors Thursday and Friday.

Wm. Scully Breezes

William Scully, Universay general sales manager, who has been here for the past 10 days, planes out today for New York. He has been here conferring with Nate Blumberg, Cliff Work and studio producers.

Ben Selvin Here

Ben Selvin, vice-prexy of Associated and Muzak films, arrived in town yesterday to spend a week or more here discussing next season's product and to arrange distribution matters.

Chapman, Parsons East

Tedwell Chapman and Chauncey Parsons finished their play 'Careers Are Funny People' and leave for NY (23) to produce it for Broadway.

All Columbia Pix Now Filming Are On Locations

Columbia currently has six pictures now in production, all on location, while set construction for forthcoming features is underway at the studio.

'You'll Never Get Rich' is filming at the B. P. Schulberg studios; 'Woman of Desire' at RKO-Pathe; 'Ladies in Retirement' at Roach, and 'The Blonde From Singapore', 'Texas', and 'The Medico Rides' at the Columbia ranch.

Lawton Group Seeking Dakota Locales

Jack Lawton, Universal's location manager, Ray Taylor, who will direct sound unit, and Charles Gould, assistant director, planed to South Dakota to look for locations for 'Badlands of Dakota'. Group expects to locate virgin territory for picture which will use Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and General George Custer amongst characters for big western.

Evergreen Seeks Preem Of 20th's 'Geese'

The Evergreen Circuit in the Pacific Northwest is dickering with 20th-Fox for world premiere on 'Wild Geese Calling', picture backgrounded in that section, as nucleus for a proposed Greater Movie Week in September. Circuit also wants several important film names for the occasion.

'Underground' Solos

Warners 'Underground' will be single-billed at Warners Hollywood and Downtown theatres when the picture is released. Experiment is being tried to determine whether single billing may hold up in other situations.

Phillip Terry Set

Phillip Terry gets one of the top male assignments in 'The Remarkable Andrew' at Paramount, joining William Holden, Ellen Drew and Brian Donlevy in the cast.

Planted

Metro

Tom Stevenson, Grace Stafford, 'Dr. Kildare'.

Ralph McCullough, 'Ringside Maisie'.

Ralph Peters, Eddie Gribbon, Syd Saylor, Harry Semels, Frank Mills, 'Honky-Tonk'.

Byron Shores, Robert Homans, Ralph Byrd, 'Hardy Family'.

20th-Fox

Brandon Tynan, 'Marry the Boss's Daughter', by Beyer-MacArthur.

Columbia

Harry Gould, Joel Friedkin, 'Texas'.

HARRY CARROLL'S
TIN PAN ALLEY CAFE
11915 Ventura Blvd.
Opening WEDNESDAY, June 18
2 Shows Nightly: 9:30, 11:30
For Reservations Phone SU. 13400
NO COVER DINNER $1.50

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 32 No. 10 43 Hollywood, California, Thursday, June 19, 1941 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

IA UNIONS NIX 8-HOUR DAYS

UNIONS SET BIG KITTY AT DISNEY

With efforts to mediate the Walt Disney controversy held up by the absence of Walt Disney, who is attending the RKO convention in New York, a committee of union leaders announced last night that $6,000 to $10,000 weekly will be raised to finance the Screen Cartoonists Guild walkout. Plans for the financial drive will be completed today at a meeting of the committee appointed by

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Alfred de Liagre Signed For S. B. Strawhats

Alfred de Liagre, Jr., Broadway legit producer and director, has been signed by David O. Selznick to direct the plays to be put on by the Hollywood Summer Theatre at Lobero. De Liagre, Jr. will be associated with John Housman, managing director of Lobero, in presenting the summer schedule, opening July 23. He arrives from New York Friday.

Macdonald Carey Splits Lead for 'Darling'

Macdonald Carey, leading man to Gertrude Lawrence in the Broadway play, 'Lady in the Dark', makes his film bow in Paramount's 'Take a Letter, Darling', sharing top roles with Fred MacMurray. Carey was signed to term contract by Paramount some months ago but remained with play until last Saturday. He reports here July 1.

'Hellzapoppin' Castings

Sally Bond, Katherine Wilson and Marguerite Bacon, members of the 'Hellzapoppin' cast, arrive today on the UP Challenger from New York for a brief vacation before starting picture work.

PREVIEWED

UNDERGROUND
(WB)

THE MEDICO OF PAINTED SPRINGS
(Col)

(Previews on page 3)

RETROACTIVE PAY MULLED BY EXECS, LABOR TOPS

Major studio executives and attorneys spent several hours last night discussing methods of arriving at the amount of retroactive pay due hundreds of film workers since the Wage-Hour Law became effective in 1938. Pat Casey and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contacts, sat in on the huddle. While company auditors already are checking the payrolls, there has been some difference of opinion as to what period constitutes a work week, how to compute the time of an employe who works part of a week on location and the remainder at a studio, etc.

HINT COURT ACTION IF PARLEY FAILS

Joint negotiating committees representing 10,000 film technicians in the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes last night turned thumbs down on the requests of Producers for an eight-hour day, five-day week. It was stated that when negotiations are resumed today with Pat Casey and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contacts, the unions will insist on retaining the current six-hour day and will demand a minimum six-hour call.

The unionists branded the eight-hour day proposal as a move by

★ Continued on page 6 ★

TRAMMELL HITS FCC IN SENATE HEARING

Washington, June 18.—Insinuations that Columbia and NBC are footie-footie provoked an irate complaint today from Niles Trammell, NBC president, who told the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee the Federal Communications Commission's anti-monopoly rules threaten 'the worst domination' that could be inflicted on radio. Order directing NBC to unload the Blue web will deprive the public of many valuable programs and jeopardize the company's entire operating structure, Trammel yelped. Idea that anybody

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	129
Major Studio Calls	277
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	406

David Rose Delayed On Clipper Trip

New York, June 18.—David Rose, Paramount's manager in Great Britain, has been delayed in Lisbon by failure of the Clipper to take off en route to New York. He is due in New York for home office huddles and delay will set back his arrival several days.

Gilpin Leaves Col

Joe Gilpin, production manager at Columbia, yesterday announced his resignation, to be effective the middle of July. He has been with Columbia for the past two years. He will take an extensive vacation, with no announced plans as to the future.

ARNOLD REVIEWS WORK OF PIX FOR DEFENSE

Denver, June 18.—Speaking at the annual convention of Rotary International Clubs here today on 'The Other Side of Hollywood', Edward Arnold, prexy of the Screen Actors Guild, reviewed the Defense Program work being done by the industry, and then directed his remarks toward closer cultural relations with Latin American countries. He said:

'The Motion Picture Society For the Americas was established by the Office of Co-ordination of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the American Republics. Its direc-

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

HOOFERS ASK $75 FOR WK.

Hundreds of film dancers have banded together, and announce they will not accept studio calls for less than $15 per day, or $75 per week when employed on a weekly basis. Led by a former checker for one of the actor groups, the hoofers declare they will not work in the current

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

RKO Seeks Chas. Vidor For Laughton Pic

RKO is dickering with Charles Vidor to direct the Charles Laughton picture, 'Three Rogues', if loan from Columbia and availability can be arranged. Sam and Bella Spewack have completed the screen play, from the Ferenc Molnar play, 'The Play's the Thing', which will be a Graham Baker production. Vidor presently is piloting 'Ladies in Retirement', a Lester Cowan production at Columbia.

20th After Gable

20th-Fox is dickering with Metro for Clark Gable's services in 'Rise and Shine', a picture with military training background. Don Ameche and Jan Clayton have already been set for roles.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—Mad Crusader
Winsome Lady
Gracilis
2d RACE—Southern Belle
Nony G.
Brown Splash
3d RACE—Fly the Coop
Gold Sun
Jay Stevens
4th RACE—Chief Nadi
Jubilo
Rock X.
5th RACE—Cold Weather
Opening Bid
Boeing entry
6th RACE—The Puma
Timberland
Tommy Whelan
7th RACE—WILDEBEEST
Valley Boy
Get On
8th RACE—West Acre
Patan
Dasco

CHANCE BET—Dinti (6th)
Selections consensus, page 6.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

RKO's 'Tom, Dick and Harry' getting a July 4th release.

Michael Curtiz planed in yesterday from five-day stay in New York.

Ralph Spence has registered the title 'From Rags to Rhythm' with the Hays office.

Irvin Stalmaster has been appointed director of Labor Relations Consultants, Inc.

William Demarest studying Spanish, from a book, during lulls on Paramount set.

Frederick Hollander will do music score on Columbia's 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town'.

Laura Lee of the Philadelphia Bulletin on stopover on return from vacation in Tahiti.

Robert Coryell, radio head of Berg-Allenberg agency, goes east tomorrow on fall deals.

Lowell Farrell is assistant director to Zoltan Korda on 'Jungle Book'. Robert Coburn still lenser.

Joseph Walker will handle camera on Wesley Ruggles' production, 'You Belong to Me', at Columbia.

Harry Babbitt, vocalist with Kay Kyser's band, planed to St. Louis last night for the funeral of his brother.

Charlie Chaplin was a guest at the Black-Foxe school yesterday to celebrate the 16th birthday of his son, Charles, Jr.

Fred MacMurray spends next six weeks fishing in Wisconsin and adjoining states. His home town is Beaver Dam, Wis.

Robert Rosson has left for a month's vacation in Maine after finishing the script on 'New Orleans Blues' at Warners.

Eddie (Rochester) Anderson leaves on his 10-week personal appearance tour after finishing in Paramount's 'Birth of the Blues'.

Chico Marx is in Fort Sill, Okla., today to stage a one-man show for the soldiers. Phil Regan goes to Fort Riley, Kan., Saturday (21) for an appearance at the army post.

David O. Selznick's Mexican talent group, the Five Panchos and Panchito, arrived yesterday from Guadalajara to start their term contract with the Selznick organization. Star of the outfit is Panchito, 11-year-old singer.

Benny the Gouge sez—When you see a gal speeding through traffic signals at Hollywood and Vine with her hair streaming in the wind, you wonder why her grandma was afraid of a mouse.

Hollywood Inside

ORSON WELLES, in one of his few recent appearances, yesterday was guest speaker before the Hollywood Women's Press Club at the Vine Street Brown Derby, and took a few hefty swings at producers and agents. 'The agent', Welles said, 'takes 10 per cent from the actor, then he goes to the producer and tries to intimidate him. Nothing happens. Who could intimidate a producer around Hollywood? Or the agent insults the producer. Then you're worse off than ever.' Speaker said that 'producers are the silent men who have nothing to say. In other words, they produce pear-shaped tones.' Welles declared that the theatre is dying and that the films would be all right if the medium was returned to writers, directors and technicians. Sidelight of the meeting was that Peggy McEvoy, member of the Club, brought her husband, J. P. McEvoy, along as a guest. Meetings are supposed to be strictly for the gals, but McEvoy brazened it out, taking notes as Welles spoke. Club leaders talk darkly of punitive action against Mrs. McEvoy, as their meetings bar attendance of all journalists in a professional capacity.

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ICE SKATERS in the roadshow company of 'Ice-Capades', which Republic is filming as a special production, didn't lose any time to get wise to Hollywood angles. Studio had planned an elaborate set on which the chorus skaters would come sliding down a high chute on to the rink, along with Dorothy Lewis and other principals and specialty acts. Chorus skaters said it would be all right with them—if the studio kicked through with stuntmen pay checks. Production number ended up with the principals and specialties only sliding down the chute while the chorus made their appearance from the wings.

☆ ☆ ☆

COLUMBIA intends to continue the frontier doctor character established by Charles Starrett in the first of a series, titled 'The Medico of Painted Springs', through three more solo starrers and into the group of eight co-starrers with Russell Hayden on the 1941-42 program. Jack Fier produced the first, just previewed, but William Berke, who has the next two in preparation, will continue as producer on the series. Character of the doctor-in-the-saddle was created by James L. Rubel in his book, 'The Medico of Painted Springs.'

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THE Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation has set up a circuit for a new army show, comprising some of the names who went up to Camp Hunter Liggett and Ford Ord last weekend, with a few others replacing those who are dropping out. The new unit is scheduled to play Camp Callan, June 27; Camp Haan, June 28; San Luis Obispo, June 29; Camp McQuade, June 30; Hamilton Field, July 1. Cast of revamped company has not yet been definitely set.

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STARTING date on 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', next of the Abbott and Costello comedies at Universal, is being shoved back one week to June 30 so further story polishing, casting and set construction can be done. Plans to interview swimming cowgirls to pick 10 for the picture were again postponed yesterday until next week and call may be eventually cancelled entirely as the script changes being made could write them completely out of the film.

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PRODUCER who formerly released through RKO was responsible for spreading of the rumor that Joe Breen would take over the Will Hays job instead of joining RKO. Chap spread it in spots that he knew would reach trade papers with result that one fell for his blarney. About week ago Breen had the RKO job in his palm when he appeared before the company directors at a meeting in New York.

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PLANS of the Producers to make an unemployment insurance test case of extras who refuse to accept $5.50 calls were abandoned yesterday when the Muriel Bower case was washed up. Miss Bower stated she was notified by Leon Levy, head of the Producer legal group, that the protest had been withdrawn against her unemployment insurance claim.

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'MR. SMART ALEC', whose identity is being shielded, will stand off a board of question tossers in a series starting Monday on KFI. Mysterious intellectual is said to have won all quiz contests hereabouts and recently stumped the know-it-alls on 'Information Please.'

Coast League Baseball Results

San Diego, 14; Hollywood, 12.
Oakland, 6; Sacramento, 0.
San Francisco, 6; Portland, 5.
Los Angeles at Seattle—Rain.

Write on 'Grandma'

Fanya Foss and Jan Lehman are writing screen play for 'Grandma Goes to College' at Columbia, to be made under production supervision of Wallace MacDonald. Richard Halliday agented.

Western Lot Revives

For the first time in the past several years there is renewed activity at the 20th-Fox Western avenue lot. Four pictures were shooting there yesterday, including 'Marry the Boss's Daughter', 'Man at Large', 'We Go Fast' and 'A Yank in the R.A.F.'

Fox on 'Blitzkrieg'

Wallace Fox gets the director assignment on 'Bowery Blitzkrieg', Sam Katzman production for Monogram which starts Monday (23). Warren Hull, Cecelia Parker, Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall and Bobby Jordan head the cast.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Along the curb they sit in motor cars.
With eager ears bent on the radio.
They sit in homes and stand in cocktail bars
And listen with their eager eyes aglow.

Across the sea there is a fight somewhere,
But war becomes a dim and distant thing
When more important tidings flood the air—
Two lugs are slugging in a boxing ring.

★ ★ ★

In the old days of pugilism a doubled-up fist was known as a 'bunch of fives'. That is how the producers are tossing their pictures under the consent decree. Maybe it will develop into a good fight, than which Joe Public likes nothing better.

Mary Martin is keeping in touch with her fans by mailing out kisses with the aid of Uncle Sam and a lipstick. That's what the country needs—free speech, free press and free osculation.

Among the well-fed picture stars, the fashionable riot
Is trying out a new design they call the 'nine-day diet.'
And many a thesp who hasn't had
A steak since father was a lad
Tightens the notches in his belt and says: 'I'd like to try it.'

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In Hollywood there are two schools of dieting, one of which is involuntary.

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Maxine Gray, humming bird of 'California Melodies' on Don Lee's air waves, reports an epidemic of poetic buzzing among radio execs. Whenever they call each other on the phone these mornings they ask: 'What's buzzin', cousin?'

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There was a time when you never heard of a 'z' except in zoology when you were asked to describe a striped quadruped known as the zebra. Now we have 'Hellzapcppin' and 'Funzafire.'

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Dear sir—Will you kindly tell Fritz Lang to lay off that 'Man Hunt' stuff. We have been hunting for years, and haven't grabbed a man.

BRENDA & COBINA.

★ ★ ★

New title is 'Life Begins for Andy Hardy', but not for Mickey Rooney.

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There is talk of filming the life of Amelia Bloomer, who would call for her smelling salts if she took one gander at a 1941 Bloomer Girl.

Double bills and weather are in the same class. Everybody talks about them and nobody does anything.

There was a man in our town
And he was wondrous dense.
He answered 'No' in a studio
And beat it swiftly hence.

Film Previews

Underground

(*Melodrama*)

Warners production. Features Jeffrey Lynn, Philip Dorn, Kaaren Verne, with Mona Maris, Peter Whitney, Martin Kosleck. Supporting players: Erwin Kalser, Ilka Gruning, Frank Reicher, Egon Brecher, Ludwig Stossel, Hans Schumm, Wolfgang Zilzer, Roland Varno, Henry Brandon, Lotte Palfi, Lisa Golm, Louis Arco, Roland Drew. Director, Vincent Sherman. Associate producer, William Jacobs. Screenplay, Charles Grayson. Story, Edwin Justus Mayer and Oliver H. P. Garrett. Photography, Sid Hickox. Art director, Charles Novi. Film editor, Thomas Pratt. Sound, Charles Lang. Gowns, Damon Giffard. Music, Adolph Deutsch. Musical director, Leo F. Forbstein. Assistant director, Bill Kissel. Jack L. Warner in charge of production. Previewed June 18. Running time: 94 mins.

'Underground' is harsh and heavy melodrama, spun at a gripping pace as it unfolds the brave exploits of a small band of patriots, working under cover to upset National Socialism in Nazi Germany. A finely-told picture in every respect. Its box office fate will depend upon the entertainment mood of the theatre patrons and the careful execution of its exploitation possibilities, but none who see it will be unmoved by the intense, often shocking, dramatic contents so tellingly developed in writing, direction and playing.

Its story, scripted by Charles Grayson from the original by Edwin Justus Mayer and Oliver H. P. Garrett, deals with two brothers, one a loyal party member, minus an arm after action at Dunkirk, and the other the chief of underground activities. Each exploit and escape of the secret band is vividly etched on the screen without forced propaganda speiling. The climax comes when the loyal brother unknowingly turns in his kin to save a femme member of the small band, with whom he is in love. When the impact of his deed strikes home, he takes his brother's place to help carry on the work of saving Germany.

Jeffrey Lynn, the loyal party member, gives his talent rating new importance in his assignment, Philip Dorn demonstrates the utmost skill of voice and expression as the other brother. Kaaren Verne is an appealing femme member of the small band whose tragic love for Lynn brings down disaster on Dorn and the boys' family. Mona Maris intelligently portrays her role as secret helper of the patriots, as does Peter Whitney, the tragic 'Alex'. Martin Kosleck achieves perfect despicableness as the Gestapo officer.

Each of the supporting players are wisely chosen contributors, earning themselves top credits. Among these are Erwin Kalser, Ilka Gruning, Frank Reicher, Egon Brecher, Ludwig Stossel, Hans Schumm and Wolfgang Zilzer.

Vincent Sherman has imparted every phase of human drama in his direction, a distinguished credit. Sid Hickox's camera adds to every mood. The film editing by Thomas Pratt; the music by Adolph Deutsch and its direction by Leo F. Forbstein, and the art direction by Charles Novi are major factors. William Jacobs fulfills the associate producer spot with a creditable production, flawlessly executed.

The Medico of Painted Springs

(*Western*)

Columbia production. Stars Charles Starrett. Supporting cast: Terry Walker, Ben Taggart, Ray Bennett, Wheeler Oakman, Richard Fiske, Edmund Cobb, Edythe Elliott, Bud Osborne, Steve Clark, Charles Hamilton, George Chesebro, and the Simp-Phonies. Produced by Jack Fier. Directed by Lambert Hillyer. Screenplay by Winston Miller and Wyndham Gittens. Story by Wyndham Gittens. Based on book by James L. Rubel. Photography, Benjamin Kline. Film editor, Mel Thorsen. Previewed June 18. Running time: 59 mins.

Columbia launches its new Charles Starrett starring series with an excellent fighting western. Introduced is the interesting character of the young frontier doctor of Painted Springs, taken from the book of James L. Rubel, and developed for the screen by Wyndham Gittens and Winston Miller in a sound, substantial and colorful script. The initial offering, ably headlined by Starrett and supported by a thoroughly competent cast, sets up the expectancy for more of the same, which must be evident for any series which is to survive. Jack Fier as the producer gives the picture a quality and an entertainment value which will score a hit wherever westerns are in demand.

Starrett's role is given a reflective timeliness in that his first job, upon reaching the range community where he sets up practice, is the examination of recruits for the Rough Riders division for the Spanish-American war. He gets caught in the middle of a cattlemen and sheepmen war, fomented by a band of rustlers who expect to profit by the counter attacks of range neighbors. The boss cattleman's daughter, Terry Walker, provides the required note of romantic interest, with a range foreman, played by Richard Fiske, in the complementary role as a jealous enemy of the young doc, which finally turns to friendship when fist and gun battles are over and Starrett has saved his life. Miss Walker is pleasant to look at and does her riding and acting chores with crisp, blonde freshness. Ben Taggart is the girl's father. Every other member of the cast also performs ably: Ray Bennett, Wheeler Oakman (a carefully characterized heavy), Edmund Cobb, Edythe Elliott, Bud Osborne, Steve Clark, Charles Hamilton, George Chesebro. The sum total of their playing spells an unusual credibility for an action western.

Lambert Hillyer does his practiced job with the direction, giving the film that touch of distinction which labels all his western melodramas, lifting them always well above average of similar offerings.

The Simp-Phonies, a singing-string orchestra combination, chant one of the most promising western ballads heard in many moons, 'Lonely Rangelands', written by Enright (Hy) Busse. Camera of Benjamin Kline catches some mighty pretty scenery and does full justice to the violent action.

Duff's 'Rangers'

Warren Duff is doing the screen play on 'The Forest Rangers' at Paramount. Writer has just completed 'Flight Surgeon' at 20th-Fox.

Pasternak Going To Metro After 'Angel' Washup

Joe Pasternak goes to Metro after he completes his current production on 'Almost An Angel' at Universal. Papers adding him to Metro's producer staff are expected to be sealed today. Pasternak still has several weeks to go on the Deanna Durbin-Charles Laughton starrer at Universal, and likely will take a vacation before assuming his first assignment at Metro.

Producer has been mulling a number of studio offers since it became known that he was leaving the Universal lot, with Johnny Hyde of the William Morris office handling the negotiations for a new deal.

Script WB 'Fury'

Norman Reilly Raine and Daniel Fuchs have been assigned to script 'Manhattan Fury', original by Fuchs, at Warners. Everett Freeman moves over to the screen play of 'The Night Before Christmas', the Laura and S. J. Perelman play, at Warners, after completing 'Here Comes the Girls.'

Louise to Harmon

Anita Louise planes out for Ann Arbor, Mich., today to be the guest of Tom Harmon at the University of Michigan commencement ceremonies tomorrow. She returns next week by train with her mother, Mrs. Peter Whitehead, who will vacation in Hollywood.

Wrangell's 'Tiger'

Basil Wrangell will direct Metro's 'The Lady or the Tiger.' Herman Boxer is doing the screenplay from the short story by Frank Stockton. Production starts next week.

Irwin Shaw at WB

Irwin Shaw arrives today from New York to start writing on the screen play of 'The Hard Way', his original story which will star Ida Lupino at Warners.

Lembert at Par

William Lembert, fashion designer formerly at 20th-Fox, joins Paramount as assistant to Edith Head, head of the fashion department.

New Drive-In House

A new Drive-In theatre opens at Orange, Cal., today. Cecil Pace and associates are behind the venture.

Conried's Duet

Hans Conried has been added to casts of RKO's 'Unexpected Uncle' and 'Weekend for Three.'

In from the East

Adolph Zukor (SF)
Fritz Lang
Nancy Kelly
Willie Bioff
Irwin Shaw
Michael Curtiz

Heading East

Anita Louise (TWA)
Chico Marx (TWA)
Kay Harris (TWA)
Gale Gifford (TWA)
Walter Wanger (TWA)
Penny Singleton
Jimmy McHugh (AA)
Robert Rosson

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

THE Navy Blues Sextet staged a Navy recruiting drive at the Federal Building yesterday, snaring 28 young men, as against the usual daily average of 12 reported by Commander George T. Howe, who now wants the girls to go on a national recruiting drive. First to enlist and be rewarded by a kiss from each of the girls was Bud Jones. . . . Charles Leonard, in Columbia's advertisery, won himself a nice new auto for some jingles in the contest about canned beer. . . . Jackie Moran and his orchestra will be given an audition tomorrow by Lindsley Parsons for 'Sweet Sixteen', which latter will produce for Monogram. Moran is up for feature spot in picture and his 12-piece outfit may be included. . . Peter Caldwell, moppet, will play Fredric March as a boy in 'One Foot in Heaven' at Warners. . . . 'Orchids to Charlie', Technicolor film produced by Elizabeth Arden for the benefit of British juvenile relief, will be premiered here in August. Jinx Falkenberg has the lead in picture, directed by Will Jason at Fine Arts, and others in the cast include Frieda Inescort, Louise Beavers, Duke Cross and John Burton, while Gracie Fields sings several numbers for special sequence in the finale.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK—

Irene Dunne, lunching at the Hollywood Brown Derby, in a grey-brown light weight wool suit with stitched pleats all around the skirt and a buttoned all the way up long jacket. Her shoes and bag were brown sealskin and her hat, veil and gloves, surprisingly enough, sunny white. On her suit lapel she wore her stunning six-inch-long cascade clip of canary and blue white diamonds, while on her finger was the large canary diamond her husband, Dr. Francis Griffin, had just given her as a tenth wedding anniversary memento.

MARY BURGESS, who made her bid for a role in Cecil B. DeMille's 'Reap the Wild Wind' by setting up a 'picketing' auto cruiser in parking lot across from the Paramount studio, and who got the coveted spot, yesterday was revealed as sister of the late Helen Burgess, DeMille screen protege who died of pneumonia in 1936. During a long campaign around studios to get a screen foothold, she did not reveal her relationship and was never given a break until yesterday. She may also get a junior player contract. . . American Legion's Loyalty Day will be observed here tomorrow with all civic, educational and patriotic organizations participating. Loyalty-Unity pledges being distributed by the Legion to be signed and deposited at any picture theatre in the city. Pledge reads 'I pledge myself to support and uphold the government of the United States of America in this present emergency.' All cards will be mailed to President Roosevelt.

RKO Trade Showings Of First Block Week of July 7

New York, June 18.—RKO will hold trade showings of its first block of five pictures at each exchange city the week of July 7, and selling under the consent decree will be started immediately afterward. Date of company's first trade showings was announced by Andy Smith, sales manager, yesterday at the 10th annual convention, who said each picture will be given a classification and that the sales staff is already acquainted with the plan for selling the initial five. Details now are being worked out in the field by salesmen, branch and district managers.

Smith also announced deals whereby the March of Time is booked to play the Balaban & Katz circuit in Chicago, and for 'The Reluctant Dragon' to play the Canadian-Famous Players circuit.

Joseph I. Breen was introduced by George J. Schaefer, who told convention delegates that Breen will be general manager in charge of the studio under his now contract, and also would be elected executive vice-president in charge of production at the next meeting of the board of directors. Breen bluntly denied to VARIETY the 'fantastic yarn' regarding his returning to the Hays office in any capacity.

Delegates looked at additional screenings of RKO features today, as well as tests of several new players that studio has earmarked for buildups. Screening, at the Trans-Lux theatre, was followed by business sessions in the Waldorf Astoria Sert Room, at which Schaefer, Breen, S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising and publicity; Perry Lieber, studio publicity director, and Andy Smith spoke. Sessions were followed by a beefsteak dinner and delegates then moved en masse to the Polo Grounds to see the Louis-Conn fight. RKO will distribute pictures of the ring battle if the fight is rated sufficiently interesting.

Herbert Wilcox told the conventioneers that Anna Neagle would switch from musicals to a dramatic vehicle for her next, and that he was now looking for stories.

Delegates meet according to districts tomorrow, with no special events scheduled, and start checking out for their bases Friday.

M. Goodman Leaves

New York, June 18.—Morris Goodman, Republic's foreign manager is due in New York Thursday, hopping off today by plane from Puerto Rico. He has been on an extended Latin-American inspection trip.

Tests for 'Row'

James Wong Howe started shooting tests of Ann Sheridan, Ronald Reagan and James Stephenson at Warners yesterday for their roles in 'Kings Row', which Sam Wood puts before the cameras (30).

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

FILM DELIVERY STRIKE SETTLEMENT SETS RECORD

One of the shortest strikes on record, wherein a tieup of about 90% of the film deliveries within the Los Angeles district loomed, was settled in two hours yesterday as truck drivers employed by the Goldberg Delivery Service went on strike at noon and were back at work after lunch. The sudden walkout threatened to darken houses in many parts of the city as well as in outlying districts, as among prints scheduled to be picked up were some needed in town.

Truck men went on strike because they claimed the delivery trucks were too big for the pay they were getting, asking a five cents per hour increase or smaller trucks. Ben Goldberg reports he solved the problem by cutting down the size of the trucks by putting in bulkheads, thereby reducing the loading capacity.

Burns, Allen Deal Given the Ink

Deal for Burns and Allen to broadcast in the fall for Lever Bros. (Swan soap) was signed here yesterday, with Tom Lewis officiating for Young & Rubicam. Agency is shopping for the best available network time. Negotiations are being continued in the east for Paul Whiteman in the music spot.

McHugh Airs Out

Jimmy McHugh aired east last night to replace Leo Robin on the writer committee to consider nominations for the board of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers. Robin was unable to make the New York trip on account of a studio commitment.

Up-to-Minute

Republic hastened to register the title, 'The Corporal Takes a Wife' yesterday, planning the development of a service comedy around Judy Canova's marriage to Corporal James Ripley in Honolulu.

Ropes Will Script Par Starrer For Canova

Bradford Ropes has been assigned to write the untitled Paramount starrer for Judy Canova, to be produced by Sol C. Siegel late this fall.

'Glamour Boy', Ted Tetzlaff directing Jackie Cooper and Suzanne Foster, starts today under Siegel's production. Other features being readied by Siegel are 'Sing a Song of Homicide', to be piloted by William Clemens; 'Mardi Gras Murders', the next untitled Henry Aldrich picture and 'Prison Widows'.

Jerry Lester Spotted

Jerry Lester, nitery and radio comic, was signed to a five-year deal yesterday by J. Walter Thompson for Kraft Music Hall. Pact carries the usual options.

UNIONS PLAN BIG KITTY AT DISNEY

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the various studio unions and guilds.

The committee also sent a wire to Walt Disney replying to charges that subversive groups were back of the walkout, and declaring that the strike was being supported by reputable leaders in the American Federation of Labor. The wire, signed by L. C. Helm for the union committee, follows:

'As a committee appointed by, and representing all of the American Federation of Labor unions in the motion picture studios, we have been advised through the medium of the press and anonymous letter that this strike is being led by a subversive group, that are being announced as communistic and undemocratic. We feel it our duty to advise you that no organization of the AFofL can wilfully harbor any one of this nature within their organization. In intervening in this matter, let us assure you that in so doing we have in sympathy those members of the AFofL involved in this dispute. In no case do we seek to hide or console any individual group or individuals for any individual achievement. We feel that this strike was right in principle and that we are obligated to support it financially, physically and morally, and that regardless of the individuals involved, may we again assure you this strike does have the backing of reputable leaders of the AFofL, who stand willing at all times to help bring this situation to a conclusion in the best interests of all concerned.'

Strike leaders also announced yesterday that musicians would refuse to make recordings for Disney during duration of the strike. Teamsters, film editors, soundmen and other crafts are refusing to cross the picket line.

Other members of the financial committee, in addition to Helm, are Joseph Tuohy, Dave Lory, Pat Somerset and Aubrey Blair. It was stated that funds will be raised through assessments, solicitation, contributions, etc. The Screen Publicists Guild has already pledged $25 per week during duration of the strike. The Screen Actors Guild contributed $1,000, Laboratory Technicians Local 683, $500, and many other crafts $100.

Counter proposals of the SCG for a settlement have been submitted to Disney representatives by Harold V. Smith, who is acting as a strike mediator. No reply is expected by the SCG until Disney returns to the Coast.

Edw. Small Outlines Sked of Eight On UA Release

Producer Edward Small has lined out his schedule for United Artists for the first half of the eight he is committed to make for the 1941-42 program. Initialer will be 'The Corsican Brothers', set to go July 15, Gregory Ratoff directing and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., starring. Femme lead has not yet been found.

Next in order will be 'Twin Beds', 'Heliotrope' and 'Little Annie Rooney', the Shirley Temple picture. Patterson McNutt, who has just completed 'Heliotrope', has been assigned to script 'Little Annie'. Several productions may overlap during next two months.

SCREEN GEMS SIGNS SCG CLOSED SHOP

Screen Gems, Inc., has signed a closed shop contract with the Screen Cartoonists Guild, calling for an eight-hour day, five-day week. Wage increases for workers in the lower classifications will range from 30 to 40%, with all employes getting an average tilt of $5 weekly. The contract provides for pay for all legal holidays, and appointment of a committee to handle grievances. The agreement was signed for the company by George Winkler, business manager, with William Hopkins, Columbia labor contact, sitting in. Attorney George E. Bodle and Lyle Shrader, international representative of the Brotherhood of Painters, represented the Guild.

Campaign for Airers To Carry USO Show

Efforts are being made in the east to have all major networks carry a portion of the United Service Organizations show in Hollywood Bowl (29). It was recently announced as a CBS exclusive. Reps of radio and film talent groups met yesterday at Hillcrest to start the mobilization of names for the first USO industry show.

Hatch Directs Tunes For Hope Subber

Wilbur Hatch, CBS conductor, has been set to direct the music on the NBC serial, 'A Date With Judy', summer replacement for Bob Hope. Bill Goodwin handles the commercials. Mercedes McCambridge and Tommy Bond have been added to the cast, headed by Ann Gillis and Paul McGrath.

Nick Cochran Set

Nick Cochran, band leader at the Pirates Den has been set to do a series of shorts for Sam Coslow Productions. His first venture will be one of his comedy routines, 'Egga Dagga'.

Eva Puck Debut

Eva Puck, former musical comedy star, makes her film debut in a Leon Errol comedy at RKO.

FOR CHARTER

For summer season or longer; 106-foot schooner with two launches; four double staterooms with individual lavatories; owner's bathroom and guest toilet. . . . Owner furnishes Captain, Engineer and complete crew of five.

OL. 2981

Roster of Disney Men on New Pix Announced in NY

Personnel of key men who will be responsible for the Walt Disney output for the new season in release through RKO, was announced yesterday by Disney at RKO sales convention in New York. By departments they are:

Supervising Directors: Ben Sharpsteen, Ham Luske, Dave Hand.

Supervising Story Men and Original Story Shaping: Joe Grant, Dick Huemer.

Sequence Directors: Jim Algar, Sam Armstrong, Norm Ferguson, Wilfred Jackson, Bill Roberts.

Shorts: Norm Ferguson, Clyde Geronomi, Jack King, Jack Kinney, Dick Lundy, Riley Thompson.

Supervising Animators: Art Babbitt, Ollie Johnston, Milt Kahl, Ward Kimball, Eric Larson, John Lounsbery, Fred Moore, Nick Nichols, Woolie Reitherman, Frank Thomas, Bill Tytla.

Fritz Lang Tags Up

Fritz Lang trains in from New York today to begin work on 20th-Fox's 'Confirm or Deny', in which Tyrone Power and Joan Bennett will have the top roles. Miss Bennett was assigned to the part yesterday. Shooting starts June 30, with Darryl Zanuck supervising.

Seltzer Joins Lasky

Frank Seltzer is leaving public relations staff at Producers Assn. to join Jesse Lasky as executive aide. Cliff Lewis moves into his vacated berth.

Perrin Scripts 'Girl'

Sam Perrin is working on the screenplay of 'The Girl in Possession' at Universal.

ARNOLD REVIEWS WORK OF PIX FOR DEFENSE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

tors, together with Mr. John Hay Whitney, whom President Roosevelt designated as chairman of the Motion Picture Division, and Mr. Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild who was drafted to direct the work of the Society, contribute their services toward making the motion picture a medium of strengthening the cultural ties among the 21 American republics. Using the educational potentialities of the films, the Society seeks to foster unity in our hemisphere, based on an intimate first hand knowledge of each nation's art, music, literature, history and ways of life.

'Those of you whose homes are in Mexico City will remember the happy results of a visit by 50 of our leading actors, directors, writers and executives to your city in April. Others of you whose homes are in the other American republics we hope to see and meet with personally on future trips to Central and South America. We will come to you for advice and counsel. If you wish us to, we will make motion pictures in your countries. The films which we make in our country, and send to you for your entertainment, will, we hope, be consistent with your culture and your ideals. Through the medium of the motion picture, we hope to become not only good neighbors, but better neighbors, better friends.

'All of America is working today for the defense of democracy, and the men and women of the motion picture industry are in the front line of the workers.'

USO Post Box

United Service Organizations will have its own postoffice address in Hollywood for duration of the campaign to raise funds for camp recreation funds. Mailing address for all donations will be Box USO, Hollywood.

Yawitz Mulls 'Lu'

Paul Yawitz has been assigned to do the screen play of 'Honolulu Lu', which Wallace MacDonald will produce at Columbia, on deal by Irving Salkow. Yawitz just completed the script of the next 'Boston Blackie' for William Berke at the same studio.

Paulette Goddard Appears as Lead For Par 'Lady'

Paulette Goddard looks set for 'The Lady Has Plans', a spy comedy at Paramount originally intended for Madeleine Carroll. But studio recently bought 'Snowball In Hell' as a Bob Hope-Madeleine Carroll, and this also is a spy comedy, and Miss Carroll will not be used in both. Harry Tugend is scripting 'The Lady Has Plans'.

Renoir, Pichel Crew Out for Florida 'Water' Shortly

With Jean Renoir and Irving Pichel heading them, a troupe of 40 actors and technicians leave this weekend for the Everglades country in Florida, to begin shooting 'Swamp Water'.

Lucien Ballard will be chief of the camera crew. Company will remain on location about two weeks, operating out of Jacksonville, Fla.

Lydon's New Deal

Jimmy Lydon's two picture arrangement at Paramount is to be converted into a straight term contract at the studio, following reactions to sneak preview on 'Henry Aldrich for President', in which he plays the title role. Sol C. Siegel is the producer of the Lydon introduction into 'Henry' role previously played by Jackie Cooper.

Schuster's 'Deb'

'Small Town Deb', at 20th-Fox, will be directed by Harold Schuster. Jane Withers will star and shooting begins July 7. Ethel Hill is writing the screenplay from an original by Jerrie Walters.

'Fleet's' for Lamour

'The Fleet's In' will be first for Dorothy Lamour at Paramount, edging in ahead of 'Her Jungle Mate.' Walter De Leon and Sid Silvers are writing the 'Fleet' script.

'Diego' in Cans

Final scenes for Metro's 'Down in San Diego' were finished yesterday, Robert Sinclair directing.

TRAMMELL HITS FCC IN SENATE HEARING

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

would be anxious to buy the blue skein under the stringent regulations is laughable, he added, since neither seller nor buyer can estimate the value and the future stability is entirely problematical.

FCC Chairman James L. Fly described 'a synthetic creature composed of two vigorous rivals' in order to alibi the stringent commandments, Trammel commented. Report of the comish majority is unfair because it lumps their business volume and disregards the incontrovertible fact they fight bitterly for programs, accounts, outlets, scoops, audience and prestige. Trammell complained Fly deliberately fabricated a Siamese twin. Divestiture of the Blue would impede television development, which has cost $12,000,000, the solons were advised by Trammel.

Abandonment of many highly popular programs will be inevitable under the rules, in Trammell's estimation. Among them are Toscanini, Damrosch, Fram and Home Hour and Metropolitan opera. New operators of the Blue—if any should materialize—would hesitate to take on such expense, he noted, and the Red would not be able to accommodate all of them because of bookkeeping difficulties. 'Vivisection' of NBC would harm the public more than it would benefit. Dangerous precedent is set by the reform attempt, Trammell warned. If the comish majority can force NBC to get rid of its lawfully acquired property and Congress doesn't intervene, there would be no reason why Fly & Co. could not force a splitting of the Red combination. 'The first cracks in the structure of Democracy are often invisible to the unaided eye, but if Congress, by failure to act now, concedes to Chairman Fly the power to force us to give up half of our property then Congress should not be surprised when it learns in the not too distant future that Chairman Fly has taken over the entire radio industry', he gloomed.

Profits of NBC are reasonable, Trammell maintained. Average has been under $2,000,000 annually over a 15-year period, which is 7.29% of the gross revenues. Last year's tax bill, he pointed out, was $2,510,000. Trammell engaged in detailed discussion of the way each rule would work, frequently harpooning the comish and denying statements in the majority report. He pointed to 3,993 cancellations of web programs by affiliates in five months to show the chain does not deprive local management of opportunity to exercise its own discretion.

Puddin' Head
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NICHOLAS: "Marie will show you to the powder room."
JUDY: "Is there gonna be shootin'?"
JUDY CANOVA with
FRANCIS LEDERER
RAYMOND WALBURN · "SLIM" SUMMERVILLE
EDDIE FOY, JR. · ASTRID ALLWYN · ALMA KRUGER · HUGH O'CONNELL · "CHIC" CHANDLER
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director · Screen play by Jack Townley and Milt Gross · Original Story by Jack Townley

Today's Inglewood Consensus

	LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1	Mad Crusader Speculator Preview Actor	Mad Crusader Preview,Actor River Shan'n	Top Chance Preview Actor River Shan'n	Mad Crusader Winsome Lady River Shan'n	Preview Actor Winsome Lady Mad Crusader	Mad Crusader Preview Actor Top Chance
2	South'n Belle Little Ruler Reveille Lady	South'n Belle Brown Splash Reveille Lady	South'n Belle Little Ruler Tipcat	South'n Belle Nony G. Little Ruler	South'n Belle Brown Splash Reveille Lady	Reveille Lady Little Ruler Nony G.
3	Gold Sun Fly the Coop Triple En'te	Triple En'te Fly the Coop Good Sun	Triple En'te Fly the Coop Jay Stevens	Triple En'te Fly the Coop Gold Sun	Fly the Coop Gold Sun Triple En'te	Triple En'te Fly the Coop Gold Sun
4	Rock X. Bibliophile Chief Nadi	Chief Nadi Rock X. Jubilo	Chief Nadi Rock X. Jubilo	Chief Nadi Bibliophile Spark'g Eyes	Chief Nadi Bibliophile Jubilo	Chief Nadi Rock X. Jubilo
5	Opening Bid Big City Cold Weath'r	Cold Weath'r Big City Opening Bid	Cold Weath'r Big City Lift	Cold Weath'r Big City Lift	Lift Cold Weath'r Opening Bid	Cold Weath'r Opening Bid Lift
6	Timberland T'my Whelan Playful Wink	T'my Whelan Playful Wink The Puma	Timberland T'my Whelan Sol Ele	T'my Whelan Timberland Playful Wink	Timberland Sol Ele T'my Whelan	T'my Whelan Playful Wink Timberland
7	Wildebeest Get On Valley Boy	Wildebeest Valley Boy Get On	Wildebeest Valley Boy Merry Bid	Wildebeest Valley Boy Get On	Valley Boy Royal M'boro Wildebeest	Get On Valley Boy Ebony Latch
8	West Acre Patan Silsweep	West Acre Patan Silsweep	West Acre Patan Silsweep	Patan Silsweep West Acre	West Acre Patan Silsweep	West Acre Patan Silsweep

Two Opponents Fite Parsons Re-election By Electricians

E. W. Parsons, who is seeking re-election as prexy of Local 40 of the International Brotherhood of Electricians, will have two opponents in the election set for Tuesday (24). John Reinhart and Louis Berg have been nominated for the post. Walter E. Kenney is assured of re-election as vice-prexy, being the only nominee for that post.

Harold Foss is the lone candidate for treasurer, while Earl Counter and Leo Gruber will fight it out for the office of financial secretary. Al Speede, who has held the office of business representative and recording secretary for 10 years, is practically certain of re-election, although B. E. Agee has been nominated for the job.

Six members will be elected to the executive board from the following candidates: R. B. Schaife, A. O. Peterson, Frank McDonald, George Voorhees, Al Derby, Fred Hurley, Fred Ward, Ingram Dempsey, Harold Vaught, W. F. Moore, Robert Heer, T. W. Lamar, A. Isaacson, William Daniell, S. G. Smith. Six delegates to the national IBEW convention in St. Louis Oct. 27 will be elected from the following candidates: Al Speede, W. F. Moore, Fred Hurley, Walter Bertram, B. E. Agee, Ingram Dempsey, John Reinhart, R. C. Scaife, Louis Berg, A. O. Peterson, E. H. Curtis, Earl Counter, A. Isaacson, George Voorhees, T. W. Lamar, Harold Foss, Frank McDonald. E. H. Curtis, Ernest Witty and William Newlove are the only candidates for the three places on the examining board.

'Sailors' Preem

The Michael Balcon production for United Artists, 'Three Cockeyed Sailors', will have its world premiere at Norfolk, Va., tomorrow, with preliminary showing today for the new admiral of the Atlantic fleet and chiefs of staff of American and British naval personnel now at the Navy base. Premiere is at Grandy theatre.

O'Connell Transferred

Art O'Connell, Universal exchange salesman in Denver for many years, is being transferred to the Los Angeles branch office in the same capacity to fill vacancy left by recent Universal promotions from the sales ranks. Jack Zamsky has also been added to the staff of the U exchange here as a salesman.

Cowan Tops 'Book'

Jerome Cowan has been signed for one of the top roles in 'Jungle Book', next Alexander Korda production for United Artists which is slated to start July 15.

IA UNIONS NIX 8-HOUR DAYS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

Producers to stall the negotiations. It was indicated that unless the companies exhibit good faith in the negotiations, with the idea of completing the contract revisions by July 1, the unions will apply to Federal court for relief, charging that their efforts to bargain collectively are being blocked.

A majority of members of the joint committees were hot over the Producer proposals. One leader said, 'They haven't offered us anything. We went into the negotiations to better our conditions, not to make those conditions we have worse. If the negotiations are not carried on in good faith, we intend to ask the government to look into the situation.'

The Producers have offered to tilt the current three-hour minimum call to four hours, but the proposal was unanimously rejected last night as unsatisfactory. Union heads said they were interested solely in bettering conditions for the workers, not in increasing their hours of work.

The discussions with Producers so far have been confined to 16 standard conditions applicable to all of the crafts. The agreement was that when these are disposed of, each of the individual locals will then take up its demands, wages and conditions.

Dratler's 'Doctor'

Jay Dratler has been signed to write the screen play on Paramount's 'Doctor Broadway', being adapted from the Borden Chase story.

20th Brahm Pact

20th-Fox has signed John Brahm to a one-year directing contract. Brahm is working on 'Wild Geese Calling.'

Ill in Pix

GRACE McCORD, 12-year-old daughter of Harold McCord, Warners cutting department head, was taken to Hollywood hospital yesterday suffering severe attack of appendicitis.

HERMAN GUNKLER, member of Kay Kyser's band, yesterday was rushed to the hospital for an abdominal operation.

'Babes' Rolls 28th

Metro's 'Babes on Broadway', with Busby Berkeley directing, will roll June 28. Arthur Freed directs. Fay Bainter returned yesterday from Mexico to start work in the picture, which has Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland co-starring. Part is Miss Bainter's first since she was contracted by Metro.

'Riders' In Saturday

Cast and crew of 'The Rough Riders', headed by Scott R. Dunlap, producer, Buck Jones, Tim McCoy, and Spencer G. Bennett, director, return from two weeks of filming at Prescott, Ariz., Saturday. Picture is first of eight Jones-McCoy westerns Dunlap will do for Monogram.

Lawton Crew In

Jack Lawton, Universal location manager, Ray Taylor and Charles A. Gould have returned to the studio after a site-scouting trip through South Dakota looking for locations for 'Bad Lands of Dakota', which Alfred E. Green will direct.

Wilson's 'Purchase'

Harold Wilson, assistant to B. G. DeSylva at Paramount, has been assigned as associate producer on DeSylva's Broadway show translation, 'Louisiana Purchase.' Start, July 7, will initiate the new Paramount sound stage, Stage 18.

Fonda Bicycles

Henry Fonda will be working in two pictures at once at 20th-Fox next week when 'The Doctor's Wife' begins shooting. He is currently in 'Wild Geese Calling' and will not finish in that film before the other begins.

HOOFERS ASK $75 FOR WK.

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

$8.25 and $11 classifications, regardless of what scales are negotiated with the Producers by the Screen Actors Guild.

Players who work as cowboys, policemen, waiters, bartenders, athletes, etc., also are demanding higher pay scales. The cowboys are demanding $16.50 per day, contending their outfits cost even more than wardrobes maintained by dress extras, while the others say their work is highly specialized. All of the groups insist they will not work on a $10.50 ticket, proposed by the SAG to replace the $11 and $8.25 brackets.

The dancers are the most militant group, several having recently negotiated their own wage adjustments when they were called upon by the studios to do a ballet and several special numbers. They say the necessity of keeping in perfect physical trim, learning new dance routines, etc., costs money and takes away a big part of their earnings.

The dancers and other groups have contacted Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, and say protests also are being filed with the SAG. The groups say that no extra was appointed to sit on the negotiating committee that met with the Producers, and that the reclassification of brackets proposed by the SAG will actually reduce the pay scales and result in a saving to the Producers.

A tentative agreement to replace the $8.25 and $11 scales has already been reached with the Producers and is now being reduced to writing. The contract revisions will call for improved pay and conditions for small free-lance actors and day players.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 32 No. 11 43 Hollywood, California, Friday, June 20, 1941 5 Cents

ACTORS, XTRAS GET PAY BOOST

MILLER HITS FCC RULES SETUP

Washington, June 19. — Application of Federal Communications Commission's anti-monopoly rules may turn receiving sets into pieces of furniture and endanger national defense by turning dial twisters to other media of information and entertainment, the Senate Interstate Commerce Commission was warned today. After three spokesmen for network affiliates avowed their prefer-

♥ Continued on page 6 ♥

Balaban Entourage Arrives Today

Arriving today from New York are Barney Balaban, Paramount president; Stanton Griffis and Paul Raiburn, joining Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board, who came in yesterday. Group will be joined over the weekend by Neil Agnew, distribution head, and Robert Gillham, eastern advertising and publicity director, for conferences next week with Y. Frank Freeman and other studio executives.

Hays Due in NY Mon. Thence to Coast

New York, June 19.—Will Hays, presently resting at Sullivan, Ind., after leaving a Chicago hospital the first of this week, is due in New York next Monday. He plans remaining in the east for 10 days and will then go to the Coast. He probably will name a successor to Joseph I. Breen, as head of the Producers Production Code when he reaches Hollywood.

PREVIEWED

KISS THE BOYS GOODBYE
(Par)

I WAS A PRISONER ON DEVIL'S ISLAND
(Col)

REVIEWED

NORTH FROM THE LONE STAR
(Col)

(Previews and Review, page 3)

DISNEY ASSERTS 'CAN'T MAKE ANY CONCESSION'

Walt Disney in a reply yesterday to counter proposals of the Screen Cartoonists Guild for settlement of the strike at his studio, indicated he could not make further concessions, and said 'we cannot agree to submit any of our employes to the hazards of fines and blacklists on the part of any organization.' In a letter to Harold V. Smith, who has been acting as a strike mediator, for submission to the Guild, outlined his views.

Smith is expected to confer with William Garrity, Disney executive,

◆ Continued on page 2 ◆

INCREASED EARNINGS SEEN AT 300G YEARLY

Wage revisions for extras and freelance and day players, which the Screen Actors Guild estimates will increase earnings of extras alone more than $300,000 annually, were announced yesterday. The new conditions become effective Aug. 1, provided they are ratified by Class A and Class B Guild members in a mail ballot referendum. They have already been approved by the SAG board of directors.

The $8.25 and $11 checks are to be eliminated, and a new $10.50 classification created. The $5.50 check will be restricted to sets where

■ Continued on page 8 ■

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	289
Major Studio Calls	232
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	521

F-WC SETS LOWER PRICES FOR MEN IN THE SERVICE

Fox West Coast Theatres yesterday announced establishment of a lower admission price scale for men in Uncle Sam's armed forces, effective as of June 22. With an estimated 1,500,000 men now in various branches of the United States land, air and sea forces the F-WC move is interpreted in exhibitor circles as a constructive as well as patriotic gesture since it may well tap the reservoir of missing theatre business as well as make it possible for soldiers to afford entertainment.

Though there was some talk among chain and independent theatre owners in New York several

♣ Continued on page 7 ♣

Garbo Pic Starts

Metro's Greta Garbo starrer, once tentatively titled 'The Twins', because of Miss Garbo's dual role, was started yesterday under direction of George Cukor. Joe Ruttenberg is on the camera. Melvyn Douglas, Roland Young and Ruth Gordon have top featured roles.

U $5,000,000 LOAN NEARING INK

New York, June 19.—Universal negotiations for a term bank loan of $5,000,000 or thereabouts was reported today as near final signature. It is expected that tomorrow or early next week it will be completed. Coin is to be used to supplant present loans totaling an amount of the new bank loanout but at considerable savings annually because of length of loan term.

Lasky Planes Out

Jesse L. Lasky, co-producer of Warners 'Sergeant York', planes to New York tomorrow to talk with Grad Sears on the opening of the picture at the Astor July 2.

16 STANDARD WORKING CONDITIONS UP TODAY

A meeting of major studio managers has been called for today to consider demands of 10,000 film technicians for adoption of 16 standard working conditions, including a minimum six-hour call. The proposals will be submitted by Pat Casey, Producer labor contact, who met yesterday with negotiating committees from the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Casey will tell the executives the

★ Continued on page 8 ★

BREEN STARTS WEST TODAY

New York, June 19.—Joseph I. Breen, new executive vice-president and general manager in charge of RKO production and studio operations, leaves for the Coast tomorrow to assume his new duties at the studio Monday. Breen goes via Philadelphia and Washington to the Coast. He has been east for the past two weeks and attended the RKO sales convention here.

Convention, the company's 10th, wound up its business sessions today at the Waldorf Astoria with a

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Sinhala**
Enter
Saku
2d RACE—**Irrelevant**
Double A
Hi Beautiful
3d RACE—**Rivagold**
Barsand
Roughage
4th RACE—**Alviso**
Gold Bewithus
Lap Pan
5th RACE—**VALDINA JOAN**
Bar Copper
Chief Bud
6th RACE—**Raby Rattler**
Chatted
Friendly Paul
7th RACE—**Merry Marine**
Bulwark
Billie Bane
8th RACE—**Square Diamond**
Cal Naishapur
Gallant One
CHANCE BET—**Pepinillo (6th)**
Selections consensus, page 8.

For Saturday's Doc Baker selections phone Daily Variety office, HO 1141, after 9 A.M. tomorrow.

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Leo Morrison returns from New York business trip Sunday.

Harry Rackin's Laurel theatre is slated to open in 30 days.

Jack Crosby technical adviser on Hal Roach's 'Tanks a Million'.

George Brown goes to Santa Barbara today for a five-day rest.

Felix Bernstein is technical adviser on 'The Chocolate Soldier'.

Gladys Faye opens tonight at Charlie Foy's nitery as featured canary.

John Joseph O'Leary, 20th-Fox traveling auditor, came in from Portland this week.

Joe Perry is giving local Decca headquarters a complete remodeling and redecorating job.

Bing Crosby pulled out last night for Spokane, where he will dig divots in a charity golf match.

Milton Berle does return guest shots on the Philip Morris program today and next Friday (27).

Metro holds press preview of 'Blossoms In the Dust' at Four Star theatre Tuesday at 2:30 p.m.

Earl Miller, head of the electrical department at RKO, and the missus, train east today on their annual vacation.

John Angus, accountant and business manager to studio executives and players, has opened offices on the Strip.

George Pal left yesterday for Sequoia National Park to gather material for his next Puppetoon at Paramount.

Carey Wilson is back at Metro today from two weeks' vacation and biz trip to New York, to start work on fall series of shorts.

Joe Stauffer will take a Honolulu vacation before assuming his duties in New York as radio head of Kenyon & Eckhardt agency.

Ilona Massey has obtained a quota number permitting her to fulfill a singing engagement in Rio de Janeiro, and planes out (25).

Deanna Durbin will be chairman of the United Service Organizations' Fund drive at Universal. A. H. McCausland has been made an aide in the campaign.

Gregg Toland's $12,000 home in Benedict Canyon was completely gutted by fire Wednesday. Members of cameraman's family were in house when blaze started, but its origin still is undetermined. No one was injured.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood is a place where the pictures change titles faster than the gals change their husbands, or vice versa.

Hollywood Inside

OLSEN AND JOHNSON are shrouding their script for 'Hellzapoppin' at Universal in secrecy, but some idea of the way they hope to get audience participation in the show as they did in the stage production is beginning to leak out. Before the credits come onto the screen there will be an intelligence test for the audience. When the story opens, showing a scene in Hell, there is a story within a story within a story. As patrons enter theatres where the picture will play they will be handed a cardboard stereopticon glass and told, by the ushers, to keep the glass handy. From time to time Olsen and Johnson will appear on the screen to tell 'em it's almost time to use the stereopticon glass. When a fast and furious fight scene is shown the audience will be told to look through the glasses, bringing the punches of the battlers up so close there ought to be a lot of ducking and wincing among the patrons. Comedians are also dreaming up other gags to bring about audience participation, the toughest thing in making the picture.

☆ ☆ ☆

FRED ASTAIRE, who left the RKO contract list to freelance so he would have plenty of time off between pictures, finds himself with commitments that will allow him few holidays between films for a long period of months. Now working in 'You'll Never Get Rich' at Columbia with Rita Hayworth, he next goes to Paramount for 'Holiday Inn' with Bing Crosby. After that musical he journeys back to Columbia for another film with Miss Hayworth, 'Too Beautiful', and then has a commitment, although papers have not been signed, to appear with Bob Hope in a picture for Samuel Goldwyn. Astaire allows himself anywhere from six weeks to three months for preparing and rehearsing dance routines for each film so will find little time between assignments to relax.

☆ ☆ ☆

ALTHOUGH the Mutual network with its 178 stations is wide open for filmusical exploitation both on a sustaining and commercial basis, not one studio has taken advantage of the only chain medium airing the music of American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers. When Mutual-Don Lee signed the new Ascap contract it was generally believed that there would be a rush of tunefilms to the only ethered web outlet. There have been some inquiries from studios but to date not one musical film has made a kilocycle splash across the nation.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT is withdrawing 'The Parson of Panamint' from its originally scheduled release during the week of June 27 in order to launch special advertising and exploitation campaign. Decision for the 'Parson' buildup, according to Neil Agnew, sales chief, followed press preview reception. Film will be given a number of pre-release screenings during the next few weeks and a general release date will be set later. Tentative plans are for a premiere at Salt Lake City, July 4, with several from the cast making personals.

DISNEY ASSERTS 'CAN'T MAKE ANY CONCESSION'

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

today and a meeting may later be arranged with Herbert Sorrell and other representatives of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. In the meantime, it was reported that the company was pushing the National Labor Relations Board to order an election of Disney workers to designate a collective bargaining representative. The Guild still is maintaining a 24-hour picket line at the studio.

San Diego Seeks Next PCC Convention

Mayor P. J. Benbough of San Diego has invited the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to hold the 1942 convention in San Diego. Bob Poole, executive secretary of the PCCITO, is in receipt of an elaborate parchment scroll in a frame, bearing the signatures of the San Diego city fathers. PCCITO will not select a spot for next year's convention until January or February.

'Geese' Settles

Director John Brahm washes up his chore tonight on 'Wild Geese Calling.' Henry Fonda, one of the tops in the film, goes on two loan-out assignments, to Warners and to Columbia, before coming back to his home lot.

Harmon, Feldman Describe Camp Shows to Group

Francis S. Harmon, of the Will Hays office, and Charles Feldman, talent chairman for shows staged by the film industry at army camps, were the principal speakers yesterday at a meeting of the Motion Picture Production Defense Committee. Chairman Y. Frank Freeman presided.

Harmon, national coordinator for the committee, reported on the work being done by the various units of the industry cooperating on defense plans. Feldman outlined the three test shows held at army posts and which are to be used as the basis for all future shows. It was explained, however, that no shows will be staged at the army camps during the summer maneuvers. Bill Koenig has been named chairman of the preparations committee for future entertainments.

The Motion Picture Production Defense Committee is to be enlarged by the addition of representatives of film labor.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 8; San Diego, 4.
Seattle, 4-4; Los Angeles, 1-1 (double-header).
San Francisco, 3; Portland, 1.
Sacramento, 7; Oakland, 5.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

A night in June,
A tropic moon,
A gal and boy friend all aglow.
Their rhapsody
Turns out to be
A title for a picture show.

★ ★ ★

Disraeli is coming back as 'The Prime Minister', without George Arliss, showing the ingratitude of history. Arliss made Disraeli.

★ ★ ★

Everybody in Hollywood is concerned about Laird Cregar's appendectomy, the most ambitious excavation project since the Panama Canal.

★ ★ ★

Cliff Nazarro has an idea about the world premiere of 'Wild Geese Calling'. Why not hold it in a marsh, he suggests, and present every guest with a souvenir shotgun?

If you want to know what makes the wild geese wild, Joan Bennett is disguised in a flannel nightie.

While a lot of producers are worried about building good houses, Jimmy Ellison is building and selling bungalows faster than you can build and sell a 'B' production. There is still plenty of money in quickies.

★ ★ ★

Suggestion to the Masquers: Why not toss a testimonial dinner for Jack Benny?

★ ★ ★

Whenever her auto horn gets stuck
A modest gal is out of luck.

★ ★ ★

Maxie Rosenbloom's siesta was interrupted by his Number One boy, Rastus Shapiro.

'A gentleman to see you, suh, with a cauliflower ear.'

'Tell him I got one', said Maxie, going back into his siesta.

★ ★ ★

Wire from Milton Berle: 'Bathing is better at Atlantic City than at Coney Island. There is a higher grade of potato salad.'

John Barrymore and Marjorie Rambeau were doing a love scene on the Rudy Vallee air program and a gal in the audience swooned. It wasn't a hot night, either.

Ray LeStrange reports a new invention by Hugh Herbert, who has been working secretly behind the old mill at the crossroads. It is an invisible light to pay off the boys in the dark.

With all those camper-outers crashing the gate, don't be startled if Paramount pulls a picture entitled 'Tourist Camp.'

There is no law compelling any film customer to sit through a double bill.

★ ★ ★

The buffalo has faded out—his once prolific breed
Stampedes no more on yonder western plain,
But any time a picture clicks, there is a mad stampede
To follow after in the selfsame strain.

Film Previews and Review

Kiss the Boys Goodbye

(*Musical Comedy*)

Paramount production and release. Stars Don Ameche and Mary Martin. Features Rochester, Oscar Levant, Virginia Dale, Barbara Jo Allen, Raymond Walburn, Elizabeth Patterson, Jerome Cowan, Connie Boswell. Supporting cast: John Scott Trotter, Minor Watson, Harry Barris, George Reed, Thelma Long. Producer, William LeBaron. Director, Victor Schertzinger. Screenplay, Harry Tugend, Dwight Taylor. Based on play by Clare Boothe. Photography, Ted Tetzlaff. Film editor, Paul Weatherwax. Musical director, Victor Young. Musical adviser, Arthur Franklin. Music and lyrics by Victor Schertzinger, Frank Loesser, G. H. Clutsam. Songs arranged and conducted by John Scott Trotter. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, June 19. Running time: 83 mins.

Clare Boothe's glittering satire, still bristling with wisecracks, penetrating wit and well-turned phrases following the transition to the screen, should do well in the de luxers, the neighborhoods, the grinds and wherever it may eventually be booked. It's the type of gay, sophisticated comedy which is currently much in demand. While it is not likely to smash records, solid business is in the cards. The feminine appeal is self-evident, and the male customers won't consider themselves short-changed either.

The saga of Cindy Lou, the naive Southern girl who purposely loses her Georgia accent trying to crash the stage on Broadway, picks it up again to perpetrate an ingenious hoax on a famous impresario and drops it again before rushing back broken-hearted to the plantation, has been woven into a compact, spirited, smartly paced script by Harry Tugend and Dwight Taylor. Gags tumble forth in rapid succession, but many a laugh is lost despite obvious efforts to broaden Clare Boothe's barbed shafts for assimilation by picture audiences. Despite this profusion of comedy, a major percentage of the hilarious material registers.

For Mary Martin this vehicle is an advent of considerable importance. She's a decided click here, scoring repeatedly in dramatic, comedy and vocal sequences. This is perhaps her best showing in films. The strip-tease scene, where the yo'-all girl figures on making a chump out of the ultra-modern city slickers who thought she was a country hick, clinches a running series of caustic comments on the South of the Civil War era.

The story, revolving about a nationwide search for a genuine Southern girl to play the lead in a Broadway musical, has been given stimulating and delightful impetus under Victor Schertzinger's deft directorial guidance. Slow spots are rare in approximately 83 minutes of running time, which is a feat of no minor import. Schertzinger wrote the music, Frank Loesser being responsible for the lyrics of five of the songs: 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', 'Find Yourself a Melody', 'My Start', 'I Never Let a Day Pass By', and 'Sand In My Shoes'. Of these, 'Find Yourself a Melody' and 'I Never Let a Day Pass By' shape up as likeliest potential winners, with the three others of indifferent pop appeal.

Don Ameche contributes an excellent performance as the brusque stage director who tries to keep the

● Continued on page 7 ●

North From the Lone Star

(*Western*)

Columbia production. Stars Bill Elliott. Features Richard Fiske and Dorothy Fay. Supporting players: Dub Taylor, Arthur Loft, Jack Roper, Chuck Morrison, Claire Rochelle, Al Rhein, Edmund Cobb. Produced by Leon Barsha. Directed by Lambert Hillyer. Assistant director, Bud Brill. Screenplay, Charles Francis Royal. Film editor, Mel Thorsen. Photography, Benjamin Kline. Reviewed at the Hitching Post, June 19. Running time: 58 mins.

The latest in the Wild Bill Hickok series still has Bill Elliott portrayed as a peaceable man looking for a quiet place to spend the declining days of his youth. The spot Wild Bill thinks of settling down in is brimming over with vice and corruption, under the control of as rapacious a scoundrel as any western fan could wish for. Arthur Loft's impressive impersonation of the cold, vicious, brainy trigger man serves as an excellent foil for Elliott's straightforward role as the conquering hero. There isn't a great deal of riding in this episode but plenty of gunfire and fist brawls and action sequences have been well handled by Director Lambert Hillyer. Richard Fiske, as the hot-headed horse dealer who is constantly being thrown on his ear, is also given camera opportunities but registers negatively owing to rough scripting and indifferent piloting. Scenes with Fiske are stagey and denote hasty preparation.

Charles Francis Royal's story has Loft taking over a gambling joint by the simple expedient of placing heavy bets on the wheel, cashing in every time through a secret arrangement with the crooked croupier, and demanding ownership of the place when the operator can't pay off on the final spin.

From them on Loft proceeds to muscle in on every worthwhile legitimate business in town, getting no opposition until he tried to ride herd on the livery stable proprietor. Wild Bill appears on the scene in time to prevent a forced sale of horses at ridiculous prices, and then becomes sheriff in order to be able to clean up the gang legally.

Play Review

NO TIME FOR COMEDY

San Francisco, June 19.—Francis Lederer walks away with Henry Duffy's version of 'No Time For Comedy', which opened at the Alcazar tonight. The Duffy presentation is beautifully mounted, although somewhat slowly paced. Lederer's excellent trouping carries the load. Rose Hobart is charming as his efficient wife.

Particularly good support is given by Paul Movey as the quiet husband of Amanda, who makes the play for Lederer. This role is nicely handled by Doris Dudley, who shades her work well. Dan Tobin gets a lot out of Makepeace and Marietta Canty is excellent as the Negro maid.

Cowan, Brissac Set

Warners has signed Jerome Cowan and Virginia Brissac for 'One Foot In Heaven'.

I Was a Prisoner on Devil's Island

(*Melodrama*)

Columbia production. Features Sally Eilers, Donald Woods. Supporting players: Edward Ciannelli, Victor Kilian, Charles Halton, Dick Curtis, John Tyrrell, Eddie Laughton, Edmund Cobb, Robert Warwick. Director, Lew Landers. Producer, Wallace MacDonald. Screenplay, Karl Brown. Story, Osso and Edgar Van Eyss. Photography, John Stumar. Film editor, Richard Fantl. Art direction, Lionel Banks. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Assistant director, Gene Anderson. Sound, Lodge Cunningham. Previewed June 19. Running time: 70 mins.

Efforts by the cast and director to add some distinction to 'I Was a Prisoner On Devil's Island' fail to lift the material above the average program classification. Story hindrances and weak dialog account for the trouble, and the slicing of some unnecessary footage is needed to improve the running time, overlength for its bracket.

Donald Woods, ship's officer, falls in love with Sally Eilers during a holiday at a French port near Devil's Island. He decides to jump ship, has an argument with his skipper and accidentally kills him. Sentenced to three years on Devil's Island, he finds the girl is the wife of the prison doctor, unhappy in her marriage. During a fever epidemic Woods and several other prisoners earn the governor's approval by their emergency work and salvaging of a needed drug, illegally sold by the doctor from the prison supplies. When the doctor and prison commandant are proved to be guilty of selling government equipment, they make a break, are killed and Woods and Miss Eilers reach a happy ending.

Both Miss Eilers and Woods are superior to the material and manage some credence in their respective characters. Edward Ciannelli is the crooked doctor, Charles Halton the sly prison head. Victor Kilian does well by the part of an honest guard, and others supply the supporting characters satisfactorily.

Lew Landers was considerably handicapped in trying to put life into the yarn, but at times is able to instill interest. Wallace MacDonald produced and John Stumar photographed.

Film Players Announced For Music Festival

Allan Jones, Judy Garland, Deanna Durbin, Nelson Eddy, Jeanette MacDonald, Lionel Barrymore and Toscha Seidel, concert violinist, will take part in the entertainment at the National Federation of Music Clubs at the Hollywood Bowl tomorrow night. NFMC will present awards to studio composers, musical directors and film musical names for their contributions to serious music. An orchestra of 100 pieces, composed of studio musicians, will play.

Pick Charter Members Of Variety Club

Duke Clark has appointed a committee of four to select 10 charter members for the newly organized Variety Club of Southern California. The four named are John LeRoy Johnston, Charles Buckley, Bob Poole and Earle Collins.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

AMERICAN LEGION'S 17th district is distributing nearly 2,000,000 pledge cards for a reaffirmation of loyalty by every resident of Los Angeles. Signed pledges are to be deposited in boxes set up in theatre lobbies and other locations, after which the entire volume will be shipped to the White House. Every Boy Scout in the city will participate in the campaign by distributing and collecting pledges. Today has been officially proclaimed as Loyalty Day and Legionnaires are confident that every card will be signed for the greatest mass demonstration of fealty to the country ever staged in the U. S. . . . Rash of poison oak broke out yesterday at KNX, putting the itch on Producers Ted Bliss, Sterling Tracy and Al Span, and Publicist Bobby Valentine.

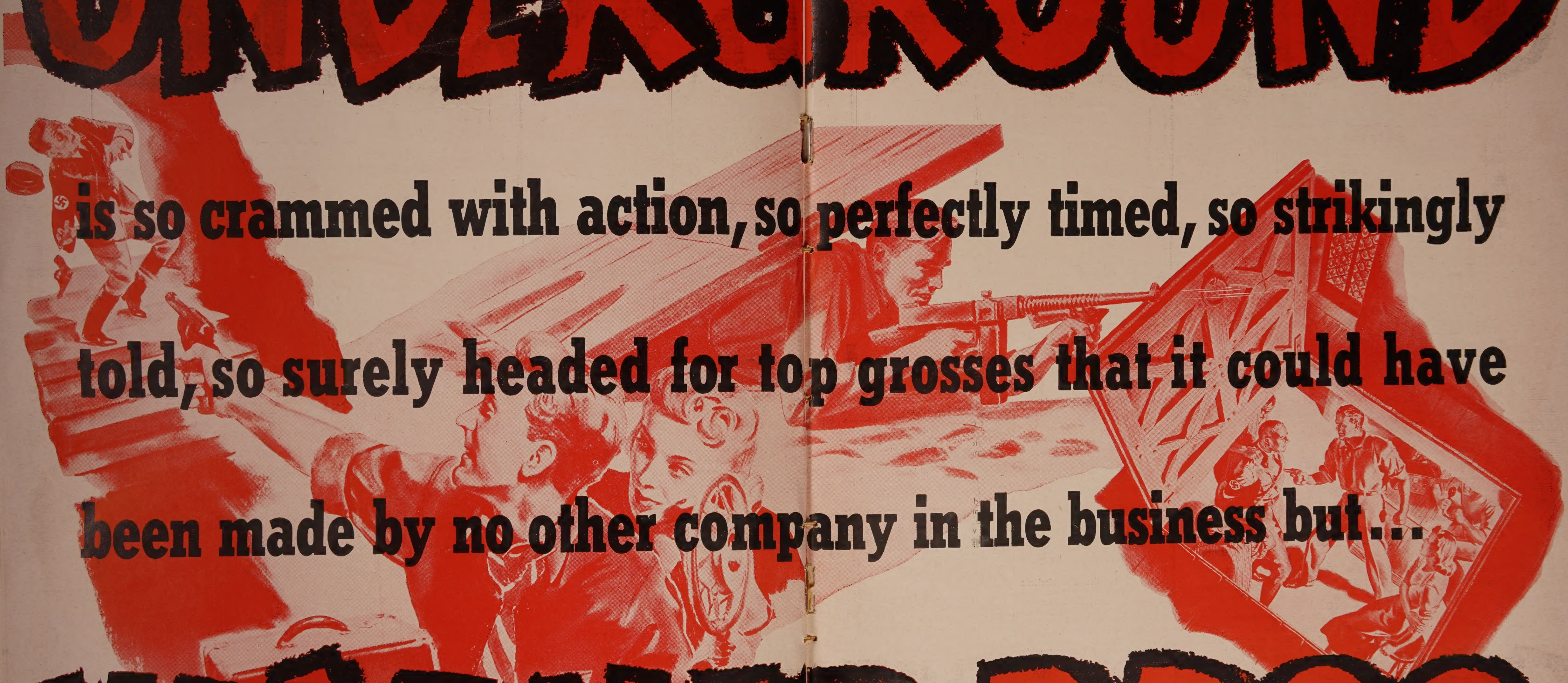
Jimmy Ellison greeted an old friend on the 20th-Fox lot yesterday, a trim looking lieutenant. Not so many years ago he delivered milk on the Ellison porch.

IT WAS a super colossal production, no less, when Hedda Hopper moved into her new Bevhills home yesterday. Friends of the columnist had a complete picture location setup spotted in front of her home when she drove up to supervise the placing of furniture, etc. As the moving van pulled up, kliegs were directed on the scene, with a director shouting orders through a megaphone. Her arrival shortly after brought the full equipment into play. . . . Louis Lighton, Bogart Roberts, Joe Ince and Ernest Benway last night held a private little party to celebrate the first year's operation of the Clayton-Knight committee, group which recruits flyers here for the Canadian Royal Air Force.

Jane Frazee's name goes above the title of 'Sing Another Chorus', musical which has just been finished at Universal.

WHEN Penny Singleton gets to Kansas City today in plane with her husband, Robert Sparks, Columbia producer of the 'Blondie' series, she will be surprised to discover that her new picture, 'Blondie in Society', is being double premiered tonight at Loew's Midland and Municipal Auditorium. She expected only to attend convention of her college sorority. . . . June Clyde and Thornton Freeland entertained Alice Mann and Billy Biset of London at Leone's last night. . . . Major Victor A. Barraco, Dallas theatre owner, is now stationed with the Fleet Marine Force at Camp Elliott where he is in charge of camp recreation and entertainment. . . . Christian Rub is sponsoring exhibit of paintings by Gisella Loeffler at Stendahl Galleries, for which the actor and his wife did all the framing at his ranch workshop. . . . Pot, Pan and Skillet, Negro comic trio, who will appear in the all-Negro musical revue, 'Jump For Joy', at the Mayan, July 10, were interviewed by Universal officials for possible featured spot in 'Hellzapoppin'.

UNDERGROUND



is so crammed with action, so perfectly timed, so strikingly told, so surely headed for top grosses that it could have been made by no other company in the business but...

WARNER BROS.

with JEFFREY LYNN : PHILIP DORN : KAAREN VERNE : MONA MARIS : Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN : Screen Play by Charles Grayson • Story by Edwin Justus Mayer & Oliver H. P. Garrett

Canadian Radio Execs Here for Boyer Loan Drive Airer Sun.

Canadian radio officials arrived here yesterday from Montreal to conduct the broadcast Sunday from NBC of Charles Boyer and a supporting cast of French players in a dramatic tidbit to aid the Dominion's Victory Loan Drive. Program will be done in French and aired over every station in Canada. Here for the special airer are Henri Letondal, program director of CKAC, Montreal, and Gerald Arthur, official of Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

Appearing with Boyer will be Gratien Gelinas, Annabella and Victor Farancen and Janine Crispen.

Top Film Scribes Write USO Radio Program

Top film scribes will prepare special material for stars appearing on the United Service Organizations show in Hollywood Bowl (29). Among those contributing scripts are Arch Oboler, Claude Binyon, Irving Brecher, Hal Medford and others volunteering their services to Sheridan Gibney, prexy of Screen Writers Guild. Roster of name players and bands for the USO show is expected to top any previous galaxy for a benefit performance.

Heading East

H. M. Warner
Charles S. Einfeld
Claude Rains
Earl Miller
Robert Montgomery (SF)
Jesse L. Lasky
Penny Singleton
Robert Sparks

In from the East

Gene Snyder
Dixie Dunbar
Darryl F. Zanuck
Carey Wilson (UP)
John W. Hicks, Jr. (UP)
Dennis Morgan (UP)
Countess Chlapowski (UP)
Zorina
Barney Balaban
Stanton Griffis
Paul Raiburn
Neil Agnew
Robert Gillham
Carey Wilson

The Glory Road

Horace Willard, Negro janitor at KNX, will desert the mop brigade (29) to do a bit of acting in his own yarn, 'One Way to Glory', on the initial 'Young Ideas' series over the Columbia network. All programs are written, produced and acted by secretaries and clerks at KNX.

SAG ADMITS 20 CLASS B MEMBERS DURING MONTH

The Screen Actors Guild during the past month admitted 20 Class B members qualified to do extra work. Of that number 13 were taken in here, and seven by the New York Guild unit. A long list of Class A and Class A Junior memberships also were approved.

New Class B members are Norman Abbott, Mary Buckley, Fred C. Cass, Edwina Coolidge, Forrest Dickson, Pamela Ewing, Ernest Mishens, Jerry O'Neal, Bud Stark, Ella Thomas, Dorothy Warren, Riley R. Waters, Marie Windsor, Mary Jane French, Lloyd Holden, Jane Plowman, Allen Shaw, Winifred Whitney, Thomas Gillen, Peter Gregg.

Class B Special admittances were Joseph Barclay, Mascha Beyo, Elizabeth Heinz, Kathryn Henderson, William Matchan, William Ornellas, Mary Erin Quirk, G. Tony Saylor, Eleanore Williams. Class B Minor memberships were approved for Christine Kennedy, Bonnie Mintz, Gloria Nockenson, Betty Gray, Joe Tate, Ida Lieber, George Ybarra.

New Class A members are Edith Barrett, Betty Breckenridge, Carol Bruce, Isobel Elsom, Sylvia Field, Elisabeth Fraser, Richard Haydn, Anne Hunter, Hans Jaray, James E. Jordan, Marian I. Jordan, James Monks, Elsa Lanchester, Ted Lewis, Ray McDonald, Margaret Moffat, Patrick O'Moore, Daphne Pollard, Rise Stevens, Lew Valentine, Richard Whorf.

New Class A Juniors are Paul Baratoff, Janet Blair, Philip Charbert, Larry Chatterton, Michael Cirillo, Rosemary Coleman, Sandra Coles, Elaine Condos, Harry H. Crosby, Edward R. Cunningham, Lionel Dante, Boyd Davis, E. Jay Derry, Jr., Madeleine Dorval, Alan Edmiston, Wilson Edwards, Heenan Elliott, Richard Fraser, Charles (Dink) Freeman, Curtis Gates, L. O. Gunn, Travis B. Hale, B. Philip Hanna, Cherry Hardy, George Joy, Brad King, Berry Kroeger, Yvonne Adair, Lionel Adams, Wesley Adams, Didy Codre, Helen Everdean, Henry Youngman, Mildred Robin, Helen Hale, Caryl Gould, J. Arthur Young, George Woosley, Patricia Winter, John Wilde, Roy Loomis, Ian MacDonald, Marquita Madero, Pat McVeigh, Richard Mirski, Paul Norby, Ben Norman, Larry Parks, Johnnie Porter, Buddy Ray, Billy Rayes, Elise Reiman, Kathryn Rohrer, Abe Roth, Russ Saunders, Johnny Scott, Wallace Scott, Sidney Skolsky, Beata Sorell, Betty Southern, Helen Southern, Laverne Thompson, Natalie Thompson, Lurene Tuttle, Ralph Urmy, Emil Van Horn, Juan Varro.

NEVILLE MILLER CAUTIONS SENATE GROUP OVER FCC

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

ence for keeping the status quo, Neville Miller, president of National Assn. of Broadcasters, cautioned against destroying public desire for radio service. Comish regulations may curtail network operations to the point where the public fails to turn on the switch, he advised.

There is no serious complaint about the present service, the NAB prexy observed, from the public, advertising agencies, sponsors, affiliates or non-web outlets. Chairman James L. Fly's idea that the rules are a Magna Carta was derided with the comment that Miller is 'sure the first emancipation proclamation was received more enthusiastically than this one.'

Great value of radio, Miller remarked, is mass communication. Though millions of persons listen daily, they will lose interest if the present good service is curtailed, which the regulations may do. Chairman Fly thinks it is possible to tinker with the industry but doesn't realize that too much tinkering will alienate listeners.

Legal shortcomings of the present law were outlined by Duke M. Patrick, resident NBC counsel, who said both stations and chains deserve a chance to take their grievances to the courts. He complained about confusion and uncertainty regarding methods of litigating the reform rules, outlining many perplexing angles and echoing prior charges that the comish has added doubt about getting a complete review. When Fly comes back to the stand he ought to be pinned down on several points, Patrick declared, such as the power of the District Columbia Court of Appeal to grant 'interim relief'.

Objections to the commission's solicitous attitude were registered by three station bosses, Paul Morency of WTIC, Hartford, Conn., vice-chairman of Independent Radio Network Affiliates; John J. Gillin, WOW, Omaha, and Samuel Cook, WFBL, Syracuse. All saw trouble ahead. While affiliation contracts are not wholly satisfactory, there has been substantial progress in ironing out troubles, Morency testified. Operators would rather do their own fighting than make the comish their protector, he opined. Same view was taken by Gillin, who said he never has had trouble with NBC in clearing time for local programs, and Cook, who termed his station's CBS contract one of its assets.

Hearings are likely to wind up tomorrow, with Fly coming back to rebut the arguments of regulation foes, but the committee probably will not get around to deciding for another week what to do with the White resolution calling on the comish to suspend the reforms pending a more comprehensive Senate probe.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SAN DIEGO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations
Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

'Calling All Camps' Gets KFI Signal At 6:30 Tonite

News of trainees in California camps with interludes of dramatized bits will comprise KFI's new feature, 'Calling All Camps', teeing up at 6:30 tonight.

Under Glan Heisch's production supervision, Johnny Murray will preside as emcee and Nancy Moore plays the girl friend of the khakied lads. Music will be by Claude Sweeten's studio crew. Best letters each week from the camps will reward the writers with $50.

C & S Marine Pitch

Chase & Sanborn airshow will pitch its origination at the Marine base in San Diego for the season's blowoff (29). Broadcast from Camp Roberts was called off on account of lack of facilities. During java show's nine-week layoff, Standard Brands will fill the spot with a show for Royal Gelatine.

H. M. Warner in NY Mon.

Harry M. Warner is en route to New York, arriving there on Monday after short stopover in Chicago. Warner will remain east for opening of 'Sergeant York' at the Astor before returning here.

Obituary

MRS. L. L. HAY-CHAPMAN

Mrs. Laura Lorimer Hay-Chapman, 80, famous concert pianist, once called the most beautiful woman in England, died yesterday in the Queen of the Angels hospital as the result of injuries suffered in an auto crash the previous day. She was the widow of Richard Henry Hay-Chapman, New York social leader, editor of the Graphic.

Mrs. Hay-Chapman, who was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, was a member of a titled Scottish family. She studied music on the Isle of Man, in Paris and Berlin, and toured Europe on the concert stage. Her first husband was Algernon Langton. Surviving are six children, and 11 grandchildren. The children are Lorimer Hay-Chapman, San Francisco; Victor Hay-Chapman, Patrick Hay-Chapman, Bruce Hay-Chapman, Rothes Algernon Langton, Mrs. Lora Hay-Chapman Baldwin Quail, of Los Angeles.

GENE WESTON

Gene Weston, head waiter at the House of Murphy cafe, died late Wednesday night at the Hollywood hospital of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was stricken earlier in the day while working in the garden of his home, 3208 Midvale avenue, West Los Angeles, and died a few hours later. The widow survives. An autopsy performed at the coroner's office yesterday showed death to be from natural causes. Funeral arrangements will be completed at Pierce Bros. mortuary today.

FOR SALE
Cafe, Cocktail Bar. Finest Cafe on Sunset Blvd., has been operating 6 yrs. by the same owner, On and Off Sale Liquor License. Other business forces me to sell.
CAFE LAMAZE
9139 SUNSET BLVD.
Call after 7 P.M.

Par Consolidating Three Metropolitan Exchanges in East

New York, June 19.—Paramount is consolidating its three metropolitan exchanges, servicing New York City, Brooklyn and New Jersey, into one exchange according to announcement by Charles M. Reagan, assistant sales manager. M. S. Kusell will be in charge as district manager of the combined territories while Harry Randel, now exchange manager in Brooklyn, will be branch manager.

Myron Sattler, New York branch manager, becomes exchange sales manager and E. H. Bell, New Jersey exchange manager, continues with the company under the consolidation in a sales capacity. Combining of the three exchanges is being made in the interests of more efficient operation under the consent decree, according to company announcement.

F-WC LOWERS PRICES FOR SERVICE MEN

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

months ago about getting together to work out a reduced price scale for men in uniform on a national basis, nothing was done about it and F-WC is believed to be the first circuit to adopt junior admission prices for service men officially as a company policy.

Individual chain theatre managers and independent operators have at various times in recent months broached the subject of lower theatre prices for men in uniform and at one informal gathering of showmen in the east several exhibitors said they often allowed men on service into their houses at reduced rate or without charge. This method was admittedly inadequate and a move got under way to have the matter taken up with the chains with the object of establishing a uniform policy. Up until the Fox West Coast move no further progress had been made.

With savings running as high as 25c on a 50c regular theatre ticket the convenience extended to service men may well increase patronage and maintain interest in films among a tremendous potential audience after the conflict is over.

Junior admission prices will be available to all uniformed privates and non-commissioned officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps and will effect savings up to 50% in approximately 200 F-WC houses in California. Men in the armed forces for whom special policy will be available include those of private to top-sergeant rank in the Army and Marine Corps and from Seaman 3rd Class to Chief Petty Officer in the Navy.

Savings will run as high as 25c on general admissions at the Los Angeles first run houses while the saving will be greater at the Carthay Circle. Where general admission price is 40c and 50c, tariff to men in uniform will be 25 cents; 36c and 31c tickets will sell for 21c; 30 and 27c prices are reduced to 20c; 25c tickets will sell for 17c; 20c and 15c tickets will be lowered to 15c. Tax is extra in every case.

Carolina Pines
YOUSAH!
Delicions, delectable Fried Chicken, Ham, Prime Ribs, Steaks, Chops, etc. Served in the gracious atmosphere of the Old South.
7315 Melrose Ave.
WY. 9122

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Flying Blind'	Paramount	Wm. Pine and Wm. Thomas	Frank McDonald	June 18
'King of the Texas Rangers'	Republic	H. S. Brown, Jr.	Wm. Whitney and Jack English	June 17
'Weekend In Havana'	20th-Fox	Wm. LeBaron	Walter Lang	June 16
'Tanks a Million'	UA	Hal Roach	Fred Guiol	June 20
'Arizona Cyclone'	Universal	Will Cowan	Joseph Lewis	June 16
'The Americanos'	Universal	Ben Pivar	William Nigh	June 18
'Bombay Clipper'	Universal	Marshall Grant	John Rawlins	June 18
'One Foot In Heaven'	Warners	Robert Lord	Irving Rapper	June 16

14 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Three Girls About Town'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	Leigh Jason	June 23
'Married Bachelors'	Metro	John W. Considine	Eddie Buzzell	June 23
'Dynamite Canyon'	Monogram	Robt. Tangey	Bob Hill	June 22
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Wallace Fox	June 23
'Sweet Sixteen'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	June 24
'Night of Horror'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	June 25
'Glamour Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Ted Tetzlaff	June 23
'Lone Rider'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Peter Stewart	June 23
'The Great Fib'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Jed Buell	Wm. Beaudine	June 26
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	June 23
'Ride 'Em Cowboy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	June 25
'Hellzapoppin'	Universal	Jules Levey	Henry C. Potter	June 27
'Badlands of Dakota'	Universal	George Waggner	Alfred E. Green	June 27
'They Died With Their Boots On'	Warners	Robert Fellows	Raoul Walsh	June 25

18 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'New York Heartbeat'	Metro	Front Office	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Saddle Mountain Roundup'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	July 7
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'Army Hostess'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'The Remarkable Andrew'	Paramount	Richard Blumenthal	Stuart Heisler	June 30
'Louisiana Purchase'	Paramount	Harold Wilson	Irving Cummings	July 7
'Mr. Celebrity'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Unassigned	July 5
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Arthur Dreifuss	July 7
'Jungle Siren'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Ted Richmond	Unassigned	July 12
'Obliging Young Lady'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Richard Wallace	Preparing
'Cadet Girl'	20th-Fox	Sol Wurtzel	Ray McCarey	July 7
'Confirm or Deny'	20th-Fox	Darryl Zanuck	Fritz Lang	July 7
'Jungle Book'	UA	Alexander Korda	Zoltan Korda	July 7
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Appointment For Love'	Universal	Bruce Manning	Wm. Seiter	June 30
'Never Give a Sucker an Even Break'	Universal	Unassigned	Edward Cline	July 7
'Kings Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	June 30

Preview

● Continued from page 3 ●

lead in the show open for the fading star out of sentiment, and eventually succumbs to the charm and talent of the unknown girl from the chorus who has enacted a real life comedy so convincingly. Jerome Cowan, as the Broadway producer; Raymond Walburn as the angel, and Elizabeth Patterson make subordinate roles important. Oscar Levant is a standout as the whimsical composer, Rochester scores with a brief but vivid hoofing routine, and Connie Boswell dittos vocally. A Negro ensemble is one of the highlights.

Production has been given topnotch mounting, with Ted Tetzlaff rating bows for swell camera work.

Einfeld East on 'York' Convention Plans

Charlie Einfeld heads for New York tonight. Going on premiere plans for 'Sergeant York' opening at the Astor theatre, July 2 and also work out plans for Warners convention late in July. Probably will remain east until after the convention.

Rep Options Davis

Republic has lifted its option on Rufe Davis, cowboy comedian.

BREEN STARTS WEST TODAY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

series of meetings by the delegates according to their districts. Conclaves opened Monday and plans for company's operations under the consent decree were discussed and the first group of five films to be sold were screened for delegates.

$5,000 PUBLIC HANDICAP PRIZE
Sunday at CALIENTE
15 EXCITING RACES
3 IN THE MORNING • 12 IN THE AFTERNOON
FIRST POST 11 A. M.

16 Standard Working Conditions For 10,000 Up Today

★ Continued from page 1 ★

unions have turned down proposals for an eight-hour day, five day-week, and a minimum four-hour call, with time and half for Saturday work. The unions told Casey yesterday they will insist on adoption of all standard conditions submitted, and will oppose any change in the ratio of apprentices and helpers.

The unions are asking that the work day start at 7 a.m., with time and half after six hours, double time after 12 hours, and triple time after 16 consecutive hours. They also are demanding that the current time and half for Sunday be increased to double time. They demand a tool pass and immediate payment for workers at the end of a shift when they are not given a call back for the next day.

> Negotiating committees representing the 10 studio locals of the IATSE have adopted a resolution asking the Producers to delegate authority to their representatives to set a deal with the unions. They contend negotiations are slowed by the necessity for the Producer negotiators to take all proposals back to the executives before making a decision.

The unions also want an eight-hour rest period, with the proviso that if a man is called back during that time he must be paid for the time he has been idle. The Producers are demanding a ratio of 20 apprentices for each local, with the unions contending that the question of apprentices and helpers should be left up to each local.

Snyder, Dunbar West

New York, June 19.—Gene Snyder, dance director at the Radio City Music Hall, and Dixie Dunbar plane to the Coast tomorrow.

Ill in Pix

LAIRD CREGAR is at Good Samaritan, where he had an appendix operation on Wednesday after having been rushed home from set of 'Charley's Aunt' at 20th-Fox. He was ordered to the hospital within a few hours by Dr. Ewing L. Turner.

★ NOW! ★
"A Woman's Face"
Joan Melvyn
CRAWFORD · DOUGLAS
with CONRAD VEIDT
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
Companion Feature "I'LL WAIT FOR YOU"
with ROBERT STERLING · MARSHA HUNT
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND 7th and BROADWAY
GENERAL ADMISSION 30¢ to 1 40¢ to 6 WEEK DAYS

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Enter	1—Saku	1—Saku	1—Enter	1—Saku	1—Sunny Jack
Saku	Enter	Enter	Sinhala	Sinhala	Saku
Sunny Jack	Lum's Pride	Sinhala	Saku	Sunny Jack	Enter
2—Tory Tom	2—Irrelevant	2—Tory Tom	2—Tempest	2—Ships Bells	2—Irrelevant
Ships Bells	Hi Beautiful	Hi Beautiful	Ships Bells	Tory Tom	Tempest
Double A	Double A	Double A	Irrelevant	Double A	Farida
3—Rivagold	3—Rivagold	3—Rivagold	3—Barsand	3—Rivagold	3—Rivagold
Roughage	Barsand	Roughage	Rivagold	Roughage	Roughage
Barsand	Ebony Cross	Barsand	Silver Treason	Barsand	Pep Step
4—Alviso	4—Alviso	4—Alviso	4—Alviso	4—Rock-Hesive	4—Gold Be'thus
Gold Be'thus	Gold Be'thus	Gold Be'thus	Zebedee	Gold Be'thus	Alviso
Rock-Hesive	Zebedee	Rock-Hesive	Herocanet	Alviso	Herocanet
5—Valdina Joan	5—Valdina Joan	5—Valdina Joan	5—Valdina Joan	5—Valdina Joan	5—Valdina Joan
Chief Bud	Bay Tree Girl	Bar Copper	Chief Bud	Home Drifter	Bar Copper
Home Drifter	Miss Crusader	Jack's Rose	Bay Tree Girl	Chief Bud	Chief Bud
6—Sweepalot	6—Raby Rattler	6—Sweepalot	6—Raby Rattler	6—Friendly Paul	6—Friendly Paul
Friendly Paul	Chatted	Chatted	Sweepalot	Raby Rattler	Sweepalot
Raby Rattler	Friendly Paul	Raby Rattler	Chatted	Sweepalot	Raby Rattler
7—Mistress Plato	7—Merry Marine	7—Mistress Plato	7—Mistress Plato	7—Billie Bane	7—Hard Lu
Bulwark	Mistress Plato	Jeffs Pride	Jeffs Pride	Jeffs Pride	Mistress Plato
Balmy Spring	Jeffs Pride	Billie Bane	Billie Bane	Hard Lu	Scapose
8—Gallant One	8—Cal Naishapur	8—Flying Back	8—Valdina Sun	8—Cal Naishapur	8—Valdina Sun
Cal Naishapur	Gallant One	Cal Naishapur	Gallant One	Flying Back	V'dina Gnome
Valdina Sun	Flying Back	Rain Crystal	Rain Crystal	Rain Crystal	Cal Naishapur

ACTORS, EXTRAS GET PAY BOOST OF AROUND 300G

■ Continued from page 1 ■

at least 30 $5.50 players are called at the same time for that specific set. Where less than that number are called, the extras will receive $10.50 per day. The $16.50 check for dress extras will not be changed, the players themselves having opposed any change on the theory less extras would be used.

Rehearsal pay for singers is increased from $11 to $15 per day; recording pay from $16.50 to $20 per day, with pay for 'mouthing back' set at $10.50 a day. When singers are employed for solo, duet, trio and quartet work they will be salary classified as day players and will receive a minimum of $25 per day.

Pay for stand-ins will be tilted from $6.50 to $8.25 per day. The Guild estimates this will increase their earnings $55,000 annually.

Riders will continue to receive $11 per day. The Guild felt that any pay increase would encourage productions outside the 300-mile Guild zone.

The minimum scale for dancers will be increased from $11 to $13.75 per day. This rate also applies to ice skaters when doing dance routines.

The minimum scale for stunt men is fixed at $200 per week. On term contracts (10 out of 13 weeks or multiples of this), the minimum will be $100 per week.

The weekly minimum scale for day players will be raised from $66 to $100, although the daily scale will remain at $25. The minimum pay for freelance players also will be raised from $66 to $100 weekly. In addition, an intermediate classification has been created, with a minimum of $75 per week, for 'glorified extra work' such as posses.

Improved working conditions for extras were announced as follows:

'Cancelled calls: Extras will receive a quarter check for any cancellation of a call for reasons beyond the control of the Producer, and where the extra is not notified of the cancellation before 6 p.m. of the day previous to the work date. However, this will not apply if the extra is re-employed on the same day at a rate equal to or higher than the cancelled call.

'An additional day's pay will be received by the extras for each hour, or fraction of an hour, worked beyond 16 hours.

'When an extra is requested to bring his automobile he will be paid $2.50 if the car is not used; $3.50 if the car is used within the six-mile limit; $5 if the car is used outside the six-mile limit.

'Extras required to work on legal holidays shall receive time and one-half, if they have been hired by the day, and an extra day's pay if hired by the week.

'For travel time, when an extra player leaves for location before noon, he shall be paid for a full day; if he leaves between 12 noon and 6 p.m., he shall be paid one-half day, unless travel time exceeds four hours, in which event actual travel time shall be paid but not to exceed one full day; if he leaves after 6 p.m. he shall be paid for actual travel time. Travel time stops at midnight. If the player does not work the day following arrival, he shall receive a full day's check.'

CALLS FOR FITTINGS

The number of days on which a day player may be called for fittings is limited to the equivalent of the number of days' work given the player, plus one. Fitting time is limited to four hours for the first day's employment, plus two hours for each extra day of employment, all accumulative. For fittings in excess of these limitations, the actor will be paid on the basis of hourly units at straight time. This applies only to day players receiving under $200 per day. Travel time is the same as that provided for extras.

A freelance player shall receive a full day's pay for each fitting day, if he is not used after fitting. If a written contract is entered into before fitting, this rule does not apply.

The question of options for freelance players has been referred to a sub-committee, which will seek to work out rules governing the situation. The Guild contends that under the present contract with the Producers, options may not be attached to freelance contracts.

STUNT ADJUSTMENT

When a freelance player receiving less than $200 a week is asked to do a stunt, he shall receive at least a minimum adjustment to $35 for that day. On overtime, the freelance actor's salary shall be figured under the freelance terms.

Ballots are now being prepared for a referendum of the SAG membership on acceptance of the new scales and conditions. The deals were negotiated by a SAG committee composed of Edward Arnold, chairman; Edwin Stanley, Walter Abel, Kenneth Thomson, Laurence W. Beilenson, John Dales, Jr., and Antrim Short. The Producers were represented by Y. Frank Freeman, E. J. Mannix, Cliff Work, John Zinn, Fred Beetson, Mendel Silberberg, Herbert Freston, Fred Pelton and Howard R. Philbrick.

BUELNA FETE ARRANGED FOR GOODWILL

Alejandro Buelna, chief of the Mexican Tourist Bureau, will be guest of honor Monday night at a dinner being planned by the Jack Whitney committee to build Latin American good will. Buelna, who arranged all details in connection with the Mexican Motion Picture Festival last April, which was attended by a Hollywood group, will bring a personal message from President Avila Camacho.

Whitney is sponsoring the dinner, through Y. Frank Freeman, head of the Producers association. Invitations will be sent out today. Those who made the trip to Mexico, the studio publicity committee and studio heads will be among those sent bids to the dinner, which will be formal.

Buelna is bringing personal gifts to all those who went on the April junket to Mexico.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 32 No. 12 43 Hollywood, California, Monday, June 23, 1941 5 Cents

STRIKERS SEEK 100G BACK PAY

AUSTRALIA 37½% COIN PACT ON

New York, June 22.—Foreign department film officials here believe that final confirmation in Canberra, Australia, that the Motion Picture Distributors Assn. there had agreed to the new frozen coin pact covering film company remittances beginning March 1 last, is an indication that the MPDA has abandoned hope of getting better terms.

Major film companies in the

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Johnston at Mono After NY Huddle

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram president, returned from a long business stay in New York yesterday and is expected to announce results of new financial negotiations, along with company's production schedule for the first part of the new season. Johnston and Trem Carr, production head, along with franchise holders, recently acquired 65,866-2/3 shares of Mono stock previously held by Pathe Laboratory, which now gives the group around 50% of the outstanding stock in the company.

Irene Bordoni Returns To Pix in 'Purchase'

After 10 years out of pictures, Irene Bordoni goes back into films in the role of Mme. Bordeliase in Paramount's 'Louisiana Purchase.' Irving Cummings, who will direct, reports at the studio today for consultations on set with Raoul Pene du Bois. Picture rolls July 7. Bob Hope polishes up his pipes for the picture. He'll sing 'You Can't Brush Me Off', from the Irving Berlin score.

Spot Edna Holland

Edna Holland has been signed by Metro for a role in 'Ringside Maisie.'

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	333
Major studio calls	468
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	801

PRODUCERS, IA LOCALS RESUME PARLEYS TODAY

Negotiations will be resumed today between the Producers and studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. Pat Casey, who meets with the union tops this morning, conferred with major studio managers Friday to get their views on conditions demanded by the 10,000 film technicians.

Hummel to So. Amer.

New York, June 22.—Joseph Hummel, assistant to Robert Schless, Warners foreign chief, has left for a swing through Latin-American countries, going first to Mexico City.

SAY DISNEY FORCED WAGE-HOUR VIOLATION

A complaint charging that Walt Disney has violated the Wage-Hour Law and seeking to collect approximately $100,000 for striking members of the Screen Cartoonists Guild will be filed today with the Wage-Hour Division. Simultaneously, George E. Bodle, counsel for the Guild, stated he would file new unfair labor practice charges against Disney with the National Labor Relations Board, and would appear before the State Labor Commissioner in connection with $25,000 in claims due Disney employes in salary adjustments.

Bodle declared that the Wage-

♥ Continued on page 5 ♥

NATIONWIDE RADIO WAGE FITE SEEN; SAG BACKS WKRC

The American Federation of Radio Artists' strike at WKRC, Cincinnati, may develop into a nationwide fight to control radio wage scales, it was disclosed yesterday as the Screen Actors Guild telegraphed its support to AFRA officers on the scene at Cincinnati. Emily Holt, national executive secretary of AFRA, declared that the $20-a-week standard for actors sought by HurlbURT Taft, WKRC owner, threatens to disrupt nationally the previous smooth-

♣ Continued on page 8 ♣

Stanwyck, Fonda Start In Columbia's 'Me'

'You Belong to Me' will roll today at Columbia with Barbara Stanwyck and Henry Fonda teamed in the top roles. Wesley Ruggles is directing. Edgar Buchanan, Harold Waldridge and Charles Arnt are in supporting parts.

PRC Gets More Consol. Money

New York, June 22. — Consolidated Film Industries extended additional financing to Producers Releasing Corp. in a deal worked out last Friday between O. Henry Briggs, PRC chief, and Herbert J. Yates. Coin was additional to about $1,000,000 which was made available to PRC in February.

O'Neill for 'Babes'

Henry O'Neill has been added to the cast of Metro's 'Babes on Broadway', which rolls July 1.

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, June 22.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Hut Sut Song	Schumann
Intermezzo	Schubert
Things I Love	Campbell
Maria Elena	Southern
My Sister and I	BMI
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
Daddy	Republic
You Are My Sunshine	Southern
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Because of You	BMI

Skiddy Soap

Bob Hope out-Crossleyed himself when he did a guest spot on Lux in 'Mr. and Mrs. Smith.' That day he passed himself in the CAB rating, the soaper ousting him from his lofty position and dropping his own show a couple of notches.

BREEN TAKES ON RKO JOB TODAY

Joseph I. Breen moves into RKO today to begin his new job as general manager and executive vice-president in charge of production. Breen returns from New York today with President George Schaefer, Reginald Armour, executive assistant

♠ Continued on page 7 ♠

Ballots Out This Week On SAG Revisions

Ballots will be mailed out this week in the referendum ordered by the Screen Actors Guild on contract revisions negotiated with the Producers. The new minimum wage scales for extras, day players and free lance actors will become effective Aug. 1, provided they are ratified by the Class A and Class B memberships.

Make Changes Mind

New York, June 22.—Clay Make, 20th-Fox manager in Australia, has changed plans to leave for Sydney shortly and will remain over for the company's sales convention in Los Angeles next month.

Rae Collet in 'Valley'

Rae Collet, British child actress, has been tagged for a role in 'How Green Was My Valley' at 20th-Fox.

PREVIEWED

THEY MET IN BOMBAY
(MG)

BACHELOR DADDY
(U)

(Previews on page 3)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Ralph Austrian of RCA in town.

Russell Birdwell is opening an office in NY.

George Seid home from his eastern fishing vacation.

Tom Lewis and Loretta Young boat it to Honolulu next month.

Paul Gerard Smith will address the Jonathan Club tomorrow morning.

Charles Wuerz is back in town after several years' absence in the east.

Corp. James Stewart showing his parents and two sisters around the studios.

Mary Bran, former Paris concert manager, opening an artists bureau on the Strip.

Through error mention of writers in Harry Carey's message of appreciation was omitted.

Sam Sax, who has been handling his juke box enterprise in New York, home after 18 months.

Monogram press previews 'Murder By Invitation' tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. at Talisman studio.

Dave Epstein flew out Sunday with his three-year-old son on a 10-day business trip to New York.

Joan Bennett leaves for New York today following completion of 'Wild Geese Calling' role at 20th-Fox.

William Davis, who is doing government mediation work in strike areas, is brother of Owen Davis.

Adele Longmire, one of George Jean Nathan's selections as best bets for legit stardom, in town visiting.

Eddie Silton is dissolving the Rebecca-Silton agency and associating himself with the Walter Kane agency.

George Burns and Gracie Allen spent Saturday at Victorville with their youngsters, and yesterday fishing at Catalina.

Tony Kraber, actor, top guitarist and collector of American musicana, is here as house guest of Warners writer, M. Levy.

Paramount Studio Club picnic will be held at Catalina next Sunday, with more than 2,500 expected to be in attendance.

Irving Briskin retires as president of the local B'nai B'rith in favor of Meyer M. Willmer, at the annual installation of officers at the Hollywood American Legion auditorium.

Benny the Gouge sez—California hoss doctors are holding their annual convention here, but not at the race track.

Hollywood Inside

'THE WATCHMAN' issued an extra edition of 'Hollywood Merry Go Round' yesterday, in which he charged that a move is now underway to use certain American Federation of Labor leaders in the studios to aid the defense of Willie Bioff when he goes to trial on charges of tapping four major film companies for $550,000. 'The Watchman' said current plans call for the leaders in certain studio unions to be rushed to New York to tell the court that Willie is an 'indispensable man' to the union, and that he 'never sold anybody down the river.' 'The Watchman' indicated that none of these leaders are connected with the studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes. The latter are now operating on their own, and have notified the Producers they will handle their negotiations without aid or interference from the IATSE International. The IA studio locals have banded together in a Federation, suggested by Harold V. Smith, chairman of the Business Representatives Committee originally appointed by the various crafts. 'The Watchman' says that Willie does not expect to get any aid from the IATSE locals, one of which has requested that he and Prexy George E. Browne resign, but that he is conferring with other AFofL studio leaders at his San Fernando Valley ranch. 'The Watchman' also states that representatives of the employers have been among the visitors at the Bioff home.

☆ ☆ ☆

SAMUEL GOLDWYN announced over the weekend that he will make '7th Cavalry' early in the fall, with Gary Cooper playing the part of General George Custer. Meanwhile, Warners is preparing to begin shooting Wednesday on 'They Died With Their Boots On', with Errol Flynn in the role of General Custer. Raoul Walsh is directing for Warners and the story was written by Wally Kline and Captain Aeneas MacKenzie. Goldwyn's yarn is being scripted by Robert Presnell, whose father was medical officer for the 7th Cavalry. Presnell was mascot of the regiment when he was a boy. Goldwyn says he is moving the '7th Cavalry' picture ahead on his schedule at the request of the War Department. Cooper has two other films to make for Goldwyn, an untitled comedy and 'The Singing and the Gold'. The comedy will precede the Army picture. Goldwyn's picture will be filmed at Fort Bliss, Texas, where the 7th Cavalry headquarters are located.

☆ ☆ ☆

IT IS a safe bet that Paramount will strive to outdo the 'Gone With the Wind' publicity campaign for its 'For Whom the Bell Tolls'. Studio will also have a far greater number of tests for characters in the Ernest Hemingway story than were necessary for the Selznick opus. Testing begins this week with Paulette Goddard trying for the roll of Maria. There are eight important characters in the Spanish civil war yarn for whom exhaustive tests will have to be made. Buddy De Sylva will not use players simply because they are under contract to Paramount and is letting the word go out that the roles are wide open to all comers. Public interest in the picture is manifest in the fact that some 6,000 letters have been received from customers with suggestions for casting. Sam Wood, director, will have the assistance of William Cameron Menzies, who sketched out every camera setup for 'Gone With the Wind.'

☆ ☆ ☆

RKO has personalities in 'Look Whose Talking' with a combined Crossley rating of 60.3, which means that more than 60 million people listen each week to their radio programs. Fibber McGee and Molly have a Crossley roting of 32.0, while the Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy rating is 28.3. Also on the RKO lot is Kay Kyser, whose rating in 21.8. Terrific air plugs can be expected on 'Look Whose Talking.' However, Universal recently made 'Radio Revels of 1942', a picture built around the world of radio and cast with radio personalities like Ken Murray, Don Wilson, Frances Langford, Skinnay Ennis, Senor Lee, Hanley Stafford and Elvia Allman, and then nixed the idea of stressing the radio appearances of the players in advertising and publicity.

☆ ☆ ☆

LT. COL. DARRYL ZANUCK who attended sessions at the Army War College in Washington recently, according to reports from regular officers who came in contact with him, won the admiration and respect of the West Pointers who attended the sessions with him. Zanuck put in ten hours a day at study and was able to grasp the problems that confronted the old-time army officers as easily as they did, with General George Marshall, chief of staff, letting it be known that the former AEF 'dough boy' was the type of man that should be sought by the government to help in defense measures. Zanuck, a 'buck private' in the last war, was flattered to have regulars, especially West Point graduates, address him as 'Colonel'.

☆ ☆ ☆

FOX GRANADA theatre at Inglewood has instituted continuous performances, starting daily at 1:30 instead of night shows only during the Monday to Friday period. Policy change has been made primarily to take care of the thousands of workers at the Northrop, North American and Douglas Aircraft plants, who might not otherwise be able to avail themselves of screen entertainment, due to so many of them working on night shifts. New policy was instituted by Dave Martin, house manager, functioning in the Stan Meyer LA No. 4 district.

☆ ☆ ☆

AS FORECAST exclusively in Daily Variety, Bruce Manning will be the producer of Deanna Durbin's next picture, succeeding. Joe Pasternak. Manning is now at work preparing for the next Durbin film which will not roll until after the producer has finished his current duties on 'Appointment for Love', with Charles Boyer and Margaret Sullavan.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

In summertime the tourists come to brighten up the scene
With slacks and shorts from Omaha and specs of blue and green
They shine with phoney jewelry and gauds of every hue
And look more Hollywoodish than the natives ever do.

★ ★ ★

When you see a modestly dressed gal walking amid the gaudy throng on Hollywood Blvd., you may safely bet 8 to 5 that she is a film player. The rest are rural rubbernecks.

★ ★ ★

Ann Sheridan has a tough job in 'Navy Blues', dancing a Hays office version of the hula.

With June and the Hollywood moon working in unison, it will be a cinch to gather a cast for 'The Mating Call.'

Pictures are becoming so artistic that some of our leading femmes walk in front of a camera with horn-rimmed glasses. There was a time when gals would rather wear crutches than specs.

★ ★ ★

Edgar Kennedy, most explosive of all actors, is playing 'A Safe and Sane Fourth.'

★ ★ ★

In Hollywood they bet on steeds that romp around a ring.
They bet on fights and football games and all that sort of thing.
They gamble on a wrestling bout which often is a fake
But never risk their bankrolls on the pictures that they make.

★ ★ ★

Lou Costello, wearing a broad-brimmed black hat, looks like Fiorello LaGuardia.

★ ★ ★

Greta Garbo plays twins in her next picture, and one of them dances the rumba.

★ ★ ★

Producers are turning out madcap comedy because it is more salable than sourpuss drama. There is method in their madcapping.

★ ★ ★

'Hello, Frisco, Hello' deals with the bawdy days of the Barbary Coast. As you may suppose, it is not built on the 'Hello, Central, Give Me Heaven' theme.

★ ★ ★

She was a gal of beauty rare
And perfect equilibrium,
And yet she filled me with despair,
For she was chewing gum.

★ ★ ★

Another motorman's holiday—Jimmy Cagney staging amateur strawhatters during his vacation.

★ ★ ★

'Nine Lives Are Not Enough' shows the general trend of unrest. Even the cats are dissatisfied.

★ ★ ★

Even the cows are growing discontented these days. Or they will be when they hear 'Cow Boogie.'

★ ★ ★

'CORPORAL TAKES A WIFE' DOESN'T MEAN JIMMY STEWART.

★ ★ ★

On El Sereno marquee:
'Girls Under 21'
'Flying Wild'.

Film Previews

They Met in Bombay

(Drama)

Metro release of a Clarence Brown production. Stars Clark Gable, Rosalind Russell. Features Peter Lorre, Jessie Ralph, Reginald Owen, Matthew Boulton, Supporting players: Edward Ciannelli, Luis Alberni, Rosina Galli, Jay Novello. Director, Clarence Brown. Producer, Hunt Stromberg. Screen play, Edwin Justus Mayer, Anita Loos and Leon Gordon. Based on a story by John Kafka. Photography, William Daniels. Musical score, Herbert Stothart. Recording director, Douglas Shearer. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Randall Duell. Set decorations, Edwin B. Willis. Special effects, Warren Newcombe. Gowns, Adrian. Men's wardrobe, Gile Steele. Miss Russell's hair styles, Sydney Guilaroff. Makeup created by Jack Dawn. Technical advisor, Major G. O. T. Bagley. Film editor, Blanche Sewell. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, June 20. Running time: 92 mins.

High adventure, action, suspense, and good old hoke, are so adroitly packaged under the Clark Gable-Rosalind Russell names that 'They Met In Bombay' means top theatre business. Its production presentation by Hunt Stromberg, the direction by Clarence Brown, the playing of the cast, and the writing, give free rein to adventurous imagination for solid audience enjoyment, from the de luxe houses right on down to the last play date.

The teaming of Gable and Miss Russell, the first time since their appearance in 'China Seas', is most advantageous. Their styles, light, breezy and sure, form a perfect complement as they demonstrate with delightful assurance the personality and ability that has placed them up among the top box office names.

Gable is a suave jewel thief who encounters Miss Russell, an equally smooth lady crook, in India. Both are after the same loot, a fabulous diamond pendant owned by a champagne-thirsty duchess, Jessie Ralph. Miss Russell makes the heist, is tricked out of the jewel by Gable, and they flee the police together in a typical old-time chase sequence packed with action. They take refuge on a tramp freighter, are exposed by the skipper, Peter Lorre, to the pursuing police inspector, Matthew Boulton, but again escape. Circumstance forces Gable to aid in the evacuation of British subjects from a Japanese-stormed town, he is wounded and decorated for bravery. Miss Russell gets him to return the jewel and picture ends on a reform note indicating future happiness for the couple, within the law. There is lightness, brisk movement, intense suspense, sharp dialog and situation in the script as written by Edwin Justus Mayer, Anita Loos and Leon Gordon from a story by John Kafka.

Lorre's portrayal of the Chinese skipper is another of his superior character etchings. Jessie Ralph is grand as the tippling duchess. Reginald Owen, the general who commands Gable during the latter's involuntary soldiering; Boulton, the police inspector; Edward Ciannelli, the hotel manager; Luis Alberni, Rosina Galli, Jay Novello and a number of uncredited players contribute a cast whose smaller assignments lend bright moments to the picture.

Clarence Brown's directorial guidance is an outstanding job. The

★ Continued on page 8 ★

Bachelor Daddy

(Comedy)

Universal production. Stars Edward Everett Horton, Donald Woods, Raymond Walburn and Baby Sandy. Supporting cast: Franklin Pangborn, Evelyn Ankers, Kathryn Adams, Jed Prouty, Hardie Albright, George Meader, Bert Roach, Juanita Quigley, Bobby Larson, Mira McKinney. Directed by Harold Young. Associate producer, Burt Kelly. Original screenplay, Robert Lees and Fred Rinaldo. Photography, Milton Krasner. Film editor, Paul Landres. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Previewed January 20. Running time: 60 mins.

Originally titled 'Sandy Steps Out', this Universal comedy is a walkaway for company's several-year-old moppet. Baby Sandy romps through the film with an ease which at once stamps the youngster as a sure-fire box office bet. Exhibitors who get after this one are bound to cash in lucratively.

Baby Sandy gets mixed up in all kinds of childish difficulties, and leads her screen mother, Kathryn Adams, and the three Smith brothers, Edward Everett Horton, Donald Woods and Raymond Walburn, to say nothing of Franklin Pangborn and Bert Roach, through all kinds of difficulty before the story finally is unfolded. It all happens because the mother, arrested on a charge of making candy without a license, seeks to protect her youngster and sends him to the Smiths at a bachelor hotel. The brothers take to Sandy like a long-lost relative, but keeping the youngster in the sacred portals of a club where women are absolutely taboo, has its difficulties.

To make matters worse, Pangborn is an officious type of club manager and Hardie Albright a suspicious probation officer to whom Kathryn's case has been referred. Then, too, there's jealous Evelyn Ankers who has her cap set for Donald Woods; Bert Roach, the combination bellhop and elevator operator at the club, and Jed Prouty, who vacilliates hot and cold on his deal with the Smith brothers. Finally everything is straightened out, Woods claims Miss Adams and peace once more reigns.

Bulk of the principals in the large cast turn in fine bits of work, particularly Baby Sandy and Horton. Miss Adams does not seem to fill the mother role adequate, but Evelyn Ankers is excellent as the jealous daughter of Jed Prouty. Woods and Walburn are particularly good as the other brothers, and Pangborn turns in his usual superb portrayal. Albright is weak as the probation officer.

Harold Young has directed for laughs, with the action wholly centered around Baby Sandy, and in this respect turns out an excellent bit of work. His direction of some of the other characters does not appear quite up to standard, but, after all, it's a Baby Sandy picture, and that's what counts at the box office. Burt Kelly, the associate producer, has not stinted on production, and Milton Krasner has done a most capable photographic job. The screenplay by Robert Lee and Fred Rinaldo is as expertly handled as might be expected of a film of this type.

Agnew, Gillham Due In Today To Join Par Products Confabs

Neil Agnew and Robert Gillham, eastern publicity director, are scheduled to get in from New York today to join other Paramount executives in production conferences set for this week at the studio.

Arthur L. Pratchett, Paramount's general manager for Cuba, Mexico and Central America, also planes in from Mexico City today. John W. Hicks, Jr., vice-president in charge of the foreign department, and Russell Holman, eastern production head, arrived Friday.

First arrivals were Barney Balaban, Paramount president; Stanton Griffis and Paul Raiburn, joining Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board.

Baldwin Washes Up MG Deal Amicably

Earl Baldwin, who left Warners last March after being there for nine years, to go to Metro on a seven-year writing deal, last week asked and obtained his release from the Metro contract. Baldwin had just finished the script on 'New York Heartbeat.'

DeCamp in Korda pic

Rosemary DeCamp signed for one of top roles in Alexander Korda's 'Jungle Book'.

In from the East

Irving Asher
Jo Mielzener
Zorina
Steve L. Vanderveer
Joseph I. Breen
George Schaefer
Perry Lieber
Penny Singleton
Robert Sparks
Mervin Hauser
Virginia Dale
H. Schaefer, Jr.
Sidney Kornheiser
Armand Schaefer
William Morgan
Reginald Armour
W. Ray Johnston
William Powell
Diana Lewis

Heading East

J. Epstein
Lee Crawford
L. McCreary
H. Jones
F. Johnson
Tom Pryor
Claude Rains
Mary Pickford
Joan Bennett
Dave Epstein
Sam Coslow
Spencer Tracy
Billy Grady
Tom Walker
John Beal
Pat Herzog
Earl Baldwin
Sid Bowen
Lucien Ballard
D. Ferrie
Jean Renoir
Dana Andrews
Jack Stubbs
H. Glendenning
Irving Pichel
J. McDonald

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

MORRIS HELPRIN around town. Looks as though he will return to the Alexander Korda fold. . . Ben Piazza has been made RKO chairman of the United China Relief Drive. . . . For wholesome showmanly entertainment, Harry Carroll's Tin Pan Alley cafe is the spot. . . . Radio and agency crowd will toss a farewell dinner for Joe Stauffer at the Roosevelt hotel (30) before he shoves off for New York to organize a radio department for Kenyon & Eckhardt agency. For the past three years he has been manager of the Hollywood office for Young & Rubicam. . . . Linda Ware will be soloist with the Chanters, Los Angeles Elks Lodge singing group, next Sunday night at the B.P.O.E. Temple here. . . . Robert Stack is entertaining his uncle, Richard Bonelli. Bonelli sings at the Hollywood Bowl opening on July 8. . . . Frederick Hollander, now doing the musical score on Columbia's 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town', has just had a book, 'Those Torn From Earth', published by Liveright. . . . Otto Kruger is planning a two-week fishing trip into the High Sierras. . . . Victor McLaglen gets in July 3 from personal appearances in the east. . . . Penny Singleton and Robert Sparks returned yesterday by plane from Kansas City where the actress was guest at the national convention of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority. . . Metro's Studio Club orchestra will hold a concert at the Wilshire-Ebell Club Wednesday evening, with Oscar Radin conducting. Soloists will include Charles Holland, Jackie Horner, Electra Simonini and Lucille C. Breymeier.

Helen Parrish, Anne Gwynne and Peggy Moran have been appointed by Deanna Durbin to be her assistants in the Universal United Service Organizations Fund drive which starts today. A. H. McCausland is chief aide to Miss Durbin.

PRESTON FOSTER will be guest of honor July 4 at a civic celebration being staged by the Reno Chamber of Commerce. He'll ride his own horse, Cherokee Chief, in the parade. . . . Sam Israel and Walter Ramsey, of the 20th-Fox flackery, heading for a vacation at Mexico City. . . . Pat Hertzog, secretary to Constantin Bakaleinikoff, leaves today for a vacation in Buffalo. . . . The Merry Macs were guests of honor last night at the Cocoanut Grove, singing their 'Hut Sut' song. . . . Anne Shirley and John Payne played host over the weekend to Florence Lake, just returned here from radio work in New York. . . . Irving Asher planed back from Fort Worth over the weekend after a special showing of Metro's 'Blossoms in the Dust' for Mrs. Edna Gladney, of the Texas Children's Home Society, whose life provided the story of the picture . . . Alvin C. York, whose World War exploits Warners is exploiting in the film, 'Sergeant York', has been given 10-day leave of absence from his post as head of the Tennessee state draft board, in order to attend premiere at the Astor in New York, July 2.

Seek March, Lombard For 'Mr. Twilight' At Columbia

Columbia is trying to close a deal with Fredric March and Carole Lombard for the leads in 'Mr. Twilight', which Everett Riskin will produce. Story is by Irwin Shaw. Dicker with March is being delayed by the prospect that he may be cast in Warners 'The Man Who Came to Dinner.'

Riskin has just finished 'Heaven Can Wait', the first of his two yearly picture deals with Columbia.

TWO PRC READY FOR GO SIGN

Two new pictures for Producers Releasing Corp. go into work this week, one rolling today and another tomorrow, leaving company with four features to do to round out a total of 20 slated for the current season, and two more westerns, against 18 promised. PRC has had an average of one picture going before the cameras each week since April and has the balance of this season's product lined up for early starting dates to clear the decks for 1941-42, announcement on which is expected shortly.

Rolling today will be an untitled George Houston musical western, being produced by Sigmund Neufeld and directed by Sam Newfield with Al St. John handling the comedy interest. Oater starts on location at Chatsworth and leaves two more Houstons to do this year.

Starting tomorrow is 'Reg'lar Fellers', exploitation special based on the Gene Brynes cartoon strip. Arthur Dreifuss directs and co-produces with Joseph Eudemiller from the script by Arthur Hoerl. Billy Lee does the Pinhead character. Carl (Alfalfa) Switzer will play Bumps; Janet Dempsey, Aggie Riley; Buddy Boles, Jimmy Dugan, and Malcolm Hutton, Pudd'nhead.

Hughes Moves South For Commentary

John B. Hughes is moving here from Frisco to conduct his commentary on the Don Lee-Mutual network for four sponsors. He will air his 'News and Views' from KHJ four times a day. Newest account, Aspertane, goes out over 78 stations of the Mutual web.

SCBA Elect Today

Southern California Broadcasters Assn. will elect a new slate of officers today. Harry Witt of KNX has been prexy for the past year.

a.m. Dailies

U. S. Tax Lien Hits Trio—
Lionel Barrymore, Carmel Myers Blum and Ralph Blum have been hit by U. S. income tax liens filed here. Nat Rogan, collector, seeks $12,912 additional from the actor on his 1940 earnings.

Vallee Files Incorp. Papers—
Articles of incorporation for Rudy Vallee Presents, Inc., have been filed in Sacramento. Directors are Vallee, Ted Lesser, Mannie Lowy and Claire Lesser.

Radio, FCC Decish Goes Over Until After July 4

Washington, June 22.—Outcome of the radio industry's fight to stave off drastic Federal Communications Commission anti-monopoly reforms and obtain a new statute more clearly defining broadcasters' rights and duties will not be known for at least a fortnight. The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, after hearing several independent web affiliates back up the alleged 'big bad wolves', recessed last Friday until road-touring war debaters can reassemble to listen to rebuttal testimony of Chairman James L. Fly. The White resolution is in the refrigerator in the meantime.

It is unlikely that Senators Burton K. Wheeler, chairman; D. Worth Clark, Wallace H. White and Charles W. Tobey—those most interested in the subject — will be available simultaneously until after July 4.

Final meeting of the three weeks of intermittent testimony was marked by the injection of a new topic, line charges of the telephone company. Repeatedly, Senator Homer T. Bone of Washington threw out suggestions that either the commission or Congress should gander the tariffs and find out how the Bell System justifies its mileage rates, connection costs and other levies.

Question was brought up when J. W. Lee of KGFF, Shawnee, Okla., related his returns from Mutual (he is now affiliated with the NBC Blue) were not ample to pay the line charges. For every dollar he took in from the chain, he had to fork over $1.18 to get their features. Bone then quizzed each succeeding industry witness about his wire costs and instructed Seymour Creager of the FCC staff to supply information about the basis on which the tariff is figured, the telephone company's annual take, and what the regulators have done about this expensive item.

It looked to Bone, he said, as though the telephone company has 'fastened itself' on the industry to the point where it makes a profit even if nobody else does.

More rocks were chucked at Mutual during the final canto. Lee, the principal heaver, said that Mutual is 'neither Mutual nor a network'. The Blue web's sustainings are undisputably superior, he said, and Mutual does not pay off as liberally as its executives claim, and listeners are confused by the Mutual plugs for the originating station.

There was a Mutual counterattack when Hope H. Barroll of WFBR, Baltimore, related why he decided to quit the NBC family. Reluctance to displace a public service program for the Maryland National Guard (carried in network option time in order to accommodate Oxydol) brought a threat from Vice-President William S. Hedges that his outlet would be shifted from the Red to the Blue, Barroll said. Though Niles Trammell, NBC prexy, denied any such thought, Barroll pointed out that he later was told he would be moved—and offered higher rates and an annual guaranty, which he never got while on the Red, and WBAL, a rival outlet of the Hearst paper, would replace him. His plant goes on Mutual Oct. 1.

Uplift groups lined up behind the affiliates in urging adoption of the White resolution. Fear that religious programs would be knifed was voiced by the Federal Council of Churches and the National Council of Catholic Men, and general opposition came from the Federation of Women's Clubs.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

Following tabulation of network popular music performances is confined to WOR, New York outlet for Mutual Broadcasting System. Compilation herewith covers the week beginning June 14-20 (Friday) from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., and is based on data provided by accurate reporting service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry:

Title	Publisher	Total
Aurora	Robbins	19
I Understand	Feist	14
Harbor of Dreams	Miller	12
Hut Sut Song	Schumann	11
Intermezzo	Schubert	10
I Found a Million Dollar Baby	Remick	7
You're Dangerous	Santly	7
Chapel In the Valley	Witmark	7
Everything Happens to Me	Embassy	7
You Stepped Out of a Dream ('Ziegfeld Girl')	Feist	7
Maria Elena	Southern	7
Nighty Night	Beacon	6
My Sister and I	BMI	6
There Goes That Song Again	Berlin	6
Love Me a Little Little	Mayfair	5
Beau Night	Berlin	5
Corn Silk	BVC	6
Dolores	Paramount	5
One I Love Belongs	Forster	5
Tale of Two Cities	Harms	5
Kiss the Boys Goodbye ('Kiss the Boys Goodbye')	Famous	5
Daddy	Republic	5
Don't Cry, Cherie	Shapiro	5
Ma, I Miss Your Apple Pie	Loeb-Lissuer	5

Bakersfield Indie Operators File Kick with AAA

Seeking clearance relief for their Oildale and Arvin theatres, D. Lemucchi and James J. Bambucci, Bakersfield indie chain operators, have filed action before the American Arbitration Association here. They name Paramount, Vitagraph, 20th-Fox, Loew's, Inc., RKO Radio and United West Coast Theatres.

Pair want a maximum of 42 days clearance set up for the River theatre at Oildale, and 21 days for the Arvin house, at a 30c admission top.

AUSTRALIA 37½% COIN PACT ON

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

U. S. were notified about two months ago that only 37½% of picture revenue would be permitted to leave Australia under the new pact, approximately $2,300,000, compared with the first-year agreement of 50% or $3,100,000.

Revenues of the eight U. S. majors in normal years are estimated at approximately $6,400,000. The Anzac coin pact is patterned after that made by U. S. distributors with Great Britain.

Three Writers Added To Vallee Gang

Producer Dick Mack has added three writers to the Rudy Vallee Sealtest airer to replace Mel Frank and Norman Panama, working at Paramount on the screenplay of their original for Bob Hope, 'Snowball in Hell'. Newcomers are Jess Oppenheimer, Jack Harvey and Dick Chevillet.

Bezzerides, Gamet on Warners 'Jook Girl'

A. I. Bezzerides, author of 'The Long Haul', is collaborating with Ken Gamet on story preparation for 'Jook Girl', which Jerry Wald will handle as associate produced under Hal Wallis. James Cagney and Ida Lupino will probably have leads, and Raoul Walsh is in line as director.

Tilton on 'Carnival'

Martha Tilton has taken over the singing spot from Kay St. Germin on 'Signal Carnival' for an indefinite period.

Kennedy Trio Airs

Lindy's Claude Kennedy trio featuring Jeanne Darrell is aired over KMPC Monday to Friday nights.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY DOUBLE-HEADERS

Hollywood, 16-0; San Diego, 4-8.
Los Angeles, 3-0; Seattle, 1-3.
Oakland, 6-1; Sacramento, 9-2.
San Francisco, 8-9; Portland, 13-5.

SATURDAY SCORES

San Diego, 7; Hollywood, 6.
Portland, 17; San Francisco, 2.
Sacramento, 7; Oakland, 5.
Seattle, 12; Los Angeles, 4.

FRIDAY GAMES

San Diego, 4; Hollywood, 3.
Los Angeles, 3; Seattle, 1.
Oakland, 8; Sacramento, 2.
San Francisco, 10; Portland, 3.

Strikers Seeking $100,000 Back Pay From Walt Disney

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

Hour complaint will charge that from Oct. 24, 1939, to Oct. 24, 1940, Disney required his employes to work four hours on Saturday, although only two hours were recorded on their time cards. At that time the legal work week for those under the Wage-Hour Law was only 42 hours, and it is contended that some 80,000 work hours of the employes now on strike were concealed.

The new NLRB unfair labor practice charges will assert that Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney unit of the SCG, and other leaders were discharged because of their union activities. It also is alleged that employes were required to take work home with them in violation of the law.

Bodle said: 'Walt Disney on May 22 entered into a stipulation with the NLRB for the dissolution of the Federation of Screen Cartoonists, and promised to desist thereafter from influencing or interfering with the free choice by his employes of a bargaining agency. We maintain that the subsequent formation of the ''American Society'' and now the ''Associate'' by the same leaders of the same small group of 50 persons is an evasion of that stipulation.'

Herbert Sorrell, business representative of the strikers, read a letter from Walt Disney at a meeting Friday in which Disney refused to make concessions in an effort to reach a settlement. Art Babbitt, chairman of the Disney group, stated:

'This attitude is no more than we had reason to expect from Mr. Disney. Our efforts to persuade him to discuss our vital problems repeatedly fail. The men and women who went out on this strike were aware of this attitude from the start. We are prepared to meet it steadfastly until our rights are agreed upon and protected, in writing.'

In the meantime, committees were completing arrangements to finance the strikers indefinitely. It was reported that the International Brotherhood of Painters would contribute $1,000 weekly to pay pickets. The Screen Actors Guild, Screen Publicists Guild and other studio crafts also have promised financial aid, several of them having already contributed.

Picketing of all theatres showing Disney products is being resumed, as the national boycott ordered by the American Federation of Labor, through the Central Labor Council, becomes effective. A group of 12 pickets marched in front of El Capitan last night. It is understood arrangements also are being made to picket theatres throughout the country where they exhibit Disney films.

Pressure also will be renewed on RKO to stop distributing Disney products for the duration of the strike. It is understood that new demands will be made on the company when studio heads return from the eastern convention.

Tyler as Mesquiteer

Tom Tyler has been signed to a term contract at Republic to replace Robert Livingstone in the 'Three Mesquiteers' series. Tyler will be the third member of the trio with Bob Steele and Rufe Davis.

Indie Leader Says Rodgers Plan Would Kill Films

Minneapolis, June 22.—S. G. Lebedoff, chairman of the Northwest Allied Exhibition Association problems committee, has issued a statement bitterly assailing W. F. Rodgers, Metro sales chief, because of the latter's declaration before the convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at Los Angeles, asserting high admission prices and more percentage pictures and playing time are necessary to enable producers to turn out better product and bring the public back to the theatres. Lebedoff, who also is treasurer and Minneapolis governor of the territory's independent exhibitors' organization, declared the proposed remedy of Rodgers, instead of curing the present box office ills, would kill the industry by sounding the death knell for the indie theatre operator.

Instead of the Rodgers program, there should be an entire elimination of percentage pictures to pave the way for a box office revival, Lebedoff states. He wants the independent leaders to sponsor a federal law to permit exhibitors to bargain collectively, a la trade unions, with distributors, and believes this is necessary to 'save' indie exhibs.

Leaders of Northwest Allied are inquiring into legal aspects of wholesale closing of theatres as a 'strike' for film rental reductions in line with the lower grosses. Even if their counsel decides that such a 'strike' would incur the risk of indictments for conspiracy in restraint of trade, Bennie Berger, owner of one of the largest indie circuits, advocates that all exhibitors close their houses at least during July, not as a 'strike', but for the benefit of the box office.

Shrinking grosses have brought in their wake exhibitor chiseling on a record-breaking scale, according to distributors here. Many exhibs are attempting to allocate pictures themselves and, instead of remitting the amount billed, send in what they think they should pay and what they consider a 'fair' amount for the distributing organizations, based on box office returns.

Committee has been appointed by Allied, locally, to make a study of what the public wants in the way of film entertainment and ways and means to stimulate box office attendance. It proposes to work out a campaign to be launched in the early fall.

Even though they are threatened with an indefinite prolongation of the state ban against selling by five of the leading major companies, that may leave them without sufficient product to keep their theatres open by next winter, Allied members have voted to continue to stand behind the Minnesota law outlawing the consent decree's blocks-of-five sales provision, and requiring distributors to sell their entire season's product.

Nine weeks have elapsed since the Minnesota law went on the statute books, and the five consent decree major companies still have taken no steps toward selling in this state, and have not initiated any move designed to knock the law out or to come under its provisions.

WINNERS IN NSS SALES DRIVE

New York, June 22.—Winners in the Beat Par Sales drive were announced at the annual convention of National Screen Service, at company's annual convention here last week. In group one, winners were Arthur Jacobson, manager, Washington, D. C.; Jack Flannery, Seattle; Charles Lester, Atlanta; Lou Patz, Des Moines, and Herb Washburn, St. Louis.

In the second group, winners were Ted Liebtag, Indianapolis; Wallace Walthall, Dallas; R. Conway, Memphis; Gilbert Clark, Oklahoma City, and Herb Washburn, St. Louis, who also copped in the first group. Final sessions were held Thursday with George Dembow, vice-president in charge of sales, presiding.

SOEG, MG Sesh

Representatives of the Screen Office Employes Guild meet with Metro executives tonight to resume their contract talks. A meeting of the Metro membership of the SOEG has been called for Wednesday night (25) to discuss means of speeding up negotiations with the company.

Renoir 'Swamp' Co. Planes To Georgia On 2 Weeks' Locale

Company of 40, headed by Director Jean Renoir and Dana Andrews, the male lead, planed out last night for the Okefenokee Swamp country in Georgia to begin shooting on 'Swamp Water', which Darryl F. Zanuck is producing for 20th-Fox.

Anne Baxter has the femme lead and Walter Brennan the top character part, but neither will be used in the actual swamp sequences. Troupe remains in the south, headquartering at Jacksonville, Fla., for two weeks before returning to the studio, and will coast for three weeks before starting interiors on the lot.

Loew, Lewin Pushing 'Mating Call' Ahead

David L. Loew and Albert Lewin have set back production of 'Landfall', scheduled for shooting in September, in favor of 'The Mating Call', screenplay by Ben Hecht from a story by Lois Montross. Loew and Lewin are shopping around for more story properties, planning to produce three pictures a year for United Artists release.

Births

GIRL, weighing seven pounds, four ounces, was born last Friday to Mrs. Harry Kerr at Hollywood hospital. Father is a writer on the Lux airshow.

Puddin' Head
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NICHOLAS: "Hm—do you think the Prince would marry a commoner!"
JUNIOR: "Why not! They don't come any commoner than he is."
JUDY CANOVA with
FRANCIS LEDERER
RAYMOND WALBURN · "SLIM" SUMMERVILLE
EDDIE FOY, JR. · ASTRID ALLWYN · ALMA KRUGER · HUGH O'CONNELL · "CHIC" CHANDLER
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director · Screen play by Jack Townley and Milt Gross · Original Story by Jack Townley

Park-In-Theatres, Inc. Loses Action Over Colton House

Holding with the defense that the Hollingshead patent claimed for drive-in theatres is invalid because of architectural designs, and did not infringe on any manufacturing set-up, U. S. District Court Judge Harry A. Hollzer dismissed the complaint of Park-In-Theatres, Inc., against M. A. Rogers, who for a time operated an outdoor drive-in theatre near Colton. Case was thrown out of court without a trial after Attorney Herbert A. Huebner, for the defense, asked for dismissal on the grounds as stated.

Park-In-Theatres, Inc., comprising principally Richard M. Hollingshead, Jr., in whose name a patent has been issued, and Warren Smith, sued Rogers, asking for damages and an injunction. The Hollingshead patent, numbered 1,909,537, covers an improvement for drive-in theatres. According to affidavits filed by the plaintiff, there were 25 theatres using the Hollingshead patent on Dec. 5, 1940, when suit against Rogers was filed. Theatres in course of erection or contemplated brought the list to around 60.

First theatre patented under the Hollingshead plan was the Los Angeles Drive-In, in Sept., 1934. Cost of these patents ran $1,000 for a theatre, the average cost of which ran around $40,000. In later deals the patent was granted for a lump sum plus 5% of the gross receipts of the theatre.

Bob Denton Sets Up Utah Blurb Bureau

Robert B. Denton, Union Pacific news bureau chief in Los Angeles, and E. C. Schmidt, assistant to the president of UP, have set up a complete news bureau in Cedar City, Utah, to publicize Bryce Canyon, Zion and Grand Canyon North Rim, National Parks. Charles Bulott, formerly with Music Corporation of America and National Broadcasting Company, heads the bureau and serves as cameraman. George A. Johnson, publicist, handles news.

20th Keeps Cregar

20th-Fox has lifted its option on Laird Cregar, who is at the moment recuperating from an appendectomy at Cedars of Lebanon hospital.

Ashton Stevens Visits

Ashton Stevens, dramatic critic for the Chicago Herald-American, is in town visiting his nephew, George Stevens.

Title Changes

'You're In the Army Now', Warners, to 'Right Shoulder Arms'.

Universal's 'Oh Charlie' to 'Hold That Ghost'.

MODERNIZE—
STYLIZE YOUR DANCING
Latest tap, Acro, ballet, rumba or eccentric tap; riffs, slides and turns.
Production and novelty numbers
by nationally known instructor.
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SOLDIERS TO M. C. ACTS FOR USO'S BOWL SHOW

Soldier m.c.'s are being engaged for the mammoth three-hour stage show being produced for the United Service Organization drive by the Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation at the Hollywood Bowl next Sunday night (29). Soldiers from various camps were auditioned yesterday with the idea of having every act on the bill introduced by a man in uniform.

The Columbia network has been cleared from coast to coast so that the program can be aired for the first hour and a half, with Mutual and NBC also reported trying to clear time to take the show.

In addition to the names listed, the committee also is trying to line up the highest priced stars at the major studios, and may present many of them coupled as in their screen appearances.

USO Hollywood headquarters listing of those who will definitely appear in the show includes Clark Gable, Ann Sheridan, John Barrymore, Cary Grant, Jack Benny, Mary Livingstone, Connie Boswell, Rosalind Russell, Frances Langford, Tyrone Power, Fanny Brice, Hanley Stafford, Edward Arnold, Nelson Eddy, Jane Withers, Hattie McDaniel, Duke Ellington and his band.

Among the writers at work on material for the program are Arch Oboler, Claude Binyon, Irving Brecker, Harold Melford and Carey Wilson. Earl Carroll girls sold tickets Saturday at Hollywood Park after Company K, 15th Infantry, staged a guard mount ceremony for the race fans.

The show is under the executive direction of Y. Frank Freeman, Edward Arnold, Harry M. and Jack L. Warner, Frank Vincent, J. J. Schnitzer, Earl Gilmore and Dr. A. H. Giannini. Charles Vanda is producing.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Columbia)

'You Belong to Me'
Dir.: Wesley Ruggles
Asst.: Norman Deming

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

Untitled George Houston Western
Dir.: Sam Newfield
Asst.: Melville de Lay

(Metro)

'Married Bachelor'
Dir.: Eddie Buzzell
Asst.: Sandy Roth

Skouras Extends F-WC Salesmanship Drive

Discouraged by results attained during the current Spyros Skouras Salesmanship drive over the National Theatre chain, Field Marshal Charles Skouras has extended the campaign for an additional five weeks, with drive now to end Aug. 16. As a further incentive for renewed efforts during the next six weeks, Skouras has hung up an additional $2,500, to be distributed as prizes in the districts achieving best results during the 16th and 17th weeks of the campaign. Special week, just concluded over the circuit, was won by Hal Baetz of the Rocky Mountain division, who copped the major portion of the $2,500 prize money hung up.

Riter Joins Universal

Bill Riter, for number of years with Columbia Pictures here, and more recently with Producers Distributing Corp., has joined the Universal sales force in Denver. He replaces Art O'Connell who has been transferred to the Los Angeles office.

Col Starts 'Frontiers'

'Roaring Frontiers', western co-starring Bill Elliott and Tex Ritter, rolls today at Columbia. Lambert Hillyer is directing.

20th Reties Marley

The contract of J. Peverell Marley, photographer now working on 'Charley's Aunt', has been renewed by 20th-Fox.

Acad Research Group Gives Acoustical Recommendations

A bulletin on theatre acoustic recommendations is being issued by the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The bulletin was prepared by the Council's theatre sound standardization committee under the chairmanship of John K. Hilliard.

One of the recommendations calls for heavily upholstered seats and ozite-lined carpet in the aisles. It also states that long, narrow auditoriums, high ceilings, excessively long and narrow balcony overhands, concave focusing surfaces, and large underbroken reflecting areas should be avoided, as acoustical faults always result from their use.

In a letter sent to the president of each chapter of the American Institute of Architects as well as other architectural groups, Darryl F. Zanuck, Council chairman, pointed out the practical value of the information contained in the bulletin. He offered a limited number of copies for transmission to the membership of each group.

Bessie Love Working In Exec End of Lon. pix

Bessie Love, one of the top stars of the silents, has been working in England in the executive end of the business, her first job having been production assistant on the British made 'The Prime Minister' being readied for Warners release. She returns temporarily to acting, having a role in the British studio's forthcoming 'Atlantic Ferry', soon to start at the Teddington plant.

Leads for Mono 'Bah'

Grace Hayes, Mary Healy and Peter Lind Hayes will co-star in 'Zis, Boom, Bah', to be produced at Monogram by Sam Katzman. Picture rolls July 24. Grace Hayes Lodge will be used as background. Story is taken from a musical show, now on the road, which broke in here some time ago at the Orpheum theatre.

F-WC Draws Up Brief For Revision of Zoning, Clearance Problems

Additional clearance protection and revision of clearance and zoning conditions in many situations in the Southern California district are being requested by Fox West Coast Theatres, wherever negotiations with major film companies for next year's product have come up. With the consent decree provision allowing for 'reasonable clearance', F-WC has drawn up statistics showing that in many instances admission prices have been raised in their theatres without a corresponding boost in houses operated by independents in competitive situations. F-WC executives contend that circuit theatres should be given a week or two additional protection in various territories unless the subsequent runs increase admissions in proportion.

A brief on the proposed new clearance and zoning, listing all the situations involved, has been drawn up by Fox West Coast, from accounts, with figures denoting current and proposed scales of admission prices.

Deals for next season's product have already been discussed with 20th-Fox, and begin today with Metro. But though a basic formula has been arrived at between 20th-Fox and F-WC, the distributing company has yet made no commitments on the more favorable clearance terms being asked by the circuit heads, and a final basis for product booking in individual situations is still in process of being formulated.

The Metro franchise, on the last year of a three-year contract, which is up for discussion this week, is subject to modification annually under the terms of the agreement. Metro has so far made no move to grant the request for additional clearance asked by F-WC, and much additional study likely will be given the matter before the deal is set.

The question of additional clearance has so far been taken up only with Metro and 20th-Fox, the former because of a three-year franchise and the latter due to its circuit affiliation. Product deals cannot be discussed with the other signatories to the consent decree except in blocks of five, and only when pictures are completed, in line with regulations.

Lester Linsk Joining MCA pic, Air depts.

Lester Linsk, former coast radio head of Lyons & Lyons agency, today joins the Music Corporation of America as an associate in the picture and radio departments.

Attend Rose Fete

Al O'Keefe, Universal western district chief, and Charles Feldman, in charge of company's local exchange, attended farewell dinner tossed at San Francisco for Barney Rose, long U manager there, who has been transferred to Chicago.

Windemere at Helm

Fred Windemere, former director, is now in charge of the Hollywood offices for Liberty National pictures of which M. H. Hoffman is president.

Far-Reaching Decish In NY Over Radio Plagiarism

New York, June 22.—The appellate division of the New York Supreme court, unanimously reversing a decision of the Supreme court, handed down an opinion of far-reaching importance Thursday (19) in a ruling on the plagiarism of formula as applied specifically to radio.

In October, 1940, Justice John McGeehan ordered a Supreme court jury to dismiss a $25,000 action brought by Alonzo Deen Cole, writer, actor and radio director, against Phillips H. Lord, Inc., in which Cole charged that a radio program idea of his entitled 'Ex-Racketeer and Co.', later changed to '137 Centre Street', had been appropriated by the defendants in a radio program called 'Mr. District Attorney'. Cole, who went to work for Lord, Inc., in September, 1935 at $200 weekly, contended he submitted the script as a radio idea while there. Lord claims to have been working on the idea for a considerable period before Cole submitted his plans. Both scripts are about the activities of a district attorney and racketeers but plagiarism of formula, not any particular part of the script, was charged.

The appellate division, in reversing the earlier decision, ordered a new trial declaring 'That a property right exists with respect to a combination of ideas evolved into a program as distinguished from rights to particular scripts finds support in the defendants own course of conduct. When it transferred any rights to "Mr. District Attorney" it sold not the script but the basic idea. In the radio field there is a well recognized right to an original idea or combination of ideas set forth in a formula for a program. We care clearly of the view that the plaintiff established prima facie, an express contract under which he had intrusted his work to the defendant. This contract afforded him protection even as to his mere idea.'

Morton Grant Shifts

Morton Grant has finished the screenplay on 'Homesteads of Hate', Tim Holt starrer at RKO. Grant immediately started work on the next Holt western, 'Riding the Wind.'

End 'Boss's Daughter'

Shooting finished Saturday on 20th-Fox's 'Marry the Boss's Daughter'. Thornton Freeland, directing, brought the picture in two days ahead of schedule.

Dawn Ends 'Tell'

Isabel Dawn has finished the final screenplay on Republic's 'Doctors Don't Tell'. Studio is trying to get Helen Craig for the femme role opposite John Beal.

Story Buys

Metro has purchased 'Delicate Affair', by Frederick Kohner. Story is of three girls in New York, left with the baby of one girl's brother. Script will go heavy on comedy angles. Edwin Knopf will produce.

'That Was No Lady', original by Paul Jarrico and Richard Collins, has been purchased by Metro.

GEO. BROWNE TO BE TRIED ON BIOFF DAY, AUGUST 18

New York, June 22. — George E. Browne, prexy of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, will face trial in Federal court Aug. 18 on charges that he and Willie Bioff extorted $550,000 from four major film companies. Bioff, who recently served six months on a pandering charge, is scheduled to face trial on the same date.

Browne appeared before Judge Edward A. Conger here Friday. He pleaded innocent, and was released in $50,000 bond, after being warned that he would be jailed if any effort was made to tamper with government witnesses.

Browne was well represented in court, having as his attorney Martin Conboy, who was formerly U. S. Attorney for New York, holding the same position in 1933-35 as Mathias F. Correa now does. Bail of $50,000 was set for Browne, this being the amount asked by Correa, although Conboy requested $20,000, pointing out that Browne was a family man, father of three children, who had no past criminal record, and who had surrendered to the authorities voluntarily. Judge Conger stated that 'I see no reason for a differentiation between the two defendants', and set bail at $50,000, the amount set for Bioff.

Correa made the same request for the protection of government witnesses that he had previously stated before Judge John C. Knox. Judge Conger followed Judge Knox's ruling, and told Browne that if any letters or calls were received by government witnesses, bail would be revoked, and Browne jailed. Browne was given 10 days to make any motions he saw fit to the court, and he was released.

Picture Relief Fund Election Tuesday

Annual election of officers of the Motion Picture Relief Fund will be held tomorrow night at 8:30 at the Roosevelt hotel, Jean Hersholt, chairman of the relief fund committee, presiding. Hersholt will present his annual statement on relief activities during the year and reports will be submitted by Mary C. McCall, Jr., chairman of the relief executive committee; George Bagnall, chairman of the finance committee; Hilda Vaughn, of the case committee; Dr. Francis E. Browne, chief of the medical staff, and Wilma Bashor, executive secretary.

Plans and scale models of the film charity organization's new country home to be erected in San Fernando Valley will be on display. Home will be at the disposal of veterans of the Hollywood motion picture crafts for recreation and a rest home.

Terms Dona Drake

Paramount is lifting its option on Dona Drake, who originally was signed for one picture, 'Aloma of the South Seas.' Actress, currently in 'Louisiana Purchase', has been given a term contract.

Bacon 'Blues' Return

Lloyd Bacon has brought his 'Navy Blues' crew back from San Diego location. Tops who worked on exterior shots included Ann Sheridan, Jack Oakie, Martha Raye, Jack Haley.

Col, Abrams in Deal

Columbia is dickering with Derwin Abrams, who has directed two pictures for Harry Sherman at Paramount. William Berke wants him for westerns.

Leipold's 'Wastelands'

John Leipold will score 'Secret of the Wastelands', a Harry Sherman Hopalong at Paramount, beginning today. Music will be directed by Irvin Talbot.

Searle Gets Leave

Jackie Searle has been given a leave of absence from his job of riveter in the Lockheed Airplane factory to go into Paramount's 'Glamour Boy.'

BREEN TAKES ON RKO JOB TODAY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

to Schaefer, and Perry Lieber, studio publicity director.

Breen and the others are returning from the company's 10th annual sales convention, where his appointment was announced by Schaefer. Breen has been, for the past 11 years, in charge of the Production Code for the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors Association.

Schaefer and Breen will huddle with Producer David Hempstead on production problems connected with 'Joan of Paris', which has been without a director since Lewis Milestone withdrew last week from the assignment. Other pictures awaiting the green light from Schaefer and Breen are 'Three Rogues', starring Charles Laughton and Lucille Ball, which Graham Baker will produce; 'The Marines Are Ready', which reunites Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe, and 'The Mayor of 44th Street', which Cliff Reid is producing.

MG Ties Mark Daniels

Metro has handed a term contract to Mark Daniels, little theatre actor and auto show barker at the New York World's Fair. Daniels will go into the new Greta Garbo picture.

New Stanley Rauh Pact

Stanley Rauh, currently scripting 'Cadet Girl', has been given a new year's contract by 20th-Fox.

Col Keeps Tyrrell

Columbia has taken up its option on John Tyrrell. He has been with the studio for five years.

Litel Given Duet

John Litel has been signed by Paramount to make two more Aldrich Family pictures.

Kyser from Presidio (2)

Kay Kyser's July 2 broadcast for Luckies will come from the Presidio in Frisco.

Shuken Scores 'Wife'

Leo Shuken will score 'Our Wife', Columbia's John M. Stahl production.

Lester Coleman Wins MG Golf Tourney With 73 Gross

Lester Coleman, a grip, won the 13th annual Metro golf tournament, held at the Fox Hills and Baldwin Hills courses yesterday, with a low gross of 73. Now net winner was W. L. Dixon of the construction department, with 62. He shot 86. Second low gross was Jack Ruggiero, cutter, with 75, and second low net was John Carroll, actor, with 64. He shot 86, with a handicap of 24.

S. Sylvan Simon, director, won the booby prize with a gross of 150. Entries totaled 524 and the first foursomes teed off at 5:24 a.m. Mickey Rooney, John Shelton, Henry O'Neill, Charles Winninger, Reginald Owen, Robert Sterling, Dan Dailey, Jr., were among the entries.

Tournament committee included Henry Rapf, chairman; W. K. Craig, W. P. Hendry, Fred Gabourie, Matt Draper, Danny Gray, Merrill Pye, Lou Kolb, Les Ebert and C. S. Pratt.

MG 'Bachelor' Rolls, Buzzell Directing

Metro's 'Married Bachelor', with Eddie Buzzell directing, goes before the cameras today. George Folsey handles the lensing. Robert Young and Ruth Hussey are in the top roles. Sam Levene, Broadway comedian, has been added to the picture's cast, his first screen assignment since appearing in legit in 'Margin for Error.'

Par Picks Up Options On Lake, Britton

Paramount has picked up its options on Veronica Lake and Barbara Britton. Miss Lake will take a long vacation before returning to the studio to go into 'Blonde Venus'. Ketti Frings is preparing the screenplay.

Planted

20th-Fox

Frank O'Connor, Billy Wayne, Frances Morris, Charles Arnt, Don Brodie, Donald Curtis, 'We Go Fast'.

William Davidson, William Forrest, Leona Roberts, Harry Haden, 'Weekend In Havana'.

Matt McHugh, Brandon Tynan, Bodil Rosing, Marek Windheim, 'Marry the Boss's Daughter'.

Warners

Howard da Silva, 'New Orleans Blues'.

Eddie Chandler, John Ridgely, 'Nine Lives Are Not Enough'.

Murray Alper, James Burke, 'The Maltese Falcon'.

Universal

Wade Boteler, Billy Wayne, Warren Ashe, Paul Dubov, 'Bombay Clipper'.

Guy Usher, Stanley Price, Dick Perry, Leyland Hodgson, 'The Americanos'.

Republic

Allan Baxter, Mary Carlisle, Jerome Cowan, Michael Adrian Morris, Eddie Acuff, Ralfe Harolde, Paul Porcasi, 'Rags to Riches'.

Columbia

Garry Owen, Bill Scully, 'You'll Never Get Rich'.

Joe Garcia, 'The Iron Claw'.

Straight Biz Sesh At New York UA District Meet

New York, June 22. — First of United Artists' five district sales meetings, which opens at the Waldorf-Astoria here tomorrow, will be almost totally devoid of the usual convention hoopla. Two-day get-together will be a straight business session, the only formal speechmaking taking place tomorrow morning when Acting Chieftain Arthur W. Kelly welcomes the delegates and introduces eastern reps of the producers, plus a few UA execs.

From then on, Harry L. Gold, eastern salesmanager, and District Managers Arthur Silverstone and John J. Dervin will take over. Staffs will be on hand from branches in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, New Haven and Buffalo.

Andrews Sisters, Fite Big Frisco Combo

San Francisco, June 22.—A combination of the Andrews Sisters and the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight pictures gave the Gate theatre on Saturday a gross that came within $6 of the single day record held by Kay Kyser. The house got a big 22G's on the week.

Fleischer on 6-Day Week Doing 'Bug'

Miami, June 22.—Animation, in-betweening, inking, coloring and photographing departments of the Fleischer Studio here have gone on a six-day week in order to speed up production on the Technicolor cartoon, 'Mr. Bug Goes to Town', which is being made for Paramount. There are 708 artists working on the picture, to get it ready for winter release. Until now the studio has been on a five-day week basis.

Wallace 'Lady' Lensing

RKO's 'Obliging Young Lady', with Howard Benedict handling the production reins, starts today. Joan Carroll, Edmond O'Brien, Ruth Warrick and Richard Carlson have the top roles. Richard Wallace is directing.

Ill in Pix

PETER LORRE had to have a stitch taken in his face and was sent home to bed Saturday when Mary Astor, attacking him for a scene in Warners 'Maltese Falcon', gashed his skin with long fingernails. Actor had just recovered from makeup poisoning, too.

DAVE ROSS, manager of the Filmarte theatre, laid up at his home, after it was necessary to take 10 stitches in his head when his auto hood fell while he was examining the engine.

HARRY WARREN, who recently checked out of the Cedars of Lebanon hospital after severe pneumonia attack, has returned to the hospital suffering from a relapse.

HARRY COHN has been in Cedars of Lebanon for past few days. Kidney stones irritating.

E. G. KLINE, head of the RKO transportation department, is ill at his home.

NATIONWIDE RADIO WAGE FITE SEEN; SAG BACKS WKRC

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

working relationship between the radio networks and radio performers.

The SAG's action in supporting AFRA prohibits any screen actor from performing for the Cincinnati station. This affects nearly all of the major radio performers, since they are members of the Guild as well as of AFRA. Any person not now a member of the Guild who accepts employment from the Cincinnati station will be ineligible for future membership in SAG.

It also was indicated that SAG and other actors' organizations may refuse to permit their members to perform for any stations that furnish entertainment to WKRC. The major networks are disturbed over the situation and are reported bringing pressure on Taft to settle with AFRA. The strike was ordered after the WKRC management refused to negotiate with AFRA, and after Taft was reported to have stated that $20 a week was enough to pay any performer appearing on WKRC programs.

Loew's Loses NY Suit For Failure To Give Actor Film Test

New York, June 22.—In awarding Conrad Noles, actor, $1,500 against Loew's, Inc., for failure to go through with a screen test, New York City Court Judge Frank A. Carlin for the first time ruled on the question of obligation on the part of an organization offering to hire talent, tying up the talent and allegedly failing to go through with a deal.

Noles, who had played the part of Huey Long in 'The First American Dictator' on Broadway, was signed to a contract by Loew's March 22, 1939 to make a screen test. Under the agreement Noles gave Loew's an exclusive option on his services for four weeks from the date of the test. If accepted Noles was to receive $150 weekly on a term contract. The plaintiff contended that Loew's never went through with the test and alleged that he was idle for 10 weeks as a result of waiting for the contract.

Thorold Dickinson Being Brought Here

Jack L. Warner is making arrangements to bring Thorold Dickinson, director of the English made Warners picture, 'The Prime Minister', to the studio to work here. Film stars John Gielgud and Diana Wynyard.

'Gander' in Work

Production is underway at the Hal Roach lot on 'Sauce for the Gander', comedy six-reeler being made by Wilding Pictures for the Hotpoint Appliance Corp. Damian O'Flynn and Joan Woodbury have top roles, Jean Yarbrough is directing and Nella Walker is in a supporting part. L. J. Sholty and Rock Smith are technical advisors.

Long, Randolph Set

Audrey Long, 18, taken out of the Max Reinhardt production, 'Liebelei', has been signed to term contract at Warners through Hal Cooley office. Jane Randolph also was spotted in Reinhardt's 'Merchant of Yonkers', and cast in featured role in Warners 'One Foot in Heaven.'

Lantz Pair Working

Walter Lantz has two cartoons in work at Universal, 'Snoozer', introducing a new animation dog character, and a Woody Woodpecker short, 'The Cat Who Came to Dinner.'

Preview

★ Continued from page 3 ★

comedy, the suspense, and each incidental part are correctly valued to garner every bit of entertainment. The peak of excitement he builds in the battle between Gable's small band of soldiers and the Japanese reaches a thrill limit. Hunt Stromberg's marshalling of the production is class showmanship, which will be realized on by the healthy box office return in store for this money picture.

The photography by William Daniels captures the movement with clarity. Herbert Stothart's musical score helps in creating the mood, and the art direction by Cedric Gibbons and his associate, Randall Duell, combine with Edwin B. Willis' set decorations and Warren Newcombe's special effects to add picturesque backgrounds for the action. Adrian has gowned Miss Russell in striking fashion, and Sydney Guilaroff has given her fetching hairdress. The film editing by Blanche Sewell, the recording under Douglas Shearer, and other technical departments share ably in the credits.

Williams in St. Louis

Charlie Williams is shoving off for St. Louis to play comic roles in four musicals to be produced by the Municipal Opera Co. in Forest Park, beginning July 7 with 'Three Musketeers'. Three others are 'Nina Rose', 'Merry Widow' and 'Desert Song.'

Scouts 'Corsican'

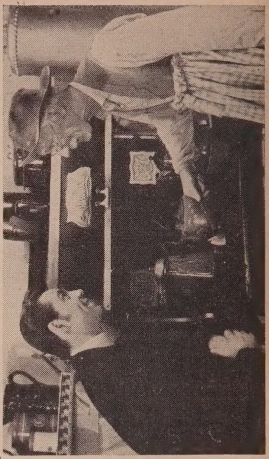
V. McFadden, assistant production manager for Edward Small, leaves today for a week's location scouting trip for 'The Corsican Brothers', which will roll July 15, with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., in the top role. Harry Stradling has just been signed by Small to photograph the picture.

Janet Blair's 'Town'

Janet Blair, recently signed by Columbia, goes into one of the three important parts in 'Three Girls About Town.' Picture starts today with Leigh Jason directing and Sam Bischoff producing. Actress was a featured vocalist with the late Hal Kemp and his orchestra.

Vanderveer Sees Pal

Steve L. Vanderveer, one of the New York directors of George Pal Productions, is in town for talks with Pal at Paramount. 'Gay Knighties', fourth cartoon to be produced by Pal, goes into the designing rooms today.



WHAM! There she GOES, high over the center field FENCE. And Harry Sherman slams out ANOTHER four-base hit—THE PARSON OF PANAMINT. Yep, it's A PARAMOUNT PICTURE. Bill McGann umpired. Doggone that Phil Terry, he sneaked into my kitchen and got in my pitcher.

CLEM BEVANS

Exclusive management — John Beck, Jr., M-C-A

Copy (2)

DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 32 No. 14 43 Hollywood, Ca 5 Cents

ASCAP, NBC NEAR GET-TOGETHER

BEGIN FUND HOME IN AUGUST

Late this summer, probably in August, ground will be broken for the Motion Picture Relief Fund's home for aged in the film industry, it was announced last night at the annual meeting of the MPRF at the Roosevelt hotel.

Officers were all re-elected, including Jean Hersholt, president; Ralph Block, first vice-president; Ralph Morgan, second vice-president; Walter Wanger, third vice-president; Lucile Gleason, fourth vice-president; George Bagnall, treas-

★ Continued on page 6 ★

Selznick Says UA Deal Signing Shortly

New York, June 24.—David O. Selznick said today that contracts have been drawn for he and Frank Capra to become equal owners in United Artists with Alexander Korda, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin. Selznick stated that 'unless an unforeseen snag develops' the deal will be signed shortly. He asserted that his present plans are to start 'Romance' as his next production. Following in two or three months will be 'Tales of Passion' and 'Jane Eyre', and then 'Claudia'.

Harry Muller Leaving; Raftery Out Soon

Harry Muller, treasurer of United Artists, who arrived here Monday on company biz checks out for New York tomorrow. Likely, that Ed Raftery, company counsel, will head east over the weekend and return in about 10 days to handle closing of proposed David O. Selznick and Frank Capra deals for member ownership in the company.

PREVIEWED

FOR BEAUTY'S SAKE
(20th-Fox)

MURDER BY INVITATION
(Mono)

BLOSSOMS IN THE DUST
(MG)

(Previews on page 3)

SMITH, DISNEY CONFABS ON AGAIN TODAY

Harold V. Smith, mediator in the Walt Disney controversy, spent several hours with company representatives discussing a proposed settlement of the Screen Cartoonists Guild strike, and the meeting was then adjourned until today. The conver-

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Wobber Due Tomorrow

Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox sales head, is due here from San Francisco tomorrow. Will confer with studio execs on plans for the company's annual convention to be held at the Ambassador hotel July 16-19.

CBS IS STUMBLING ON RECONCILIATION

New York, June 24.—Negotiations by the major networks toward a resumption of relations with American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers took opposite turns yesterday when NBC cast a brighter hue on the situation by indicating an early consideration of terms while CBS widened the break with a proposal that Ascap bitterly rejected.

NBC's prexy, Niles Trammell, advised the Society that as soon as he cleans up several matters that have piled up in his office during his recent protracted stay in Washington,

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Breen Seeks Best for RKO; Welles To Do 3 or 4 Yearly

Joseph I. Breen, RKO's new executive vice-president and general manager in charge of production and studio operations, yesterday announced that RKO is about to sign a new deal with Orson Welles which will allow the young producer to make either three or four pictures a year.

Breen made the announcement at a press conference at which he also said that RKO is going out to get the best production, acting and writing talent in Hollywood.

Like William Shakespeare, he believes that 'the play's the thing', and

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Geo. Brent Injured

George Brent suffered an injury to his spine and was brought back from Catalina Island yesterday in a speedboat. He goes into the Queen of Angels hospital today to undergo an operation. The injury will delay his trip to Canada where he was to do a picture for Warners.

Edington to Produce One Before Leaving

Harry E. Edington, former executive in charge of production at RKO, probably will produce one picture before he checks off the lot. He will not leave immediately, despite the fact that Joseph I. Breen has been installed as executive vice president and general manager in charge of production and studio operations. Edington's contract with RKO has six months more to run, and it now appears likely that he will finish out that period of time on the Gower street lot.

DOC BAKER TOPS HOSS PICKERS AT MID POST

Doc Baker is currently showing his heels to all other major handicappers of the L. A. dailies. The equine savant was leading his nearest rival by six winners as the first half of the Hollywood Park racing season ended yesterday. He was the only handicapper landing in the coveted .300 circle. The medico's three-four-five a day consistency since the quarter was responsible for the goodly margin he now has in leading the pack. Tied with Hebert and Hernandez 10

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	809
Major Studio Calls	545
FK Studio Service	0
Tinsman Casting Agency	0
Total	1354

Agnew, Gillham Leave After Par Huddles

After two days at Paramount on production conferences, Neil Agnew and Robert Gillham planed out for New York last night. Barney Balaban will leave Friday. Russell Holman and Paul Raiburn, other home office executives attending the meetings, probably will leave at the end of the week. John W. Hicks, Jr. and Arthur L. Pratchett will remain at the studio until the following week.

Lasky Sticks at WB

New York, June 24.—Jesse Lasky, producer of 'Sergeant York', will continue with Warners, he said today upon his arrival from the Coast. Lasky stated that he had his next story picked out. He came east with Gary Cooper and Sergeant Alvin York.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Joda's Joe**
Silent Tick
Liberty Lad
2d RACE—**Sentimentalist**
Timberland
First Choice
3d RACE—**Little Cartago**
Wise Greenock
Heelplates
4th RACE—**Old Whitey**
Gridine
Billie Bane
5th RACE—**PICKET LINE**
Zaca Rosa
Sir War
6th RACE—**High Strike**
Playful Wink
Pepinillo
7th RACE—**Hy-Cop**
Red Jewel
Porter's Cap
8th RACE—**Maevic**
Valdina Boss
Count Us

CHANCE BET—**Dandy (4th)**
Selections consensus, page 6.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Vi Lawrence is editing Wesley Ruggles' 'You Belong to Me' at Columbia.

Henry Henigson is due back from business trip to New York the end of the week.

Paramount execs were in huddles yesterday lining up plans for a new scoring stage.

George Brown returns to his desk at Paramount today after brief rest at Santa Barbara.

Herbert Scott of Bermuda has arrived to be house guest of the Pat O'Briens at Del Mar.

Metro will press preview 'Barnacle Bill' Friday night at the Alexander theatre, Glendale.

Maxie Rosenbloom will make 'The Stork Pays Off' as the initialer under his new Columbia contract.

George McCall returned from an eight months' personal appearance tour throughout east and south.

Ann Ronell addressed the Federation of Music Clubs yesterday on 'Opera in the American Manner'.

Michael Whalen opens in 'Out of the Frying Pan' at the Cape Playhouse at Cape May, N. J., tonight.

Stan Laurel experimenting with cross-breeding vegetables at his valley ranch got one, but it was tasteless.

George Sherman planed out last night for New York to see his mother, who has been stricken with pneumonia.

William Keighley has flown to New York to see 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', which he will direct at Warners.

Metro Studio Club orchestra is giving concert tonight at the Wilshire-Ebell theatre. Oscar Radin will conduct group of 39 musicians.

Director William McGann takes the 20th-Fox 'We Go Fast' company to the valley today to film chase sequences on Ventura boulevard.

Pacific Coast Section of Society of Motion Picture Engineers will convene at Mt. Wilson Observatory Friday night to inspect the 60-inch telescope.

Total of 47 stories on 'How Green Was My Valley', bearing the Idwal Jones by-line, have been planted in newspapers and magazines around the country by 20th-Fox.

Benny the Gouge sez—Hollywood is a swell town for a high school kid. When you see him all dressed up in funny clothes you don't know whether he is getting the works from his fraternity brothers or getting a salary from a studio.

Hollywood Inside

THE NEW YORK TIMES this week discontinued sending messages of its correspondents from all parts of the country by wire and the correspondents are telephoning their stuff directly to the newspaper's editorial offices. Instead of giving their stories to rewrite men the correspondents dictate over the telephone and the yarns are electrically transcribed. According to Doug Churchill, the Times Hollywood correspondent, the new method cuts 20 per cent off the cost, even if stories are read slowly. When the diction of the reader is clear the errors are cut to an absolute minimum. Only large difficulty has been in spelling names with which copyists in the editorial office are unfamiliar. System allows for a much later deadline. New York Times started the method first in getting fast stories from war correspondents in Europe. Credit lines over correspondence now read: 'By telephone to the New York Times.'

☆ ☆ ☆

PRODUCERS RELEASING CORP. is losing its second western player to Republic's Three Mesquiteers series when Tom Tyler goes to the valley lot to take the place of Bob Livingston in the oaters. Tyler was scheduled to co-star with Lee Powell in six 'Frontier Marshal' westerns for PRC to be produced by Sig Neufeld. Latter will now move Powell into the character intended for Tyler and line up a new western player for the second part. Year ago PRC lost Bob Steele to Republic's Three Mesquiteers series. PRC has two other groups of six westerns each, one starring Buster Crabbe and the other George Houston, which Neufeld will make for the 1941-42 program.

☆ ☆ ☆

PROVISIONS have been made for 5,000 trainee soldiers from Camp Haan to attend the Hollywood Bowl all-star show for the United Service organizations on Sunday night. Various oil companies will provide transportation for them to get here. These men will require 5,000 seats. They must be paid for. The cost is 50 cents each. Undoubtedly folks in the film biz want the soldiers to enjoy themselves. It can be done very easily by subscribing toward the cost of the tickets. If you want to buy five, ten or 500 to show Hollywood is for them, phone HEmpstead 5151.

☆ ☆ ☆

COUPLE of prominent film writers with radical tendencies have been getting very brazen lately and may run afoul of the Department of Justice agents unless they pull in their sails. Boys don't like the way the government is doing things and have been voicing themselves very effusively. They have even suggested means that would not be in line with the thoughts of a democratic populace. These would cause their listeners to get into serious trouble were they to fall for the propaganda being spilled by these writers.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is screening 'Ni Sangre, Ni Arena' for Academy members and guests at 8:30 p.m. tomorrow at United Artists Studio. Mexican production currently running in Mexico City is said to have broken all records there for either foreign or domestic pictures. Because of industry drive to cement closer relations with Latin American countries, many producers, directors, etc., have requested reservations.

☆ ☆ ☆

METRO plans to put 'Kathleen', Shirley Temple starrer, before the cameras early next month and is now testing players for other parts in the feature. Warner Baxter, working with Miss Temple, was tested by Norman Taurog yesterday for the father role. Studio expects to complete its one-picture commitment with the actress in time for her to go to Edward Small to star in 'Little Annie Rooney', coming up for early fall production.

☆ ☆ ☆

TWENTIETH-FOX will have its new writers building, moved from the company's Western avenue lot to Westwood, ready for occupancy July 7. Building was rushed over to its new location to take care of heavy writer list and new producers, but scribe total has now dropped, allowing further time for redecoration.

☆ ☆ ☆

AN AVIATION picture, as yet untitled, is likely to be the next Abbott and Costello production to be released by Universal. Plans are to put the service picture on the market ahead of 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', on which shooting is skeded to start early next week.

Three Bercovici-Chaplin Causes Dismissed

New York, June 24.—Three causes of action out of the five made by Konrad Bercovici against Charles Chaplin and United Artists were dismissed today by U. S. District Court Judge Coxe as being repetitious. Part dismissed included damages for $5,000,000 because Chaplin assertedly stole Bercovici's idea for 'The Great Dictator'. Remaining is the action for $3,067,500, which also seeks damages for plagiarism of the story idea which allegedly resulted in the picture, and asks other monies for unpaid work not used by Chaplin.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles-Portland—Rain.
Hollywood, 7; Sacramento, 0.
Oakland, 3; San Diego, 2.
Seattle, 4; San Francisco, 3.

Rep Makes Conn Pic

New York, June 24.—Billy Conn will receive between $15,000 and $20,000 from Republic for two weeks guaranteed work in 'Kid Tinsel', under a contract inked with the studio. Conn leaves for the Coast in a week or 10 days.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Film fans are hardy creatures
Who gaze on double features
And sit and sit
While hours flit,
Like fans in baseball bleatures.

★ ★ ★

A double feature is like one of those double dates your best friend made in collegiate days. One of the gals was an 'A' production.

★ ★ ★

One way to promote good will among our neighbors below the border is to construct a film tale with a South American hero and a North American heavy.

Years ago when your columnist wrote sporting events in Chicago he developed an admiration for a drama critic, and it still goes. Ashton Stevens is in town.

If there is an Oscar for modesty in violets, it goes to Kate Hepburn, who writes her own screen starrer, 'Woman of the Year'.

★ ★ ★

Commencement Day at the High School. Demurely the sweet girl graduate snatches her diploma and hops back to her $2,000-a-week job at the studio.

★ ★ ★

Most of our campus pictures are totally immune to charges of professionalism.

★ ★ ★

Quoth Brian Donlevy: Another difference between death and taxes is that death is often painless.

★ ★ ★

On the Vista Theatre marquee:
'A Girl, a Guy and a Gob.'
'Blackout.'

★ ★ ★

Proudest person in the world is a ten-year-old kid strutting along Vine street under a ten-gallon hat.

★ ★ ★

It wasn't Marguerite de la Motte's daughter, although she looked young enough—it was Marguerite, herself, the gal who registered fright, admiration and love in their natural sequences when Doug Fairbanks was leaping from horse to balcony in 'The Mark of Zorro'. Marguerite is expressing concern nowadays over the leaping kids in the Dreifuss Productions series, 'Reg'lar Kids'.

★ ★ ★

Even the spy stories can't get by these days without a comic touch. How about Mata Hari as a jitterbug?

★ ★ ★

Lives of actors all remind us
We may also toil and slave
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on a concrete pave.

★ ★ ★

Before he became an actor, Stirling Hayden was either a hardboiled sailor or a handsome clothes model. The studio flacks can't make up their minds.

★ ★ ★

'Far fields look green', remarked an ancient sage
And actors seem to feel that selfsame way.
In Hollywood they yearn to strut the stage
And in New York they crave a picture play.

Film Previews

Blossoms In the Dust

(*Drama*)

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer release of a Mervyn LeRoy production. Photographed in Technicolor. Stars Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. Features Felix Bressart, Marsha Hunt, Fay Holden and Samuel S. Hinds. Supporting cast: Kathleen Howard, George Lessey, William Henry, Henry O'Neill, John Eldredge, Clinton Rosemond, Theresa Harris, Charlie Arnt, Cecil Cunningham, Ann Morriss, Richard Nichols, Pat Barker, Mary Taylor, Marc Lawrence. Directed by Mervyn LeRoy. Associate producer, Irving Asher. Screenplay by Anita Loos, from a story by Ralph Wheelwright. Cameramen, W. Howard Greene with Karl Freund. Technicolor supervised by Natalie Kalmus. Musical score, Herbert Stothart. Recording director, Douglas Shearer. Art director, Cedric Gibbons. Film editor, George Boemler. Previewed June 24 at the Four Star theatre. Running time: 98 mins.

In 'Blossoms In the Dust' Metro has turned out a tear-jerker that should rate tops in the 1941-42 product program for which it is destined. It is in every sense a film production that any major producer might well be proud to have turned out. As a box office attraction it should, and probably will, amass top grosses. Women, particularly, will welcome it with open arms, and advocates of better pictures should give it highest praise.

Propaganda, in a sense, in that it tells the story of an understanding Texas woman who, through her human and tender feelings, has found homes for more than 2,000 babies. 'Blossoms In the Dust' is more than an epoch portraying an incident of life. It is a stirring drama, superbly produced and acted, and bringing new laurels to Mervyn LeRoy who has directed brilliantly.

For Greer Garson, who is starred, it affords the greatest screen role of her career, and even at this early date there will be many who will insist that the Academy Award for the 1941-42 season is already settled. The titian-haired actress has never portrayed a more human role than that of Mrs. Edna Gladney, the simple and kindly Texas woman who brought thousands of children out of bondage.

Picture was inspired by the life of Mrs. Gladney, a former midwesterner who moved to Texas, and there devoted more than 30 years to child welfare. Film is done entirely in Technicolor and is one of the first dramas to be so made, with a new, natural color scheme developed after long experimentation. In developing this technique it was intended that the coloring should be an integral part of the picture's moods. In addition, it also reveals for the first time the coloring of the red-haired Greer Garson, bringing out every detail of her loveliness perfectly.

Anita Loos has made a most acceptable screenplay of Ralph Wheelwright's story, the theme being of particular timeliness, especially in Hollywood, with thousands of childless homes today being brightened by adopted infants. The story tellers have not been forced to inject a lot of extraneous material. It was there for them, and both story and screenplay bear witness to this.

Mervyn LeRoy, long associated with screen successes, has added an unusually bright feather for his expert and intelligent handling of

■ Continued on page 5 ■

Murder By Invitation

(*Melodrama*)

Monogram production. Stars Wallace Ford. Features Sarah Padden, Marian Marsh, Gavin Gordon, George Guhl. Supporting cast: Wallis Clark, Minerva Urecal, J. Arthur Young, Herbert Vigran, Philip Trent, Dave O'Brien, Hazel Keener, Isabelle La Mal, Lee Shumway, John James, Kay Deslys. Producer, A. W. Hackel. Director, Phil Rosen. Story and screenplay, George Bricker. Film editor, Martin G. Cohn. Photography, Marcel Le Picard. Previewed June 24. Running time: 67 mins.

This well knit, smartly paced mystery melodrama will prove a welcome addition in dual bill houses where the need for modestly priced but adequate supporting features has long been a problem. Director Phil Rosen has assembled an interesting group of performers and has deftly maintained suspense and action in a yarn which is of the conventional pulp magazine type but nonetheless absorbing. The production is distinguished by the number of okay bit performances in addition to the leads.

The yarn opens with a courtroom sequence in which a pleasant though sharp-witted old lady is being charged with incompetence in administering her vast wealth. Accusing her are potential heirs who seek a court ruling confining the woman to an insane asylum so that they can lay hands on the money immediately. Obviously having been arraigned on unfounded charges, the woman is released.

From that point on the story quickly gathers momentum as the wealthy spinster invites all her heirs to spend a week in her country home, stipulating that they arrive at midnight. Murders follow in rapid succession, three of her kinfolk being rubbed out by a mysterious, hooded knife-thrower. Dim lighting, sliding panels that revolve with the regularity of shuttle trains, suspicious acts and looks by virtually every member of the family, are contributing factors in building toward a surprise finish.

Sarah Padden, as the wealthy aunt, registers pleasantly as one of the suspects who sets aside all question of her guilt by burning down her home in order to trap the guilty party. Gavin Gordon, as the ringleader of the family group trying to railroad the aunt into an institution, shows excellent possibilities.

Wallace Ford handles his assignment as the newspaper columnist easily and convincingly. He walks in on the story by invitation from Gordon and also plays the amateur sleuth by taking a hand in unravelling the mystery. Marian Marsh, as Ford's femme assistant, scores on appearance and contributes excellent support.

Wm. Freiday, Universal Suit Dismissed

New York, June 24.—Suit brought by William Freiday, Universal director, against the company and its officers and directors, was dismissed today by Justice Ferdinand Pecora in Supreme court. Freiday was given leave to amend the complaint within 20 days. He is seeking damages of $2,000,000, charging waste and mismanagement.

For Beauty's Sake

(*Comedy Drama*)

20th-Fox production. Features Ned Sparks, Marjorie Weaver, Ted North, Joan Davis. Supporting players: Pierre Watkin, Lenita Lane, Richard Lane, Lotus Long, Glenn Hunter, Lois Wilson, John Ellis, Tully Marshall, Phyllis Fraser, Olaf Hytten, Isabel Jewell, Nigel De Brulier, Janet Beecher, Helena Phillips Evans, Margaret Dumont. Director, Shepard Traube. Associate producer, Lucien Hubbard. Screenplay, Wanda Tuchock, Ethel Hill, Walter Bullock. Based on Clarence Budington Kelland's original. Photography, Charles Clarke. Art direction, Richard Day, Lewis Creber. Set decorations, Thomas Little. Film editor, Nick De Maggio. Costumes, Herschel. Musical direction, Emil Newman. Previewed June 24. Running time: 62 mins.

Clarence Budington Kelland's story of a serious young professor of astronomy who suddenly finds himself the owner of a beauty shop made a better novel than a film production. Filmed about a year ago, picture is just now going into release, and will meet with approval in only a few spots. Ineptly written, directed and played, its comedy falls flat and the pace makes the 62 minutes' running time seem longer.

Ted North, the professor, must run his late aunt's beauty salon for two years if he wants to inherit her fortune. Marjorie Weaver, a daffy dame, gets her grandfather, Tully Marshall, to loan his press agent, Ned Sparks, to help boom the beauty business. With the aid of Joan Davis, a slap-happy partner in the enterprise, a blackmail ring, murder and similar dirty work are uncovered and after a number of near-adventures, eye-rolling suspects and hard efforts at comedy everything comes to a more or less satisfactory conclusion.

The principals make a valiant attempt to put over their varied characterizations, with only so-so success. Such old standbys as Pierre Watkin, Richard Lane, Glenn Hunter, Lois Wilson, Isabel Jewell, Janet Beecher and others are wasted.

Shepard Traube directed from the screenplay by Wanda Tuchock, Ethel Hill and Walter Bullock. Lucien Hubbard was associate producer and Charles Clarke photographed. The physical production mounting and technical departments are first-class.

150 Extras at Sesh On Wage Kicks

Approximately 150 extras attended the meeting of the Extras Advisory Council last night to discuss the new minimum wage scales negotiated with the Producers by the Screen Actors Guild. Group representatives present went on record as being opposed to the new rates, and indicated they would urge the players to vote against their acceptance in the mail referendum to be conducted by the SAG. A large delegation of cowboys attended.

Gordon Griffith Named Col Prod. Mgr.

Gordon Griffith has been named production manager of Columbia, operating under the supervision of H. A. McDonell, studio manager. Griffith recently has been business manager for Gregory Ratoff. He will assume his duties Monday.

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

PAUL HARRISON, Newspaper Enterprise Association (NEA) correspondent covering Hollywood, got the surprise of his life at Paramount yesterday. Ted Bonett, Cecil De Mille's flack, was showing him the water set on 'Reap the Wild Wind'. Both men climbed over a huge boat tied up at a dock in a tank. As they clambered down a ladder Harrison leaped for what he thought was the concrete edge of the tank. The concrete turned out to be a heavy scum. Harrison was totally immersed. . . . Sid Tomack and the Reis Brothers stay at Slapsy Maxie's for two more weeks. . . Roberts Bros., instrumental quint, opens Friday night at Hollywood Tropics. . . . Edward G. Robinson plays host Sunday to the cast of his 'Big Town' radio show to mark the end of another season. It's an annual affair at his Bevhills ranch.

Commenting on the broader aspects of world politics at the Monday evening banquet for Alejandro Buelna, Mexican government official, Louis B. Mayer spoke thus of Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin:

'Birds of a feather fly together, but after a while they fall out and lock horns.'

RICHARD WEBB, Paramount contract player, did his final shots in 'Sullivan's Travels' yesterday morning and reported to an Army examining board for final tests for a commission in the California State Guard in the afternoon. . . . So many radical design changes have been made in sound stages that Paramount, in order to let the fans know what's happening in 'Glamour Boy', story with a Hollywood background, have labeled the building 'stage'. . . Dorothy Cordray has been signed as featured vocalist at the Town House, starting there July 24. Singer, formerly on tour with Jan Garber's orchestra, arrives here from New York Sunday.

Total of $1,130.21, from two benefit performances of 'Cabin in the Sky' yesterday was turned over to the United China Relief fund. Anna May Wong made the presentation.

TONY MARTIN cut four platters at Decca yesterday afternoon, with Lana Turner sitting on the sidelines to assist in okaying the various takes. . . . Genee Lesser, daughter of Sol Lesser, producer, is writing a Hollywood gossip column for the Columbus (Ohio) Citizen. . . . Betty Grable helped enroll students yesterday at the University of Southern California's new engineering-cinematography course. . . . Two youngsters, Scotty Beckett, 10, and Douglas Wheatcroft, 11, have been signed for 'Kings Row' at Warners. . . Paul Francis, former dancer and vocalist with the Vincent Lopez band, has been signed by Warners to a term contract and gets initial assignment in 'New Orleans Blues'.

Don Lee-Mutual Lands First Big Network Show from Here

First big network show to be produced in Hollywood by a major agency for the Don Lee-Mutual chain was set yesterday by J. Walter Thompson for Ballentine's Ale. Program will have a variety pattern, topped by stellar radio and picture names. Sponsor has been using musical jingles on spot time.

Show, to run for a half-hour, will start in mid-September. Talent and production setup are being lined up by Danny Danker of the JWT agency.

Korda Plans London Trip on Relief, Biz

New York, June 24.—Alexander Korda, who was here for three days last week, said he plans to make a quick trip to England late in July or early in August on business and to check with the British government on possible aid to the war effort. Korda will also look over the possibilities of making a picture there. He plans to leave after getting production underway on 'Jungle Book', his next for United Artists.

Al Speede Re-Election Appears Certain

Al Speede early today appeared certain of re-election as business representative of Local 40 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers although all ballots had not been counted at that time. It was stated that the results of other races would not be known until later today.

SWG OK's 15 Scribes

The Screen Writers Guild executive board this week approved applications for membership of 15 studio writers. This sets an all-time high for the number of applications received in any one week since formation of the Guild.

Heading East

Neil Agnew (TWA)
Robert Gillham (TWA)
Alan Gordon
Glen Rose
Walter Schubert
Jock Lawrence
Francis Alstock
Billy Gilbert
George Sherman
William Keighley

In from the East

Cecil Kellaway
Carl Esmond
Ella Fitzgerald

Music Hath Charm
Played by
CLAUDE KENNEDY TRIO
Starring
JEANNE DARRELL and RAY CARROLL
at
LINDY'S
Restaurant Cocktail Lounge
3656 WILSHIRE

STRIKE AGAINST MUTUAL PROGRAMS ON WKRC

New York, June 24.—Strike against all Mutual network commercials heard over WKRC, Cincinnati, was called today by the American Federation of Radio Artists Board as meeting of Mutual, WKRC and union reps, scheduled for tomorrow in Chicago, was cancelled. Strike order, effective July 7, has been sent to all producers, agencies, etc., calling attention to the fact that the station is on its 'unfair' list. Union noted that clause in commercial network code states that all members have 'contractual obligation' to obey AFRA rules.

Tomorrow's meeting was called off after Hubert Taft, Jr., WKRC owner, said he was unable to deal with AFRA because there is another union in the field. Latter, an independent announcer union, is charged by AFRA with being Taft-dominated.

Ella Fitzgerald In To Start Tuning On Abbott, Costello Pic

Ella Fitzgerald checks in today at the Universal lot to start pre-recording work for 'Ride 'Em Cowboy', Abbott and Costello starrer, under the direction of Arthur Lubin. Miss Fitzgerald will have original music and lyrics, being written for her screen appearance by Don Raye and Gene de Paul, instead of tying in with radio and stage numbers with which she has been identified.

Production, which rolls next Monday, will have the colored songstress in a comedy as well as a singing role. Other specialty acts in the picture are the Merry Macs and the Hoosier Hot Shots.

DOC BAKER TOPS HOSS PICKERS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

days ago, the Daily Variety specialist gradually pulled out in front, and the boys along Vine street now have it he'll hereafter continue at the head of the class unless he gets cocky and starts picking 'em with only one hand

Hebert of the News is not threatening seriously. Examiner's Bernard, one of the low pickers in the first part of the meet, is now much more consistent, following Hebert for third position. Martha of the Times, though fifth, has speared several juicy wins, only picker to tab a $50 pay-off. Mitchell and Prospectus, Evening Herald, are tied. Former, too, is one who seems to lie in wait for $8, $10 and $12 or better mutuels. Times' Otis apparently has lost his once deadly aim. Here are the ratings:

Handicapper—Paper	TS	R	W	Pct.
Baker, Daily Variety	201	63	138	.313
Hebert, Daily News	201	57	144	.284
Bernard, Examiner	201	54	147	.269
Hernandez, Examiner	201	52	149	.259
Lowry, LA Times	201	52	149	.259
Martha, LA Times	201	51	150	.254
Prospectus, Her.-Exp.	201	48	153	.238
Mitchell, Her.-Exp.	201	48	153	.238
Otis, LA Times	201	45	156	.224
Collyer, Coll. N. S.	201	41	160	.204

THE CHOICE OF STARS
The SHERRY NETHERLAND
5th Avenue at 59th Street
New York City
★
EUGENE VOIT, Manager

Churchill Drafts Gracie Fields

New York, June 24.—Winston Churchill has drafted Gracie Fields by cable, requesting her return to England for a month or more before she starts another tour in the United States Aug. 28 for the benefit of the American supported British War Relief Society. Miss Fields Clippers from New York July 3, meantime cancelling an interim tour for the Navy League of Canada.

Frank Harris Widow Wins Victory Over 'Oscar Wilde' Play

New York, June 24.—Nellie Harris, widow of Frank Harris, author, won a complete victory in Federal court over Gilbert Miller, Norman Marshall, Leslie and Sewell Stokes, Random House and Heron Productions, when Judge Leibell ruled that the defendants' play, entitled 'Oscar Wilde', was a plagiarism of parts of Frank Harris' book, Oscar Wilde, His Life and Confessions.

The court ordered an injunction against the production of the play, the sale of film rights, and ordered the case to a special master to secure an accounting of the profits which the plaintiff will receive.

Underwood, Mills East Friday on Waxer

Cecil Underwood, producer, and Billy Mills, music director, of 'Fibber McGee and Molly', train to Chicago Friday to continue those duties on the summer replacement for Johnson wax.

Endorse Geo. Browne

Springfield, Mass., June 24.—Delegates from 56 locals voted unanimous endorsement of George E. Browne, international president, at the 43rd New England District Convention of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes here Sunday. They also vigorously attacked articles by Westbrook Pegler criticizing Browne.

WB Stars Broadcast Appeal Today For USO Bowl Show

All stars at work on the Warners lot today will knock off to do a half-hour broadcast over KFWB at noon, exploiting the United Service Organization show at the Hollywood Bowl Sunday. A company of the 15th Infantry also will do an exhibition drill on the lot today.

Among the Warners players to appear on the program will be Constance Bennett, Fredric March, Ann Sheridan, Humphrey Bogart, Martha Scott, Ronald Reagan, Jane Wyman, Jeffrey Lynn and Priscilla Lane.

ASCAP, NBC NEAR RECONCILIATION

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

he would consider terms of a licensing agreement. He said he hoped to get around to it in two or three days. It is noted that at no time has NBC broken off negotiations with the Society since Vice-Prez Mark Woods entered the picture five weeks ago. Feeling in the trade is that for the first time since the break, NBC and Ascap are somewhere near reconciliation.

Probability of Ascap and CBS getting together was shattered when the Ascap board voted to refer the contract proposal submitted by Columbia yesterday to its regular counsel and to David Podell, whom Society had already retained to start anti-trust action against NBC, CBS, BMI, RCA and National Assn. of Broadcasters. Opinion of Ascap's board was that letter accompanying the CBS proposal constituted in itself a case of conspiracy.

Pearce Replaces Niles On CBS Goodwiller

Paul Pearce replaces Ken Niles as producer of 'Southern Cruise', CBS goodwill program to be shortwaved weekly to Latin America. Cast is headed by Frances Langford and Dick Powell, with Arthur Q. Bryan in featured comedy support. Half hour program, taking off July 4 from KNX, will be in the nature of a mythical cruise, calls being made on all principal ports below the border during the 13-week series.

Bingman Renewed

Franklin Bingman, NBC newscaster, has been renewed for another quarter by his liniment sponsor.

Lyman Cuts Quartet

Abe Lyman, current at the Palladium, will cut four sides for Victor-Bluebird at RCA studio today.

Story Buys

'Gabriel, Sound Your A', original band story by Bernie Feins, was purchased yesterday by Universal through the Ned Brown agency.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SACRAMENTO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations
Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Theatre Authority In Washington Stating Coin Structure

New York, June 24.—Contending that it is strictly a charitable organization, the Theatre Authority will amplify its position before the Income Tax Division of the Treasury Department in Washington tomorrow.

The government claims that because some of the receipts pay for overhead the Theatre Authority's income is taxable.

Preview

■ Continued from page 1 ■

'Blossoms', and is deserving of unstinted encomiums.

Aside from Miss Garson, who steps head and shoulders above her magnetic roles in 'Goodbye, Mr. Chips' and 'Pride and Prejudice', an expert and altogether too short performance is turned in by Walter Pidgeon, who, as Sam Gladney, the husband, makes the Texas Children's Home and Aid Society of Fort Worth possible. He gives a clean-cut, straight-from-the-shoulder portrayal that should further endear him to his long list of admirers.

Felix Bressart, as the understanding doctor, stands out predominantly, and turns in one of the best character portrayals seen on the screen in some time. Marsha Hunt has a very small part, near the start of the story, and it is because of her tragedy that the homeless waifs of Texas no longer are forced to go through life with the stigma of illegitimacy upon them. Miss Hunt's beauty is superbly enhanced by the Technicolor filming, and her work is deserving of every credit.

Excellent performances, too, are turned in by Clinton Rosemond, Cecil Cunningham, Fay Holden, Samuel S. Hinds and Henry O'Neill. Of the youngsters, Pat Barker demonstrates the screen quality that is always in demand, and Richard Nichols and Mary Taylor also have small parts which they play admirably.

Marc Lawrence does the heavy, just a small part, but makes the most of it, and every other member of the large cast fits in admirably.

Yarn ends with the introduction of the Christmas song, 'Adeste Fidelis', with the fadeout showing Miss Garson finally convinced that she must give up the adopted waif who for some years has taken the place of her own son, and making ready to receive new charges.

Herbert Stothart has evolved a fitting musical score, most of which is played as background, and the recording of Douglas Shearer and the art direction of Cedric Gibbons are flawless. W. Howard Greene with Karl Freund did their usual expert camera chore, and the Technicolor supervision of Natalie Kalmus indicates a careful attention to every detail.

'Blossoms In the Dust' may not be the greatest picture ever filmed, but it is one of the best dramas that has reached the screen in years. Exhibitors who fail to cash in on this are lacking in every sense of showmanship. It is tailor-made for box office success.

Breen Seeks Best for RKO; Welles To Do 3 or 4 Yearly

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

that the only way for a studio to make good pictures is first to have a bang-up yarn. Although he said there would be no raiding of other lots' talent rosters, he said that RKO would spare no expense in getting the best available people.

'Stories make stars', Breen said, 'stars don't make stories.'

He said that Welles will produce some of the pictures under the agreement about to be signed, and that he will produce, write, direct and act in others.

'Heart of Darkness', 'Smiler With a Knife' and an untitled melodrama, with a Mexican background, will be among the first three pictures Welles will make for RKO, Breen said. 'Heart of Darkness', by Joseph Conrad', and 'Smiler With a Knife' are two pictures Welles has been trying to make since he came to Hollywood. They were both nixed by George Schaefer before Welles made 'Citizen Kane'.

Breen said that 'Kane' would be given its general release in September, going out in the second package of RKO product under the consent decree. He was lavish in his praise of Welles:

'You have to watch him or he'll write a script overnight. He is a great artist. On the slightest provocation he'll write a screenplay.' He also said that Welles 'will have the same freedom he's always had.'

One of the immediate tasks confronting him, the new executive vice-president said, was to build up acting talent. He said steps had already been taken in that direction, listing Ruth Warrick, Dorothy Comingore, Joseph Cotten, Ray Collins, Ann Burr and Paul Henrie as those under contract to the studio who are most likely for stardom.

All but Henrie (formerly Paul Henried, who scored in 'Night Train') are either Mercury Players, or appeared with Welles in 'Citizen Kane'. Miss Burr and Collins are now in Welles' legit production of 'Native Son'.

Breen said that RKO would make 'adult pictures', concentrating on 'escapist' films. 'People don't want preaching', he said, 'they want good stories.'

He said he believes that 'there are too many bad pictures', but that the current national box office slump cannot be blamed entirely upon poor product. He gave three reasons for slack business: that people are too busy in national defense work to go to theatres; that there are too many bad pictures, and that the 1,500,000 men in army camps, and their sweethearts, no longer are steady patrons.

Breen disclosed that he resigned from his job of administering the Producers Code simply because he was 'punch drunk'. He said that years of the grinding, heavy work in the post had been enough, and that he had refused every kind of inducement, even a handsome salary increase, when the Producers tried to make him remain in the Hays office.

Breen will not produce any pictures at the present time, he said.

An interesting aspect to the press conference, which was attended by a score of newspaper people, was Breen's easy manner with the interviewers. He answered every question put to him (sometimes off the record) with a grace that the correspondents present said every other top executive in Hollywood ought to emulate.

Walter Huston Assigned 'Swamp Water' Topper

Walter Huston has been signed at 20th-Fox for one of the top roles in 'Swamp Water'. Studio also has assigned Mary Beth Hughes to the picture.

Obituary

ELLIOTT DEXTER

Elliott Dexter, 71, one of the pioneer contract feature players with Paramount and star of many silent films, died Monday night in Amityville, N. Y. He was a veteran of the stage prior to entering pictures about 25 years ago. He appeared in many C. B. DeMille productions and other Paramount specials, leaving that company in 1923. His last picture appearances were for Grand-Asher in 1924.

During his film career Dexter was married to Marie Doro, one of Paramount's early stars contemporary with Mary Pickford, Marguerite Clark and Theodore Roberts.

NY Court Extends Term Of Jurisdiction In Schenck Conviction

New York, June 24.—U. S. District Court Judge Conger, on consent of Mathias Correa, U. S. attorney, today extended the term of court to have jurisdiction over the Joseph M. Schenck-Joseph Moskowitz case until Aug., 1942. The action was at the request of the defendants, since under court rules, after a decision has been delivered, the court retains jurisdiction to modify or change its decision for three months.

The case, now being on appeal, the defendants do not desire to have technicalities of Federal court prevent them from securing such modification as Trial Judge Grover Moscowitz might want to make.

Kanin Induction Today

Garson Kanin reports this morning at 8 a.m. to his Beverly Hills draft board for induction into the Army. He will go into the Signal Corps. Kanin will spend a month at Fort MacArthur here and then be transferred to Monmouth, N. J. Director yesterday finished the final cutting on 'Tom, Dick and Harry', the Ginger Rogers picture.

Title Changes

Metro's Pete Smith specialty, 'The Do's and Don'ts of Dancing', to 'Cuban Rhythm'.

Puddin' Head
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
JUNIOR: "Is that Tuesday's train, Lem?"
LEM: "No, it's Friday's. Tuesday's train don't get in 'til Thursday . . . 'cept on every second Saturday."
JUDY CANOVA with
FRANCIS LEDERER
RAYMOND WALBURN · "SLIM" SUMMERVILLE
EDDIE FOY, JR. · ASTRID ALLWYN · ALMA KRUGER · HUGH O'CONNELL · "CHIC" CHANDLER
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director · Screen play by Jack Townley and Milt Gross · Original Story by Jack Townley

Bill Aimed To Ban Duals Given Okay In Illinois House

Springfield, Ill., June 24. — Bill prohibiting double bills in motion picture theatres, unless a 15-minute intermission is provided every hour, has been passed by the Illinois House by a vote of 81 to 49.

Measure was sponsored by Representative E. C. Sandquist of Chicago after complaints from women's organizations that 'four-hour programs' were endangering the health of children. Bill has been passed to the Senate for voting.

Begin Relief Fund Home in August

★ Continued from page 1 ★

urer; Ewell D. Moore, counsel, and Wilma Bashor, secretary.

Trustees elected were Sam Goldwyn, Bertha Mann Griffith, Mitchell Lewis, Moore, Mary Pickford, Frederic Richards, Wanger, William Seiter, Harold Bucquet, Walter Lang and Noel Madison. Of these, Bucquet, Lang and Madison are new. Mary C. McCall, Jr., resigned as chairman of the executive committee, but no one was elected last night to take her place.

During 1940, according to Bagnall's financial report made at the meeting, the Fund's total revenue amounted to $379,505.64. Of this, a large percentage, $272,873.21, represented donations by individuals at various studios. Expenditures amounted to $399,123.72, exceeding the income by $19,618.08.

Receipts from the radio and building fund, which all go into a sinking fund and are not included in the general relief accounts, reached $302,055.43. With the year ending December 31, total net assets amounted to $773,350.23.

William L. Pereira, Paramount architect, who has donated his services in the planning of the country house on the MPRF's 41 acre tract in San Fernando Valley, described the buildings designed.

SPG Aids Strikers, But Reneges on Walkout

The Screen Publicists Guild at a meeting last night agreed to increase its financial support to the Screen Cartoonists Guild strike at Walt Disney's studio, but voted against ordering its four members employed there to join the strike. Members voted to increase their weekly contribution to the strikers from $25 to $100. There was a long debate on the question of ordering flacks at the plant to walk out, but the vote was against that move.

VIEW ESTATE
PREVIEW! You'll love this beautifully landscaped 2½ acre level knoll; in the foothills of the North banks. A lovely modern 4 bedroom and 4 bath home, with separate servant's quarters. Three car garage. A choice residential district. Intriguing bridle paths. Two acres planted to young bearing fruit and nut trees. Adjoining acreage available. Owner is called East and for a QUICK sale will sacrifice for $15,500.
WM. C. ADAIR
12518 Ventura Blvd.
STUDIO CITY
STanley 71742 or SU-20256

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	HER.-EXP.	LA TIMES
Oscar Otis	Bob Hebert	Paul Lowry	Bernard	Jim Mitchell	Martha
1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Liberty Lad	1—Silent Tick	1—Gray Mystery	1—Silent Tick
Gray Mystery	Gray Mystery	Gray Mystery	Liberty Lad	Mad Crusader	Joda's Joe
Silent Tick	Silent Tick	Silent Tick	Gray Mystery	Joda's Joe	Liberty Lad
2—Sentimentalist	2—Sentimentalist	2—Timberland	2—Sentimentalist	2—Sentimentalist	2—Sentimentalist
Uallno	Timberland	Sentimentalist	Timberland	Coronado	Fervorita
Timberland	Uallno	Uallno	Fervorita	Timberland	Accordion
3—Wise Green'k	3—Heelplates	3—Gold Trophy	3—Heelplates	3—Heelplates	3—Gold Trophy
Heelplates	Gold Trophy	Wise Green'k	Kumreigh	Wise Green'k	Little Catargo
Little Catargo	Testa	Kumreigh	Wise Green'k	Sitting Bull	Wise Green'k
4—Old Whitey	4—Gridine	4—Orenco	4—Orenco	4—Old Whitey	4—Smoky Snyder
Gridine	Battle Call	Battle Call	Battle Call	Smoky Snyder	Billie Bane
Smoky Snyder	Smoky Snyder	Smoky Snyder	Smoky Snyder	Merry Marine	Balmy Spring
5—Chabelle	5—Chabelle	5—Thumbs Up	5—Phar Rong	5—Thumbs Up	5—Zaca Rosa
Zaca Rosa	Thumbs Up	Zaca Rosa	Zaca Rosa	Zaca Rosa	Chabelle
Thumbs Up	Phar Rong	Picket Line	Chabelle	Picket Line	Picket Line
6—Goeswell	6—Pepinillo	6—Pepinillo	6—Playful Wink	6—Pepinillo	6—Pepinillo
Playful Wink	Playful Wink	Playful Wink	High Strike	High Strike	High Strike
Pepinillo	High Strike	High Strike	Pepinillo	Playful Wink	Soberano
7—Hy-Cop	7—Porter's Cap	7—Hy-Cop	7—Porter's Cap	7—Red Jewel	7—Hy Cop
Red Jewel	Hy-Cop	Porter's Cap	Hy-Cop	Hy-Cop	Porter's Cap
Porter's Cap	Red Jewel	Red Jewel	Buckhorn C'k	Porter's Cap	Roman Gov'r
8—Count Us	8—Count Us	8—Maevic	8—Count Us	8—Quercus	8—Count Us
Valdina Boss	Valdina Boss	Quercus	Valdina Boss	Count Us	Quercus
Molasses Mibs	Molasses Mibs	Count Us	Molasses Mibs	Molasses Mibs	Molasses Mibs

20th Readies Heavy Starting Sked, Beginning (7)

Three pictures are scheduled to face the cameras at 20th-Fox July 7, followed on July 10 by one, and two more on July 14. Trio going first are 'Small Town Deb', Jane Withers starrer, directed by Harold Schuster and produced by Lou Ostrow; 'Cadet Girl', with Carole Landis and John Shepperd, Ray McCarey directing and Sol M. Wurtzel producing, and 'Detour to Love', Alfred Werker directing for Walter Morosco.

On July 10 'Forward March', the Laurel and Hardy comedy, starts work under the direction of Monty Banks with Wurtzel producing.

July 14 is date set for two of company's largest budgeted films, 'Swamp Water', now doing location work in Georgia, and 'Confirm or Deny', both to be produced by Darryl F. Zanuck. Jean Renoir directs Anne Baxter, Dana Andrews, Walter Brennan, Walter Huston and Mary Beth Hughes in the first, and Fritz Lang will direct the second with Don Ameche and Joan Bennett heading the cast.

Later in the month 'Remember the Day', William Perlberg production starring Claudette Colbert and John Payne, is slated to start, and Walter Morosco will roll 'Between the Devil'.

a.m. Dailies

Robt. Montgomery to Navy—
Robert Montgomery will go into the Navy on July 1, when he reports for active duty at Washington, D. C. as a lieutenant in the office of naval operations.

Sues Sid Silvers—
Mrs. Buena Silvers filed suit for divorce from Sid Silvers. She asks alimony and support for their six year old daughter.

OFFICES FOR RENT OR LEASE
'Two offices can be used together or separately.'
Located on outside corner of motion picture building. Very reasonable rental. Both offices carpeted and equipped with Venetian blinds. Janitor service included. Tel. NO. 21181. Miss Cavanagh.

Ill in Pix

B. B. KAHANE is bedded at home with a severe attack of colitis.

STANLEY ROSE is in Cedars of Lebanon with a broken arm.

SMITH, DISNEY CONFABS ON AGAIN TODAY

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

sation is said to have centered largely around the question of recognizing the SCG as bargaining representative for the workers, reinstatement of all employes, withdrawal of National Labor Relations Board petitions, ban on fines and blacklists against non-strikers, etc.

In the meantime the first of 400 wage claims for workers was filed with the Wage-Hour Division by George E. Bodle, counsel for the Guild. Ed Dunn, an animator, is asking for payment of $80 for work he claims to have performed at home before the walkout. He also is seeking two hours pay weekly from October, '39, to October, '40, claiming Disney required the employes to work 44 hours weekly, although 42 were recorded in accordance with the Wage-Hour Law.

Guild leaders expressed hope for an early settlement of the controversy, but added that plans were being laid for a national campaign to stop screening of Disney pictures. They refused to reveal details of the plan, but insisted that arrangements were being made to 'lower the boom' at the proper time.

Smith declined to discuss his meeting with company representatives, but said that he was still hopeful of finding a middle ground that would be acceptable to both groups and end the walkout.

Speedy Deal Reported Between Producers, Directors Guild

Producers and the Screen Directors Guild representatives meet today to discuss the Guild's demands for minimum wage scales and other contract revisions. It is understood that a tentative accord has already been reached on several of the points, indicating that a speedy deal will be set up.

In addition to the minimum scales for low-budget pictures, the SDG is seeking an increase to 90% of the current 80-20 Guild shop agreement, and guaranteed terms of employment. The directors are asking a minimum of $300 per week for shorts, montages and second units; $350 for westerns and serials, and $500 for features. The proposed minimums are slightly lower where a director is employed on a term contract.

Harry Goetz Mulls NY Columbia Musiker

New York, June 24.—Harry Goetz, visiting New York, is mulling the possibilities of producing a musical for Columbia this fall at the Eastern Service Studios at Astoria. Idea would be to use personalities available on the Broadway stage. Goetz returns to the Coast Thursday.

Wisberg at Columbia

Columbia has signed Aubrey Wisberg, stage and radio writer, to work on an untitled story in 'The Lone Wolf' series starring Warren William. A. & S. Lyons agented.

Births

SON, to Mrs. Kenneth E. Bemis, Monday, at the Glendale sanitarium. Father is Billy Bemis of the stage dancing team of Billy and Beverly Bemis.

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DAILY VARIETY DAILY

NEWS OF TH

Vol. 32 No. 15 43 Hollywood, Calif 5 Cents

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

SOL LESSER RKO A PRODUCER

AFL SHUNS XTRA, SAG SQUABBLE

The American Federation of Labor Executive Council has decided that it has no authority to interfere in the extra setup in the Screen Actors Guild. Word to that effect is said to have been received at SAG headquarters here, after Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Guild, had talked with AFofL leaders in the east.

Report of the ruling was verified

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Milder Reveals WB 'Churchill' Pic

New York, June 25.—Warners will produce the 'Life of Winston Churchill', it was revealed today by Max Milder, company's British manager, on his arrival via Clipper from London. Picture likely will be made at the Teddington plant in London. Milder claimed he made the trip across to discuss the latest developments in England with Harry Warner, but made no mention of the purported deal to buy an interest in the John Maxwell theatre chain in Great Britain. His visit here has been linked by London reports with the possibility that Warners might buy.

Miriam Hopkins Pulls Out of 'Dakota'

Miriam Hopkins has withdrawn from the cast of 'Badlands of Dakota' at Universal and start of picture, slated for tomorrow under the direction of Alfred Green, will be delayed until a new femme lead can be set. Miss Hopkins, who signed for the picture before reading a completed script, is understood to have decided the role did not suit her after checking finished screen play.

PREVIEWED

BLONDIE IN SOCIETY
(Col)

REVIEWED

SHADOWS ON THE STAIRS
(WB)

(Preview and Review, page 3)

HERBERT LAMB, DISNEY STUDIO MGR., QUITS

Herbert Lamb has checked out as studio manager of Walt Disney Productions, it was learned last night as Harold V. Smith, strike mediator, met with company officials to discuss proposals for settling the Screen Cartoonists Guild walkout. At the same time it was reported that the rep-

★ Continued on page 10 ★

'Dragon' in 150 Spots

New York, June 25.—RKO starts first playing time on 'The Reluctant Dragon' this weekend, picture being spotted in 150 key situations for the final week of this month and early in July.

SEEKS TO ABROGATE HIS TICKET WITH UA

Sol Lesser joins RKO as an A producer Monday. Though Lesser as yet has not obtained a modification of his contract to release at least one picture a year, through to 1945, for United Artists, he closed his deal with RKO this week. Negotiations are on now to abrogate the Lesser ticket with UA following his delivery of 'Strange Victory' which now is in preparation and will be ready to go into production shortly.

Several months ago Lesser was about set to sign a deal at RKO as executive producer and studio head, but due to his United Artists commitment was unable to go through

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

DAVID ROSE COMING WEST ON PAR ENGLISH SETUP

New York, June 25.—David Rose, Paramount's manager for Great Britain, Clippered in from Lisbon today. He is planing for the Coast to report to Paramount on the shooting of 'Hatter's Castle' as a quota production in England. Also he will report that the three studios there are all operating, but that all American companies are behind on quota requirements because of difficulty in securing players and technicians.

Rose hopes to obtain a British

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

Horne Leaving Disney

New York, June 25.—Hal Horne is resigning July 15 as director of the Walt Disney distribution. Announcement was made today by Roy Disney, eastern representative.

PAR CONFERENCES WINDUP TODAY

Paramount studio conferences with home office executives wind up today, with the New Yorkers departing tonight and tomorrow.

First part of talks was on matter of allocation of pictures into groups of five with Neil Agnew and Robert Gillham on Monday and Tuesday. Product was set for first four pack-

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

SCARCITY OF LABOR FACES STUDIO UNIONS

Film unions are experiencing difficulty in filling studio calls these days. Most of the crafts are refusing to issue work permits or to call in outsiders, with the result that hundreds of technicians are drawing time and a half to work second shifts. Men employed at one studio are refusing to accept a call from another lot the same day unless guaranteed time and half.

Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644, said his organization had to call in 30 outside painters Monday to fill studio calls, and that several outsiders also were given work on Tuesday. Many studio technicians object to working double shifts, making it difficult for the unions to fill calls when production goes above the average peaks.

Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact, said work in the studios is 'terrific'. Heavy production schedules and departure of many technicians to work on Defense Program projects are blamed for the scarcity of trained men.

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	257
Major Studio Calls	320
Total	577

Gilbert Miller Due on Col 'Retirement' Plans

Gilbert Miller planes in from New York today to huddle with Lester Cowan and Columbia execs on 'Ladies in Retirement', which completed production yesterday. Miller and Cowan co-produced the film from the Miller Broadway presentation.

M. J. Siegel to NY

M. J. Siegel, studio production head of Republic, trained for New York yesterday for a series of conferences with Herbert J. Yates. He will be gone three weeks.

20th Reties Palmer

20th-Fox yesterday lifted its option on Ernest Palmer, cameraman, for another year. Palmer is currently photographing 'Weekend In Havana'.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Trilly**
Miss Boxthorn
Hillfilly
2d RACE—**Little Long**
Torch Lee
High Martin
3d RACE—**OPENING BID**
Madie Greenock
Spread Eagle
4th RACE—**String Music**
Get On
Valley Boy
5th RACE—**Welcome Pass**
Persian Heels
Gallant One
6th RACE—**Triplane**
My Porter
Home Burning
7th RACE—**Big Ben**
Xenomay
Allessandro
8th RACE—**Battling Kate**
Sextus
Little Banner
CHANCE BET—**Nony G.** (2nd)
Selections consensus, page 10.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Victor Jory in from Big Bear vacation.

Wesley Mears, onetime studio guide at KNX, now on the announcing staff.

Songwriter Charlie Tobias due in July 2 from New York for stay of several weeks.

Jack Stone and Jack Peoples have joined Bobby Stowell's orchestra at Victors in Bevhills.

Clarence Brown probably will be signed to a new directing contract by Metro this week.

'Blondie', which started its radio career as a summer filler, now tops all half-hour shows on CBS.

Stuart Palmer was guest and principal speaker yesterday at the regular meeting of the Authors' Club.

Bette Davis and husband, Arthur Farnsworth, will appear in a full-color spread in next week's issue of Life.

Ted Arkin and Dorothy Roberts, jitterbug team from the original 'Meet the People' company, have returned from NY.

Mayor James D. Idol of Harrisonville, Mo., has requested Warners to hold premiere of 'Bad Men of Missouri' in that town.

Milton Berle closed at the Paramount, NY, yesterday and leaves for Chicago for three weeks at the Chez Paree starting July 4.

Bill Jordan reopening his Bar of Music at Miami Beach, Fla., for the summer play. He'll spend most of his time at the Bev boul Bar.

Warners has changed William Justices last name to Travers, and he will do 'West of the Rockies', short, as his first film under the new handle.

J. N. (Jack) Skelton, newly elected business representative of Studio Carpenters Local 946, is taking a few days' vacation before starting his new duties.

Orson Welles planed for Chicago last night to confer with his publishers, the Mercury Text Publishing Co., on plans for issuing a volume of poetry this fall.

Irene Bordoni arrives in Hollywood Monday to repeat her stage role in the screen version of 'Louisiana Purchase', which rolls July 7 at Paramount. Victor Moore, who starred in the original, arrives July 2 for Technicolor tests.

Benny the Gouge sez—'Man At Large' is a timely Hollywood title, with so many handsome lads called away to Army camps.

Hollywood Inside

UNDER the auspices of the United States Office of Education, the University of Southern California is giving courses in Engineering Photography, Basic Motion Picture Processes for Engineers, and Engineering Cinematography. Applicants have to be American citizens and must have had at least two years of a college engineering course or the equivalent in training and experience. Engineering Photography course started June 17 and will meet for 16 weeks each Tuesday and Thursday evening; course in basic processes began the same day, also to run for 16 weeks each Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening; Engineering Cinematography classes started June 19 and classes will be held each Thursday. It is not too late to enter. There are no fees or tuition, and all materials will be provided free of charge. Courses are being offered with the object of training men for positions in government service and with defense industries, but there is no direct connection with any branch of the armed forces and no guarantee of employment to those completing the studies.

☆ ☆ ☆

UNIVERSAL plans to build the Merry Macs into the comedian class, as well as using the group's musical talents in a number of pictures during the coming season. In line with the efforts to establish group as comics, studio is holding back release of 'Moonlight in Hawaii' until after the public gets a film glimpse of the boys in 'San Antonio Rose', which has them handling small comedy spots in addition to singing. In 'Moonlight', the MacMichaels, Joe, Ted and Judd, have more of a chance to display comedy talents. In their next, 'Ride 'Em, Cowboy', with Abbott and Costello, the Macs are slated to sing only two songs, their roles calling for considerable acting footage as dude ranch guides. Studio is not neglecting Mary Lou Cook, the femme member of the vocal group, planning to groom her for feature lead assignments in addition to her singing.

☆ ☆ ☆

STUDIO politics at times are pathetically ridiculous. Execs who have nothing to do but figure in whose camp an employe may be, make blunders that can prove most costly to their companies but sometimes do not realize the fact until too late. Recently a producer left a studio after having prepared a picture for production. Director who made the picture, because having been selected by him for the task, was tabbed as 'his boy', so he was given the childish treatment of being assigned to a two by four office and having his secretary taken away. This did not dampen the director's ardor for he turned out a picture said to be one of the company's big selling standouts for the new season. But he is still in the same office and minus his secretary.

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AN INDIE major studio where the habit has been not to give increases to employes regardless of servitude was most magnanimous to the son of one of its top execs. The youth, out of college only a short time, learning the biz, was getting around $25 a week. When word got out he was engaged to be married his salary was doubled to $50 a week, with a promise from the head of the studio that it would become $75 after the marriage ceremony. Employes on lot were none too thrilled as shortly before this incident a department head had asked for an increase from $20 to $25 a week for a comptometer operator who had been with the company for eight years and was told to let the employe out if they insisted on getting the tilt.

☆ ☆ ☆

'RIDE 'EM, COWBOY' will not be filmed on location at a dude ranch in Arizona or New Mexico as previously planned by Universal, studio having failed to find a suitable ranch equipped with a large swimming pool in either state. Instead, Universal located two ranches around Newhall which will serve its purpose for backgrounds, one furnishing the necessary swank pool and the other the main and out ranch buildings. Picture's opening scenes will be started Monday on location on Alameda street in the railway stock yards, later going to Newhall. About 95% of scenes are outdoors.

☆ ☆ ☆

AT THE forthcoming 20th-Fox sales convention here next month, Truman H. Talley, Movietone producer, will announce the names of several top-flight correspondents who will be added to his staff of narrators of short features for next season. Quentin Reynolds and Leland Stowe will continue as narrators, but other journalists, whose names alone will have news value, also are to be signed. Thousands of newspaper tieups are made possible by use of correspondents. Details have been worked out by Tally and S. R. Kent.

☆ ☆ ☆

THE real reason behind the trip of Jesse Lasky to New York is not to attend the premiere of 'Sergeant York' (although he'll catch that, too), but to talk with banking houses about raising $3,500,000. A couple of bank executives stationed here caught a sneak showing of 'Sergeant York', contacted their home offices and reported that the picture looked like a winner. The bankers asked Lasky to come east. With the three and a half million Lasky hopes to raise he plans to produce three pictures.

☆ ☆ ☆

TWENTIETH-FOX ran into difficulty in picking a location for 'How Green Was My Valley'. Location near Calabasas was chosen so that the sets would face a hillside and a valley. But the wrong hill was picked, which was discovered when sets were being constructed. When the trouble developed the studio decided to conform to the story and the buildings had to be changed around, with considerable difficulty.

☆ ☆ ☆

PRESS agents at the studios had headaches yesterday, caused by the B-19, the Douglas bomber which didn't take off. Yesterday was about the fifth time the huge ship has been scheduled to leave the ground, forcing all of the top correspondents, photographers and newsmen to stand by, making them unavailable for studio publicity items.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was a little hunk of clay down deep beneath the sod,
To all intents and purposes a meek and hopeless clod,
But in his soggy bosom burned ambition's glowing flame.
'I'll rise above the sod', he said, 'and grasp undying fame'.
A shovel rudely dug him up and tossed him in a truck,
And with a cheerful heart he cried: 'O boy, am I in luck'.
They flung him in an oven, which fulfilled his fondest wishes,
And presently the clod became a set of china dishes.
And now he gleams in flaming lights for all the world to see,
Along with star attractions on a movie house marquee.

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While the boys and gals are raising money for China Relief, how about soliciting the crockery makers? They are grabbing more profit out of pictures than a lot of producers.

★ ★ ★

Jack Carson, who toots a trumpet in 'New Orleans Blues', was accused of sabotage when he became absent-minded and tooted 'St. Louis Blues'.

Bob Hope sends word that his favorite pictures are ghostly whodunits. 'After all those years in vaudeville', he says, 'I ain't afraid in an empty house'.

'The Lone Wolf's Double Cross', take it from Warren William, may be a new title, but it's an old Hollywood custom.

★ ★ ★

Martha Scott has achieved the last word in stardom. The gal is building a swimming pool.

★ ★ ★

One of those old fashioned actors is Claude Rains, who owns a farm instead of a ranch.

Dick Nelson, who impersonates film people, is pulling a unique stunt at the Orpheum theatre next week. He positively does NOT impersonate Charles Laughton.

Johnny Weissmuller went to Florida to do aquatic scenes for his new Tarzan picture and was delayed a week by wet weather.

★ ★ ★

Jimmie Fidler is said to be the fastest talker on the radio, but little Eleanor Counts can give him a ten-word handicap and beat him in a 100-word dash.

★ ★ ★

'Go West Young Lady' shows how times have changed since grandpop was a lad. There was no Hollywood influence in those days.

★ ★ ★

Harold Cohen, the Pittsburgh picture scout, reports a marquee on the road to San Diego:

'Veronica Lake'.
'20 Degrees Hotter Inside.'

Reports from the Russian front recall the old days of no-decision prize fights. The winner was the guy whose manager reached the telegraph office first.

Film Preview and Review

Blondie In Society

(*Comedy*)

Columbia production and release. Features Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Larry Simms, Daisy. Supporting cast: Jonathan Hale, Danny Mummert, William Frawley, Edgar Kennedy, Chick Chandler, Irving Bacon, Bill Goodwin, Robert Mitchell's Boys' Choir, Chin-Up-White-Tie-For-Dinner (dog). Producer, Robert Sparks. Director, Frank R. Strayer. Story, Eleanore Griffin, based on the comic strip created by Chic Young. Screenplay, Karen DeWolf. Photography, Henry Freulich. Film editor, Charles Nelson. Musical director, M. W. Stoloff. Previewed June 25. Running time: 77 mins.

This is one of the best in the 'Blondie' series to date. Director Frank R. Strayer chalks up a goodly score here with a sprightly script which owes much to a number of well planned gag situations. The normal adult following, wherever these episodes are booked, will be maintained while it's an especially strong bidder for juvenile attention.

The story revolves primarily about dogs, with Dagwood bringing home a Great Dane who promptly proceeds to get the Bumstead family into hot water with the neighbors. Despite the fetching display of thoroughbred canines in various sequences, Daisy, the old Bumstead standby, is never outshone, nearly always keeping the spotlight with cut tricks.

Trouble unfolds when Dagwood brings home a great Dane champ in lieu of $50 which he loaned a friend. Though a real thoroughbred, the animal has never won a prize because he goes to sleep at dog shows. One of the gag shots has the dog devouring all the food in the Bumstead kitchen followed by a burping spree. Another funny situation is pictured at a dog hospital where an anxious owner, pacing outside the canine maternity ward like a worried father, throws a goofy smile when advised that his dog has given birth to a litter of six which he is allowed to peek at only through a glass window.

Edgar Kennedy does his slow burn with telling effect here, as the veterinary, after a deal with Blondie, whereby he gets a royal trimming on the Dane's medical and lodging expenses. Penny Singleton essays two vocal numbers and does well. The two juveniles, Larry Simms and Danny Mummert, register for light comedy returns, while Arthur Lake turns in his usual imitation of the harassed husband.

Blondie's singing is tied in with the Great Dane as she discovers that he will stand up and show whenever she tries a tune. As a result of Blondie's discovery the champion wins a $500 prize and is sold to a millionaire dog fancier for a grand.

Production shapes up as a pleasant dog picture. Robert Mitchell's Boys Choir is in for one sequence, and okay.

Mary Lee Lent Par

Paramount has borrowed Mary Lee, 16-year-old songstress, from Republic for a role in 'Sing a Song of Homicide'. William Clemens is directing.

Kaaren in 'Rags'

Suzanne Kaaren will do the femme heavy in 'Rags to Riches' at Republic. Jerome Cowan has the male meanie spot.

Shadows On the Stairs

(*Melodrama*)

Warners production and release. Cast: Frieda Inescort, Paul Cavanagh, Heather Angel, Bruce Lester, Miles Mander, Lumsden Hare, Turhan Bey, Charles Irwin, Phyllis Barry, Mary Field, Paul Renay, Sidney Bracy. Directed by D. Ross Lederman. Associate producer, William Jacobs. Screenplay by Anthony Coldeway, from a play by Frank Vosper. Camera, Allen G. Siegler. Edited by Thomas Pratt. Reviewed at the Orpheum theatre, June 25. Running time: 63 mins.

Three wanton murders, a house permeated with mystery and an unusual denouement keeps 'Shadows On the Stairs' from falling into the desultory film type. Lack of marquee names has probably been one of the reasons why Warners has held back a first run here, and then gave it to the Orpheum which, by the way, is hard up for pictures.

Finale, instead of determining the wholesale killings, leaves the audience perplexed until Bruce Lester reveals that he has been reading his latest play, and that all the villains concocted by him are in reality rather nice people.

Locale is laid in an English boarding house, conducted by Frieda Inescort, who has an emotional type of role which she handles most satisfactorily. Paul Cavanagh, whose business never is explained, is first suspected of the murder, and then the crime is pinned on Phyllis Barry when Cavanagh is killed. Another suspect is Turhan Bey, but in the final reading of the play Miles Mander, husband of Miss Inescort, is revealed by Lester as the killer.

Everybody gives a corking good performance and for a time it looks as though the film may get places. Charlie Irwin has a fat piece as an English Bobby. Screenplay was adapted from the stage play of Frank Vosper by Anthony Coldeway, who has turned out a most satisfactory script. Direction by D. Ross Lederman leaves nothing to be desired, and the camera work is up to snuff.

Despite these laudable efforts the film itself will have trouble getting to first base, and at most it can be considered suitable only for bottom spot of dual bills.

Crawford, Taylor Pic Rolls at Metro

'When Ladies Meet' started shooting yesterday at Metro, with Robert Z. Leonard directing. Joan Crawford, Robert Taylor, Greer Garson and Herbert Marshall have the top roles. Spring Byington also has been cast. Robert Planck is handling the camera. Red Golden is assistant director.

Rose Edits Pair

Sherman A. Rose has been set to edit the next two Harry Sherman productions, 'Tombstone' and 'American Empire', Richard Dix starrers. 'Tombstone' is to be filmed at Monument Valley, Utah, with 'American Empire' crew to go on location on Superstition Mountain, Ariz.

Chapin Additions

Anna Morrison Chapin has been set at Universal to do additional scenes for 'Sunset In Wyoming', Gene Autry western. Don Ryan started work at the studio yesterday on 'West of the Range' for George Sherman.

Film Players Ready Weekend Shows For 6 Camps

The Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation is now lining up film names for a tour of six army camps and air fields over the weekend as the 10th special show to be staged for members of the army service stationed on the Pacific coast.

Kay Kyser and Marlene Dietrich will headline this week's talent array and Kay Francis, Lucille Ball, Judy Canova, Desi Arnaz, Ann Miller, Pat O'Brien and Jimmy Durante are lending their services for the junket. These names will be augmented by others being set by the committee, depending upon studio and other commitments, and not all will appear at each of the six entertainment points.

Troupe leaves by automobile and bus tomorrow for Camp Callan to stage the first show. The second will be held at Camp Haan Saturday. The group trains out Sunday for San Francisco to work the remaining spots, Camp McQuaide, Hamilton Field, the Presidio and Moffett Field. Swing of the six camps will take about six days in all and is the longest coverage yet undertaken by the committee in setting up special entertainment for the soldiers. It is figured film names will play to around 100,000 enlisted men and officers on the junket.

Fairbanks, Jr. Due In Miami Shortly

New York, June 25.—Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. is due in Miami this week by Clipper from Panama, concluding a good-will tour of the Latin-American countries which has lasted several months. Actor stops in Washington briefly, and then goes to the Coast to take the lead role in 'The Corsican Brothers'.

Wobber Planes In

Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox general manager in charge of distribution, planed in from San Francisco last night to begin conferences with Darryl Zanuck and other studio executives preliminary to the company's national convention at the Ambassador in mid-July. Wobber probably will remain at the studio, looking at product and holding conferences, until the convention.

Spot Geo. Montgomery

George Montgomery has been assigned one of the leads opposite Carole Landis in 20th-Fox's 'Cadet Girl', which starts July 7. John Shepperd has the other male lead.

Dan Tobey Signed

Dan Tobey, prize fight announcer, has been signed by Metro for fistic sequences in 'Ringside Maisie'. Harold Minjir yesterday was added to the picture's cast.

Heading East

M. J. Siegel
Carol Wayne
Orson Welles
Paul Raiburn
Claude Rains

In from the East

Gilbert Miller
Nate B. Spingold

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

JACK OWENS' ditty, 'Hi Neighbor', has been adopted as the new greeting song at Catalina. Broadcast Music, which publishes the tune, is planning heavy exploitation on the networks for the number, written for Universal's 'San Antonio Rose'. . . . Tony Martin was given a farewell party yesterday by his co-workers at NBC after closing out his Woodbury series. . . . Wayne Morris becomes Ensign B. D. Morris this morning at 8:30 a.m. when he reports for duty at the Naval Training Station at the Long Beach municipal airport. . . . He spent last night at Slapsy Maxie's. . . . Bert Lahr dined Art Arthur and his wife at Leone's last night. . . . Eddie Norris flies his own plane to Ensenada today for fishing trip. . . . Ann Gillis, Paramount starlet currently working in 'Glamour Boy', has qualified for the National Honor Society, highest scholastic achievement attainable by a high school student. . . . Frank Tuttle returned to the Paramount lot yesterday from New York where he attended the wedding of his daughter Fredrika to David Hunt Blair, of Washington, D. C. Ceremony took place in St. James Episcopal church, New York, on June 21.

BEST DRESSED GAL OF THE WEEK

Frances Farmer, lunching at the Beverly Hills Brown Derby, in a timber brown silk shantung frock, made shirtmaker style. Her large white off-the-face hat, worn on the back of the head to show her blonde pompadour, had a wide ribbon band to match her dress and a perky feather. A mammoth gold rose, paved with diamonds, was clipped at the base of her deep V-neckline.

MAX FACTOR, Jr. has decided that the only way to assure his bangtails winning is not to watch a race in which one of the nags is entered. Every time Factor becomes a spectator his horse finishes out of the money, but do well enough if he takes a walk to see the flowers during a running. . . . Susan Peters, young actress, and Philip Terry, actor, will be married July 23, according to the mother of the actress. . . . Abbott and Costello will do a guest appearance at the opening of Pete and Billy Snyder's Bandbox cafe tomorrow night. . . . George Jessel will head the show at the Cal-Neva Lodge when it opens Saturday night at Lake Tahoe. . . . Porter McVeigh, son of Blake McVeigh, won the 36-hole open championship at the Royal Oaks golf course in Detroit, Mich., yesterday, with a 71 and a 68. He collected $300 cash prize for his stroking. . . . Claude Rains headed east for his farm in Pennsylvania yesterday after checking off the Columbia lot following completion of 'Mr. Jordan Comes to Town'. . . . Dr. Ludwig Strauss has been signed as technical adviser to Barbara Stanwyck who plays a woman physician in Columbia's 'You Belong to Me'.

May Wage Earners' Payroll in Pix Off $59,182

Heavy spring production surge that sent total weekly payrolls to wage earners soaring to new highs in April, declined during May, according to figures released by the California Labor Statistics Bulletin covering the motion picture production field. Decline in work nicked the average weekly payroll by $59,182 and there were 1,006 less workers employed each week than during the preceding month. Total weekly payroll averaged $643,008 for May as against $702,190 paid during April, and wage earners numbered 13,821 for May as compared to 14,827 for April.

Wage earners worked an average of 35.3% hours each week during May to collect an average pay check of $46.52 at an hourly rate of $1.316. Hourly rate averaged slightly higher than the $1.308 paid workers during April, but that month saw pay checks averaging $47.36 each for a total weekly hours of 36.2%.

Huge Part of RCA Suit Dismissed

New York, June 25.—Over $240,000,000 of the $260,000,000 stockholder suit against Radio Corp. officers and directors was dismissed by Supreme Court Justice Levy. Court dismissed all parts of the action prior to 1932 under the statute of limitations. That part dismissed the charge RCA gave stock to Westinghouse in return for worthless stock. Remaining is part which seeks $11,000,000 for alleged worthless investments in RKO.

'Hellzapoppin'' Gonged At Universal

'Hellzapoppin', the Olsen and Johnson starrer to be produced by Jules Levey's Mayfair unit at Universal, starts work today under the direction of H. C. Potter. Joseph McDonough will assist Potter. In addition to the two comics, cast so far includes Martha Raye, Mischa Auer, Robert Stack, Jane Frazee and Katherine Johnson.

Cal Howard Westward

Cal Howard, scenario writer at the Fleischer Studio, Miami, reports to Metro shortly for cartoon assignments, following completion of script and gag man assignment on 'Mr. Bug Goes to Town', feature length Technicolor cartoon to be released by Paramount.

Births

SON, weighing four pounds, four ounces, to Mrs. Preston Sturges at the Good Samaritan hospital yesterday.

HARRY
LANGDON
Discovered
Again!
HALLAM COOLEY
Personal Repr.

Paramount To Pre-judge Tunes on Exploitation Lines Before Pic Starts

As a means of gauging potential film exploitation possibilities, sheet and recording sales value, and affording additional protection for elaborate production numbers costing from $15,000 to $50,000, tunes to be used in expensive musical sequences at Paramount are to be pre-judged in the future before shooting begins. Closer working arrangements between Sidney Kornheiser, general manager of Paramount and Famous Music Corporations, Lou Lipstone, music head at the studio, and all directors working on musicals, have been set with the object of determining in advance whether songs to be used in pictures are exploitable and how weaker numbers with possibilities can be salvaged by revamping.

Kornheiser, who planed in from New York early this week, is going over individual musical problems with Paramount producers and directors and has also evolved plans for plugging Ascap tunes from films over the air. Kornheiser has worked out a program which he believes will be acceptable to Ascap and at the same time give pictures the invaluable ether exploitation which cannot be replaced in any other way. Stronger plugging of filmusical tunes via trailers also is being arranged.

Of major significance in Kornheiser's confabs is the decision to get the musical publishing reaction to tunes before they are filmed. Instead of sending music back east for plugging, sheet and recording sales, after the tunes have been filmed, publishing execs first will be consulted.

While here Kornheiser has been auditioning numbers from 'Glamour Boy', 'Louisiana Purchase', 'Birth of the Blues', 'Sing a Song of Homicide' and 'The Fleet's In'. He estimates that from 12 to 15 numbers suitable for sheet sales and recordings will be selected from these productions. Kornheiser, who holds a union card in the Music Publishers Contact Employees of Greater New York, also has been making the rounds with Tubby Garron and Nat Winecoff, plugging tunes at local niteries and hotel dance rooms.

20th-Fox Preparing Yarn on Training Of S. D. Marines

20th-Fox is entering the service picture race with a story on the training of Marines at the San Diego base under the title of 'On the Shores of Tripoli'. Steve Fisher, former sailor, is preparing the original screenplay for production by Milton Sperling at 20th-Fox, after doing 10 days of research recently at the Marine Base.

Title of picture is taken from the second line of the Marine hymn, which reads 'From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli'.

Johnnie Walker Will Make Shorts in NY

Albany, N. Y., June 25.—Johnnie Walker Motion Picture Productions, Inc., has been chartered here to conduct motion picture and theatrical business in New York state. Walker was formerly a silent film star. Outfit plans a series of Catholic shorts and some film short production in South America.

WB Writer Assignments

Writer assignments handed out at Warners include Ben Markson on the screen play of 'Across the Atlantic'; Charles Grayson to collaborate with Raymond Schrock on the script of 'The Great Divide'; and Owen Crump and Fred Niblo, Jr., to work with Thomas Lennon on 'Man From the FBI', based on the original by Robert Chapin.

Mowbray's 'Capades'

Alan Mowbray joins the featured players in 'Ice-Capades' at Republic, and picture resumes shooting today after a 10-day layoff following completion of the ice skating production numbers with the Ice-Capades troupe. Joseph Santley is directing.

AFL Exec Council Refuses To Enter Xtra, SAG Fite

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

by Harry Mayo, chairman of the Extras Advisory Council, who stated he had received the following telegram from William Green, AFofL president:

'The Executive Council found from an examination of records and facts it lacked authority to interfere in the Screen Actors Guild situation. The Council, however, wishes to be helpful in bringing about an adjustment in every possible way. Suggest you present your case to Organizer Aubrey Blair, representative of the AFofL in Hollywood'.

It is understood that Mayo and the Council have wired Green that they refuse to accept the decision as final, and that their demand for a vote in the Guild will be taken over his head. It was reported, however, that with the Council having ruled against interference, the only other step in the AFofL would be to appeal direct to the convention.

The Council decision is said to have been based on the fact that the extras themselves voted in favor of abolishing the SAG Council and designating the SAG board of directors as their bargaining representative. They are said to have taken the position the matter was an internal jurisdictional dispute that should be settled by the SAG and its parent body, the Associated Actors and Artistes of America.

The extras had asked the AFofL to investigate failure of the SAG to give them equal voting privilege with Class A members.

Martin in 'Havana'

Chris-Pin Martin will have a featured role in 20th-Fox's 'Weekend In Havana'.

'Cabin' Extended Three Weeks in Frisco; Al Lewis Here

Al Lewis, producer of 'Cabin In the Sky', got into town yesterday from San Francisco, where the show opened this week for two stanza engagement. With indications of around $30,000 in traffic this week Lewis made deal with Homer Curran to extend engagement for another three weeks, at which time tour of the production will close after 45 weeks of playing.

Lewis heads for New York Saturday to make arrangements for new fall production and returns here early in July to spend six weeks' vacation.

LESSER BECOMES RKO A PRODUCER

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

as that organization declined to release him from his commitment. However, with Joe Breen coming in as executive vice-prexy at RKO, deal was finally worked out with Lesser to produce series of top flight pictures.

Lesser, prior to going into UA setup, produced independently for RKO the Bobby Breen series and also the George O'Brien western group.

Expected that the UA modification or release of obligation to deliver pictures after current season will be worked out for Lesser by end of this week.

Holliway Gets Award

Harrison Holliway, KFI - KECA manager, tonight receives a special award from National Boy Scouts Council for his endeavors in the interest of the scout organization. Presentation will be made at 7 p.m. on the Scout program over KECA.

Pringle Turns Analyst

Nelson 'Pete' Pringle, head of KNX news bureau, turns news analyst for Union Oil and airs five times a week over Columbia's California network.

William Ogles Airers

Warren William is considering offers from sponsors for a series of live and transcribed radio 'Lone Wolf' broadcasts.

Tie Bull's Airer

Frank Bull's 'Sports Bullseye' on KFWB has been contracted for a year by DeSoto dealers.

Frisco Chatter

Golden Gate introducing junior admish prices.

Duncan Sisters open at Lido nitery in North Beach today.

Union contracts covering kitchen help expire June 30 in leading hostelries and restaurants here, giving rise to reports that eateries and hotel dining rooms will close July 1 rather than yield to new union demands.

Eddie Skolak's 'Capitol Follies', folded by closing of old Capitol theatre to make way for parking lot, has opened a week in Sacramento. Company then disbands, although Skolak and several members will join Harry Ferris' French burly outfit at the Liberty in North Beach.

Prexy Parsons, Other Officers of IBEW, Local 40, Re-elected

Prexy E. W. Parsons and other officers of Local 40 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers were re-elected in the annual election Monday. Walter E. Kenney is vice-president; Earl Counter, financial secretary; Harold Foss, treasurer; Al Speede, business representative.

Members of the IBEW executive board are Fred Hurley, Fred Ward, W. F. Moore, R. C. Scaife, A. O. Peterson, Robert Heer. Delegates to the IBEW national convention are Al Speede, W. F. Moore, Fred Hurley, B. E. Agee, R. C. Scaife, Harold Foss. Members of the examining board are William Newlove, E. H. Curtis and E. B. Witty.

NY 'YORK' PREEM PLANS READIED

New York, June 25. — Preparations for the world premiere of 'Sergeant York', produced by Jesse Lasky for Warners, are being completed, and film opens at the Astor theatre July 2. Its run will be on a two-a-day, reserved seat basis. Among those who will attend opening are Gary Cooper, the star; Lasky, Sergeant Alvin C. York, Governor Prentice Cooper of Tennessee.

Picture also will be made into a stage play and Robert Porterfield, legit actor and director of the Barter theatre, Abington, Va., will put the Harry Chandlee-Abem Finkel-John Huston-Howard Koch screenplay into stage form.

Herman Directs 'Lady'

Al Herman will direct 'Li'l Louisiana Lady', Monogram musical which Edward Finney will produce, starting next month. Fred Myton did the original screen play and film will feature Stephen Foster music.

Obituary

DR. EDWARD I. TRAUB

Funeral services for Dr. Edward I. Traub, 35, widely known in film circles, will be held at 10 a.m. today at Groman's Mortuary. Interment follows in Hollywood cemetery. Dr. Traub died Tuesday. He is survived by his widow, Harriet, and two young sons.

R. J. CORBETT

Funeral services for R. J. Corbett, 49, figure in the hotel life of Hollywood, will be held at 3 p.m. today at Hollywood Memorial Park Crematory chapel. Interment will follow at Hollywood Memorial Park cemetery.

SIDNEY WILMER

Sidney Wilmer, member of the firm of Wilmer and Vincent, theatre operators, died yesterday in New York, and will be buried Friday (27) from the Little Church Around the Corner.

LACK OF SHOW GALS

Show girls for the many musicals in production at the studios are reported at a premium with the dearth of lookers forcing producers to scan Broadway for new faces. Of the hundreds of girls gandered for 'Louisiana Purchase' at Paramount, 10 were tested and only three selected. B. G. de Sylva has requested the eastern talent department to send along possibilities. About 18 girls have so far been given screen tests in New York. Most of the Hollywood girls considered suitable have already been grabbed by various studios.

D. O. Selznick Engages Research Bureau To Test His Yarns

David O. Selznick has commissioned the Motion Picture Research Bureau to make a new kind of preproduction study and nationwide analysis of potential audience reaction to stories on his United Artists production schedule. Selznick has 'Romance', 'Tales of Passion', 'Jane Eyre' and 'Claudia' readying for the cameras.

MPRB, for which Dr. Leo Handel is director of research, specializes in film audience surveys and has released a table of relative audience preferences in the New York area, made last month. Leading the preferred type of pictures are comedies with 28.8%, while 20.5% of those queried listed no preference. Serious stories were clocked at 12.5%; adventure and action, 6.7%; just light entertainment, 4.8%; historicals, 4.8%; musicals, 4.0%; romance, 4.0%; mystery, 3.5%; educational, factual, 3.0%; war, propaganda, 2.2%; detective, gangster, 2.2%; western, 1.3% and others, 1.7%.

Houston Suit Against Columbia Settled

Damage suit of Norman Houston against Columbia in connection with 'Mr. Smith Goes to Washington' yesterday was settled out of court. Attorneys for the writer were Simon and Garbus. Mitchell, Silberberg, Knopf and Roth represented the studio in the negotiations. Houston's suit charged that Columbia lifted material from his story, 'Clown In Congress'. Federal Judge Ralph E. Jenney dismissed the Houston action after the settlement was made. A companion case, that of Louis Ullman against Columbia, continued before Judge Jenney. Ullman's complaint charges that his story, 'Angel of Hell Hollow', contained material which was used in 'Mr. Smith'.

Cowboy Mass Meet

A mass meeting of cowboys and riders has been called for Monday night (30) at the Sam Garrett Ranch, 820 S. Mariposa street, Burbank, to discuss the new minimum wage scales of the Screen Actors Guild. A majority of the cowboys are insisting they be paid $16.50 per day, instead of the current minimum of $11.

'Geese' Retakes

20th-Fox's 'Wild Geese Calling' company, under the direction of John Brahm, reports back to the studio today for retakes.

21 Metro Players Assigned To U.S. Defense Short

Metro assigned 21 players yesterday to roles in the studio's two-reel national defense short now in production. Those drawing assignments were Ralph Hubbard, Julie Bescos, Mickey Martin, Billy Shenney, Robert Beck, Henry Stinton, Seymour Klein, William A. Williams, Paul Kruger, Ben Watson, Scotty Hunt, Glen Stevens, Frank Runsden, Everett Clark, Harry Adams, Gordon DeMain, Babe Green, Claude Payton, Mitchel Ingrin, George Broughton and James Welsh.

Edward Cahn is directing.

PAR CONFERENCES WINDUP TODAY

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

ages of five at the meetings. With departure of Agnew and Gillham, the other executives, including Barney Balaban, Stanton Griffis, Adolph Zukor, Russell Holman, John Hicks, Paul Raiburn conferred with Y. Frank Freeman, Henry Ginsberg, Buddy DeSylva and other executives yesterday.

Raiburn will be first to head east tonight, with others, excepting Zukor, going east tomorrow.

Murphy Subs Tetzlaff On 'Glamour Boy'

Ralph Murphy is replacing Ted Tetzlaff as director of 'Glamour Boy', Jackie Cooper-Susanna Foster starrer at Paramount. The assignment ostensibly is temporary, with Tetzlaff reported on the sick list.

MG Sets Editors

Film editor assignments at Metro have Robert J. Kern going on 'When Ladies Meet', George Boemler, to the Greta Garbo picture, and Harold F. Kress on 'Married Bachelor'.

Delacy on Bronc

Ralph Delacy gets the unit art director assignment on 'Ride 'Em Cowboy 'at Universal.

Coast League Baseball Results

Los Angeles, 5; Portland, 4, (10 innings).

Hollywood, 3; Sacramento, 2.

Oakland, 6; San Diego, 3.

Seattle, 12; San Francisco, 3.

New Scripts Written For Performers On USO Bowl Show

New scripts are being written for teams of performers from the star ranks who will appear in the 'Star Show for the USO' at the Hollywood Bowl Sunday (29) night. Among the 'two-acts' scheduled to appear are Lionel and John Barrymore, Jackie Cooper and Jane Withers as co-directors of a swing band composed of name band leaders in Los Angeles; Charles Boyer and Irene Dunne, Dick Powell and Frances Langford. In addition there will be dozens of other stars.

The Hollywood Bowl is more than 60% sold out for the show owing to the strong support from film executives and personalities in arranging box parties as well as contributing their services.

MG Collarites Rap Non-Strike Idea

Metro members of the Screen Office Employes Guild last night voted full confidence in their negotiating committee, and adopted a resolution directing the committee to call upon the membership when it was felt necessary to make their 'voice more emphatic'. The White Collarites gave a bronx cheer to a proposal calling for a non-strike clause in the five-year contract, and cheered reports of strike actions that brought Producer agreements to the Screen Cartoonists Guild and other crafts.

The group named Ken Andrews, Martha Lindeman and Paul Sanders on a grievance committee to take up current problems pending signing of a contract. Bernard Lusher presided as chairman. George Macon reported on the progress of negotiations, and Attorney George E. Bodle spoke on the Disney Cartoonists strike.

The meeting was attended by approximately 250 Metro workers, who pledged full support to the committee. It was agreed that no definite action would be taken pending receipt of full counter proposals, promised by the company in time for consideration at the next SOEG meeting.

The distribution of a pamphlet calling the meeting and charging that Metro executives had been stalling and that 'meetings are cancelled on one pretext or another', is said to have resulted in a hurried conference of studio executives including E. J. Mannix, Nicholas Nayfack, and Fred Pelton, Producer labor contact. The executives are said to have discussed the negotiations held with the SOEG, most of which have been handled by a committee headed by Nayfack.

Wright, Darwell Set

Cobina Wright, Jr., and Jane Darwell have been given supporting roles in 20th-Fox's 'Small Town Deb', which rolls July 7.

Earl Carroll's GREATEST SHOW!
★ ★ $3.00 WITH DINNER ★ $1.50 WITHOUT DINNER ★ ★
COME TONIGHT! PHONE HOllywood 7101

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SACRAMENTO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations Telephone WE - 5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

Report on USO Drive Within Studios At Par Feedery (8)

Final report on the United Service Organizations' drive within the film industry will be made Tuesday, July 8, at a luncheon to be held in the Paramount commissary, with William Wellman, chairman of the studio campaign, presiding.

Regardless of the big show to be given in the Hollywood Bowl, the drive still goes on in the studios, according to Leo Spencer, director of public relations, and to date not one request for aid has been turned down in any department of any picture plant.

Quartet Tentatively Set for 'Rangers'

Tentatively set for Paramount's production of 'The Forest Rangers', Thelma Strabel yarn slated for publication in a national magazine, are Madeleine Carroll, Paulette Goddard, Fred MacMurray and Robert Preston. Warren Duff is writing the screenplay with Robert Sisk as associate producer.

Spingold at Columbia To Check Product

Nate B. Spingold, Columbia executive, arrived in Hollywood yesterday to go over rough cuts on several productions now being edited. He will huddle with Harry Cohn and Sam Briskin on plans for pictures to go into production during the next three or four months.

'Minister' Fall Release

Warners will release 'The Prime Minister', based on the life of Disraeli and filmed at Teddington, Eng., this fall in the United States. John Gielgud and Diana Wynyard play the leads and Thorold Dickinson directed. Bessie Love assisted in the production.

Ill in Pix

BETTY GRABLE will leave Santa Monica hospital to return to her home today. She had two wisdom teeth yanked there yesterday and will have another pair of molars removed Monday. Meanwhile, the 20th-Fox 'A Yank In the R.A.F.' is shooting around her.

GEORGE BRENT underwent an operation at Queen of Angels yesterday for a coccyx injury and is expected to be laid up for at least six weeks. Actor's injury will delay Warners plans for producing 'Captains of the Clouds' in Canada.

CARLISLE JONES is in the Good Samaritan hospital and slated to undergo serious operation Friday.

RUSSELL PHELPS is in the Sawtelle Veterans hospital recovering from a minor abdominal operation.

STEVE BROOKS laid up at home the past three days with sacroiliac trouble.

DAVID ROSE COMING WEST ON PAR ENGLISH SETUP

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

player for the lead in 'The Admirable Crichton' while on the Coast, as company is having trouble casting for this British production.

The Par manager praised British morale lavishly, saying whole sections had been bombed out of the Leeds and Birmingham Par branches, and that Manchester and Liverpool had been blasted out of operation. He said about 450 cinemas out of a total of 5,000 in the United Kingdom have been shuttered by bombing or other reasons, but that business continued remarkably strong, people still having money to spend for pictures.

Rose expressed the hope that the new British frozen coin pact, being readied for fall, will be more lenient in view of the Lend-Lease law. Well over $20,000,000 due American distributors has been frozen by the British, Rose said.

When first reports of the Russian-German war were received in Lisbon on Sunday, Rose said, nobody believed them for hours.

Smith Ballew Signs Liberty-National Term Contract

Smith Ballew has been signed to a term contract by Liberty-National Pictures Corp., according to an announcement by M. H. Hoffman, president. Ballew, out of pictures for several years, formerly appeared in a group of Sol Lesser westerns released by 20th-Fox.

Hoffman is now setting up his production schedule so as to release two pictures monthly, and also is completing program of features to be turned out by franchise producers for Liberty-National.

Padden, Ates Spotted In 'Reg'lar Fellers'

Sarah Padden and Roscoe Ates have been signed for feature parts in 'Reg'lar Fellers', first Joe Eudemiller-Arthur Dreifuss production for Producers Releasing Corp., now before the cameras at Talisman studio. Others set for the picture include Leonard Grassi, Henry Shore, Diana Ware, Donna Callahan, Netta Packer, Pat O'Malley, Maren Mayo, Marquerite De La Motte, Jack Smith, Herbert Vigran, Anna Ruth Hughes, Lew Lauria, Dan Stowell and James Gilfoyle.

'Navy Blues' Premiere Up for Honolulu

Plans are being laid by Warners to hold the world premiere of 'Navy Blues' in Honolulu. If no hitches develop, jaunt will be staged early in September, with a number of the principals from the cast, and the press, making the trip. Junket would require 10 days, with two days on the Island for the preem.

Tab For Orpheum

Orpheum show for next week, starting Wednesday, will be a tab, titled 'Midnight in Miami'. Manager Sherrill Cohen is adding three acts locally to bolster. Current offering on the Orpheum stage is Ella Fitzgerald, sepia songstress and her all-Negro orchestra. Major Bowes' unit has been set at the house for week of July 9.

Nick Metro

In the recent double sale of their 'That Was No Lady', Paul Jarrico and Dick Collins picked up a profit of $2,000. When Elisabeth Bergner originally purchased yarn she paid writers $10,000, and when her deal fell through they managed to resell story to Metro for $12,000.

Two More Westerns Will Windup Mono 1940-41 Schedule

Monogram has now completed its entire 1940-41 feature production sked and has but two more westerns to go before winding up product promises of current season, according to W. Ray Johnston, president. Unfinished are two Tom Keene westerns, both of which go before the cameras shortly at Prescott, Ariz., under the production wing of Robert Tansey.

Monogram now has three features getting their final editing for early release this summer and is completing shooting on a fourth, 'Bowery Blitzgrieg'. In the cutting rooms are 'Murder By Invitation', 'Dangerous Game' and 'City Limits'. Last of the Range Busters westerns for this year, 'Fugitive Valley', also will be through the cutting rooms shortly.

Nat Levine, Levoy Sell 'Helldorado' to 20th

'Marshal From Helldorado', which Nat Levine and Al Levoy had prepared for production in color for United Artists release, has been sold to 20th-Fox. Levine and Levoy decided to dispose of their story after being unable to line up a suitable cast for immediate production themselves. Sale was handled through the M. C. Levee agency.

Another 'Dictator' Ban

Charles Chaplin's 'The Great Dictator' has been banned in Argentina at the request of German and Italy. Film had previously been barred in the Buenos Aires district.

Lab Technicians 683 Put Demands Up To Lot Managers

A meeting of laboratory superintendents and studio managers from Metro, Paramount, Columbia, 20th-Fox and Warners has been called for today to discuss demands of Laboratory Technicians Local 683 for improved wages and conditions. The proposed contract revisions submitted by the technicians will be explained to the managers by Pat Casey and Fred Pelton, who have been handling the negotiations with the 10 studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Individual demands of Sound Technicians Local 695 and Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165 were discussed with Casey and Pelton yesterday by negotiating committees for the two crafts. The unionists were advised the demands will be discussed with studio executives, and that an acceptance, rejection or counter proposals will be handed to them early next week.

Producers, SDG Reach Accord on B Pix

Tentative agreement between Producers and the Screen Directors Guild, calling for guaranteed minimum salaries for directors on low budget pictures, was reported to have been reached last night at a meeting between representatives of the two groups. Certain details of the contract revisions will have to be ironed out and the agreement reduced to writing before it will be ready for the inking stage. The two negotiating committees were in conference until past midnight.

Skouras In Tomorrow

Charles P. Skouras is due in tomorrow from New York where he went after making a tour of the National Theatre operating divisions in an effort to spur up interest in the current Spyros Skouras Showmanship drive. Skouras was accompanied east by Andy Krappman and Bill Lyris.

a.m. Dailies

DeCamp, Shidler to Wed— Rosemary DeCamp, film and radio actress, and Municipal Judge John A. Shidler of Torrance, will be married (28) at the Beverly Vista church.

Pickford Leaving Clinic— Mary Pickford will be released from the Cleveland Clinic Saturday after being under observation in the hospital since last Monday.

OPENS FRI. JUNE 27
HOLLYWOOD MAYFLOWER RESTAURANT
Featuring
Maxwell House Coffee Mayflower Donuts
OPEN ALL NIGHT "Hollywood Blvd. and Ivar

The Brown Derby
Restaurants

GOGI
announces the opening of his new
GARDEN
at
SCHEHERAZADE
Thursday, July 1
with
RICHARD SMART
Singing Star of Monte Carlo, N.Y.C.
CONTINENTAL DINNER
THREE DOLLARS
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"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

with **LYNNE OVERMAN • EDDIE BRACKEN**
CLARENCE KOLB • PAUL HURST

Directed by DAVID BUTLER • Produced by B. G. De Sylva • Original Story and Screen Play by Harry Tugend • Additional Dialogue by Wilkie C. Mahoney • A Paramount Picture

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PARAMOUNT
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"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

NOW PLAYING PARAMOUNT THEATRE — LOS ANGELES

BOB HOPE

Just Completed
"NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH"

"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"

NOW PLAYING PARAMOUNT THEATRE — LOS ANGELES

HERBERT LAMB, DISNEY STUDIO MGR., QUITS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

resentative of a Boston banking group, said to be interested in the Disney financing, had arrived here to give the situation the onceover.

Lamb was understood to have walked out over differences with Walt Disney on reorganizational policies pertaining to personnel. He was said to have been trying to work out certain changes in line with the retrenchment policy ordered to reduce expenses. Lamb was one of the most popular executives at the studio, and handled most of the negotiations with officials of the Wage-Hour Law Division pertaining to classification of film workers at the plant.

Smith was reported to be in a huddle with William Garrity and other company representatives on proposals for ending the union controversy. It was said that if a set of proposals could be agreed upon they would be submitted to members of the SCG today for rejection or acceptance.

Guild leaders contend that the company is not sincere in insisting upon an election, contending the executives have offered to sign a contract if jurisdiction would be claimed by certain other AFofL unions. All those approached are said to have turned down the proposal and to have recommended that Disney sign with the SCG.

Leonard Fields Poises Trio at Republic

Leonard Fields has three productions ready to put before the cameras at Republic and is now awaiting go signal for the first of the trio. Pictures are the second 'Mr. District Attorney', 'Gabriel Toots His Horn' and 'The Best American'.

Bob Burns' Natural

Bob Burns has been assigned to the stellar role in 'The Wizard of Arkansas', Paramount production based on the novel by David Garth.

Fonda at Work

Henry Fonda reported at the Columbia lot yesterday for first scenes in 'You Belong to Me'.

PRODUCTION STARTING

(Universal)

'Hellzapoppin'
Dir.: H. C. Potter
Asst.: Joseph McDonough

(Metro)

'When Ladies Meet'
Dir.: Robert Z. Leonard
Asst.: Red Golden

PRODUCTION FINISHING

(Warners)

'Law of the Tropics'
Dir.: Ray Enright
Asst.: Les Guthrie

Laughs, Laughs, Laughs!
at
SLAPSY MAXIE'S
with
SID TOMACK and THE REIS BROS.
& CULLY RICHARDS, M.C.
Dining and Dancing
7165 Beverly Blvd. WEbster 9513
Management: Sammy Lewis

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	THE NEWS Bob Hebert	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Hillfilly	1—Hillfilly	1—Rhetoric	1—Miss Boxthorn	1—Trilly	1—Rhetoric
Rhetoric	Rhetoric	Hillfilly	Hillfilly	Hillfilly	Valdina Zest
Trilly	Miss Boxthorn	Trilly	Rhetoric	Valdina Zest	Hillfilly
2—Torch Lee	2—Little Long	2—Little Long	2—Torch Lee	2—High Martin	2—Maestro Sacha
High Martin	High Martin	Torch Lee	High Martin	Torch Lee	Singing Pair
Singing Pair	Maestro S'cha	Gold Bewithus	Little Long	Gold Bewithus	Little Long
3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Spread Eagle	3—Put In	3—Spread Eagle
Madie Green'k	Opening Bid	Put In	Madie Green'k	Madie Green'k	Opening Bid
Put In	Put In	Okoole M'luna	Put In	Opening Bid	Put In
4—Get On	4—Valley Boy	4—Get On	4—Kekawaka	4—Get On	4—Get On
Kekawaka	String Music	Bill's Sister	Get On	Valley Boy	Valley Boy
Valley Boy	Bill's Sister	Valley Boy	Bill's Sister	Kekawaka	Kekawaka
5—Welcome Pass	5—Welcome Pass	5—Welcome Pass	5—Welcome Pass	5—Welcome Pass	5—Persian Heels
Milk Bar	Milk Bar	Lady Listo	Persian Heels	Hi Beautiful	Welcome Pass
Lady Listo	Brown Splash	Whichwins	Gallant One	Whichwins	Whichwins
6—Triplane	6—Triplane	6—Triplane	6—Triplane	6—Triplane	6—My Porter
My Porter	Home Burn'g	My Porter	Sweepalot	My Porter	Triplane
Aranmore	My Porter	Sweepalot	Lostagal	Sweepalot	Home Burn'g
7—Big Ben	7—Big Ben	7—Big Ben	7—Big Ben	7—Big Ben	7—Big Ben
Xenomay	Xenomay	Allessandro	Xenomay	Allessandro	Tin Pan Alley
Allessandro	Gold Bubble	Gold Bubble	Allessandro	Gold Bubble	Allessandro
8—Battling Kate	8—Battling Kate	8—Battling Kate	8—Battling Kate	8—Battling Kate	8—Sextus
Parmenarch	Sextus	Parmenarch	Sextus	Dasko	Battling Kate
Sextus	Dasko	Galvale	Dasko	Sextus	Parmenarch

WB Schedules Five Top-Budgeters For Summer Release

Warners has scheduled five of its top-budgeted productions for release during the summer months of July and August, in addition to four other pictures. Biggies going out will be 'The Bride Came C.O.D.', James Cagney-Bette Davis starrer; 'Manpower', starring Edward G. Robinson, Marlene Dietrich and George Raft; 'Sergeant York', starring Gary Cooper; 'Dive Bomber', with Errol Flynn and Fred MacMurray, and 'Bad Men of Missouri', with Dennis Morgan, Jane Wyman and Wayne Morris.

Others to go out are 'Kisses For Breakfast', 'Bullets For O'Hara', 'Three Sons o' Guns', and 'Highway West'.

Borg in 'Honky-Tonk'; Rosson Subs Daniels

Veda Ann Borg draws a feature role in Metro's 'Honky-Tonk'. Hal Rosson has been substituted as cameraman on the picture. Bill Daniels, who has been lensing, is confined to his home by illness. Monty Montague, Tom Conlin and Edwin J. Brady have also joined the cast. Several hundred extras were used yesterday in the picture.

Carol Wayne Goes East For Strawhatters

Carol Wayne, wife of Bobby Webb, Republic casting director, motors out for the east today to appear in strawhat productions. Her first spot will be Maplewood, N. J.

Cast Playhouse Revue

Casting gets underway today for the Hollywood Playhouse revue, 'Fun For the Money', which opens in a few weeks. Several names are being sought for marquee billing. Robert Gordon is being brought from New York to direct the show.

Ella Neal Assigned

Ella Neal, Paramount contract player, has been added to the cast of 'Her Jungle Mate', Dorothy Lamour starrer.

Title Changes

"From 'Woman of Desire' and 'Tonight Belongs to Us' to 'The Men In Her Life' at Columbia.

Planted

Warners

Roland Drew, Louis Natheaux, Cliff Saum, 'New Orleans Blues'.

Harry Lewis, Mary Brodel, Bess Meyers, 'One Foot In Heaven'.

Fred Kelsey, Byron Barr, DeWolf Hopper, Jr., 'They Died With Their Boots On'.

Willie Best, Max Hoffman, Jr., 'West of the Rockies'.

Metro

Bodil Rosing, 'Man At Large'.

George Cleveland, 'Riders of the Purple Sage'.

Tom Hanlon, Jack Chefe, William Davidson, Syd Saylor, 'We Go Fast'.

Paramount

Mildred Shay, 'Reap the Wild Wind'.

Schlesinger Rushes Remaining Seven On Season's Sked

Leon Schlesinger expects to complete the remaining seven cartoon subjects scheduled for Warners on the current season's program by the end of next month.

Producer shipped 'The Heckling Hare', latest Merrie Melodie, yesterday, marking the 22nd in this group. He has already delivered 13 of the Looney Tunes series, against a total of 42 cartoons—26 Melodies in Technicolor and 16 Looney Tunes in black and white.

Raison With Par

Milton Raison has been given a writing assignment with the Bob Sisk unit at Paramount.

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WILL P. TAYLOR, Managing Director

Copy 2

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Vol. 32 No. 16 43 Hollywood, Calif 5 Cents

NIX THOUSANDS OF VACATIONS

INDIES FITE TO SAVE DUALS

Fearing a drastic cut in bookings due to the widespread agitation against double features now sweeping the motion picture industry, the Independent Motion Picture Producers' Association, at a meeting last night, resolved to call immediately for the support and cooperation of all the guilds and labor unions whose members are employed by independent producers.

In the proposed effort to stem

◆ Continued on page 3 ◆

Islin Auster New RKO Producer

Islin Auster has been signed at RKO to a term contract as a producer of important features, and has checked on the lot to prepare for his first assignment. Auster was with Joseph Breen at the Hayes office for five years, and for the past three and a half had been assistant to Joseph Pasternak at Universal.

Warners Cuts Admish For Service Men

New York, June 26.—Warner Brothers Theatres are adopting the policy of reduced admissions for service men beginning July 7, according to announcement by Joseph Bernhard, general manager, in a move to cooperate with the national defense program. Announcement followed a meeting of zone managers, film buyers, and home office executives here. Lower prices will be worked out to fit each locality. Harry Warner discussed current industry problems as one of the speakers at the meeting, which drew managers from as far west as Chicago.

Canova's 'Chatterbox'

Judy Canova's next picture will be 'Chatterbox', to start at Republic late in August. Albert J. Cohen has been handed the production reins. Writers will be assigned next week.

PREVIEWED

THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D. (WB)

(Preview on page 3)

NOLAN LEAVING RKO AFTER 21 YEARS

J. J. Nolan, assistant secretary of RKO Pictures, leaves the company July 15 for an extended vacation. He will announce his future plans at a later date, having several studio offers under consideration. Nolan has been with RKO for the past 21 years, holding executive spots in the accounting, advertising and bookkeeping departments before being elected assistant secretary in 1929. He came to the Hollywood studio in 1934 and was made vice-president in charge of the studio in 1939.

PRODUCER RULE HITS HOURLY WAGE WORKERS

The Producers have turned thumbs down on union demands for paid vacations for hundreds of film technicians and other film workers who are employed on hourly wage rates. The ruling applies to workers who are steadily employed but who are paid an hourly scale, it was disclosed yesterday as studio managers and laboratory superintendents met to discuss counter proposals for submission to Laboratory Technicians Local 683 of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes.

Demands of Local 683 were explained by Pat Casey and Fred Pel-

♠ Continued on page 5 ♠

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	433
Major studio calls	275
Total	708

FIRST TRADE SHOWINGS UNDER CONSENT DECREE

First trade showings of 1941-42 product by at least two of the five majors governed by the consent decree in their sales for next season, are scheduled for mid-July. Present plan is for 20th-Fox to show three to five pictures at one time, while Metro will divide its first three of the new group into individual screenings, spaced one week apart.

First of the Metro pictures for next year to be screened for such exhibitors as want to take advantage of the consent decree ruling will be 'Lady Be Good', skedded for show-

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

Raksin Scores 'Life'

David Raksin will do the musical score for 'The Men in Her Life', Gregory Ratoff production for Columbia starring Loretta Young.

Trammell Huddles With Ascap Board

New York, June 26.—Niles Trammell, NBC president, has advised American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers that he will meet with its board tomorrow

♣ Continued on page 4 ♣

Bette Davis' 'Dinner'

Bette Davis will play the role of the secretary in Warners 'The Man Who Came to Dinner'. William Keighley will direct.

UNION JURISDICTIONAL SHOWDOWN AFTER JULY 1

A showdown in the union jurisdictional dispute involving several thousand studio laborers is expected shortly after July 1. A deal is reported in the making in the east with Prexy George E. Browne, of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, which would give the jurisdiction to Studio Utility Employes Local 724.

Anticipating such a move, however, Studio Laborers and Utility Workers Local 727 of the IATSE, has filed a petition with the National Labor Relations Board asking to be designated as bargaining representative for all studio workers. Both crafts were designated by the NLRB in the IATSE election when the United Studio Technicians Guild was defeated. Since that time both crafts have been claiming jurisdiction.

IATSE heads here believe that the petition pending with the NLRB would automatically block any move by union heads to settle the controversy unless approval of the board was secured.

CARRY ON DISNEY PEACE SESSIONS

The first of a series of daily peace conferences which both sides believe will eventually lead to an amicable agreement in the Walt Disney union controversy was held yesterday by Harold V. Smith, strike mediator. Another meeting will be held today, and the sessions will be continued until a settlement has been reached

★ Continued on page 5 ★

Wilson to Mayfair

Warren Wilson moved over yesterday from the Hal Roach lot to Universal to write additional dialog for Mayfair Productions 'Hellzapoppin'.'

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Lawyer's Light**
Saku
Certie
2d RACE—**Quero Greenock**
Irrelevant
Hada Star
3d RACE—**Ardenell**
Smoky Snyder
Bettina
4th RACE—**Ira Pan**
Jubal Junior
Justice M.
5th RACE—**Pepinillo**
Bon Boots
Tory Tom
6th RACE—**Foxster**
Our Bud
Coronado
7th RACE—**Raby Rattler**
Best Beau
Xenoras Fox
8th RACE—**TAKEN**
Day Dawn
El Peco

CHANCE BET—**Justice M. (4)**

Selections consensus, page 6.

For Saturday's Doc Baker selections phone Daily Variety office, HO 1141, after 9 A.M. tomorrow.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Lew Seiler has been optioned by Warners.

Frances Langford motored in yesterday from vacation trip to Florida.

Lee Mortimer, NY Daily Mirror film critic, arrived in Hollywood yesterday.

Dorothy Lamour and Gregson Bautzer returned yesterday from Honolulu.

Billy Rose reported coming here to pitch a night spot, eyeing Wilshire Bowl and other sites.

Catherine Waters will be treasurer at the Mayan for the run of 'Jump For Joy', opening July 10.

Leni Lynn, 16-year-old Republic player, graduated from the North Hollywood high school yesterday.

Merle Oberon goes to San Diego tomorrow to appear in a charity show at the Consolidated Aircraft plant.

Carol Hughes is furnishing a house for her parents, who are expected in from Chicago next week.

Porter Hall gets a top heavy role in 'The Remarkable Andrew', which goes before the cameras at Paramount Monday under the direction of Stuart Heisler.

Don Barry will make personal appearances at the Million Dollar theatre Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. He takes off Wednesday for a series of p.a.'s in Texas.

Vera Marshe, featured comedienne in the recent Civic Light Opera production of 'Naughty Marietta' here gets her first film role in RKO's 'Obliging Young Lady.'

Bing Crosby, playing before his home town folk in the Pacific Northwest Golf Association at Spokane, Wash., was defeated by Marsh Hammon, city champion, in the opening match, two and one.

Rufe Davis does his first outside picture since joining the regulars in the Three Mesquiteers western series at Republic when he goes into the cast of 'West of the Rockies' at Warners to play a comedy role.

Warners yesterday signed Mary Thomas, age eight, to play one of the children's roles in 'Kings Row'. Sam Wood and William Cameron Menzies started a location scouting trip through the Malibu hills yesterday. Picture will roll about July 7.

Benny the Gouge sez—You can always tell a stranger at Hollywood and Vine. He is not talking about himself.

Hollywood Inside

HARRY WARNER undertook to underwrite overhead and expenses of the United Service Organizations show at Hollywood Bowl on Sunday night. Besides Jack L. Warner contributed $250 to provide tickets for soldiers from Camp Haan who will attend the show. Others who contributed large amounts to take care of the boys were Earle C. Anthony, $500; Ronald Colman, $250; Herbert Marshall, $250; Arthur Lyons, for a client, $250, and Jules Stein, $250. Plan is to take care of 5,000 men with tickets costing 50 cents. Returns show that $1,600 has been subscribed and that another $900 is necessary. Report is the ticket sale has been very good outside of picture industry, but apparently those in it have forgotten the request over radio and in newspapers to buy tickets for the all-star performance.

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OLSEN AND JOHNSON were hard pressed last month to find comics to take their roles in the stage version of 'Hellzapoppin'' so they could report here by June 1 for the film version of the show being made by Jules Levey's Mayfair Productions at Universal. Nevertheless, they made it, and they've been cooling their heels around town until yesterday, when the camera first rolled. They had been admonished to report on June 1 so that work could begin at once. After elaborate preparations and rehearsing Wednesday night so they would be letter perfect in their first scene yesterday morning, they came on the set at 8 a.m., as they had been ordered to do. Nothing happened until 12:45 p.m. Then they were given a scene to do that they had never read before.

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INSTEAD of shooting all of the location scenes (at Brent's Crags) and then moving into the studio for exteriors on 'How Green Was My Valley', John Ford and the 20th-Fox company are shuttling back and forth between the two spots. Ford figures that shooting the picture as much as possible in sequence gives greater smoothness and flow to the story. Director is also adding to the expense of the production by recording the music on the sets as the camera rolls. A chorus of Welsh singers is being used throughout almost a third of the picture. With the music going at the same time the actors go through their paces, the acting is given a new vigor, Ford believes. He first tried out the idea of recording music on the set in 'Tobacco Road'.

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EMPLOYES in the various studio departments who have vacations slated to start July 7 have found out they won't be able to take advantage of the Fourth of July weekend and leave their duties Thursday night, July 3, without losing a day's salary for the following Saturday. Usual practice in former years has been to gain the extra vacation days when a holiday fell on a weekend without objections from department heads. As further evidence of the general tightening up on employes, orders have been issued at one studio that anyone failing to report for the half-day work period Saturday, July 5, will be docked two days' pay, including the holiday.

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BIGGEST influx of out-of-towners in years is proving a source of worry to publicity heads at the networks. Nearly all make for the radio studios the day they get in town, bearing letters from local newspapers, radio stations and other connections. What makes the problem all the more acute is that most name shows are either off for the summer or pitching at training camps. NBC is especially hard hit as its studios are small and the ad agencies distribute most of the ducats. Shows ordinarily snubbed by the locals are playing to SRO at every broadcast.

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THAT western dailies are not overwhelmingly anti-radio is indicated by a survey taken by NBC sales promotion department. Canvass of nine states and Canada, through a press clipping bureau, reveals that for an average day in the month of May NBC's red network shows received 151 mentions; CBS programs, 143; NBC blue, 151, and Don Lee-Mutual, 130. Aggregate of California papers is more than double all others combined despite the local blackout, excepting Zuma Palmer's Citizen-News column.

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THERE'S one director in town who would rather work at Republic than at Metro. He's at the Valley lot now, after talking his way out of a contract renewal at Metro. When he moved over to Republic he was immediately put to work on a picture and assured that there would be plenty of jobs to follow. He's been sitting out at Culver City, drawing his check, but without directing a film for the past two years.

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UNITED ARTISTS office here yesterday staged a private showing of Gloria Productions 'New Wine' for 25 key executives of the National Federation of Music Clubs, which is meeting in convention in Los Angeles. Picture is based on the life of Franz Schubert. The Federation officials who attended the screening are supposed to circularize their 300,000 members, urging them to see the film.

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NOT only Orson Welles name, but his picture appeared yesterday for the first time in the local Hearst papers since his feud with the publisher over 'Citizen Kane'. Welles is one of the stars who will appear at the Hollywood Bowl Sunday night in the United Service Organizations show. His picture and name were in a large advertisement for the Bowl show.

'Landing' at Par D. T.

'Forced Landing', second of the Pine-Thomas productions for Paramount release, opens its local run at the Paramount theatre, downtown, as a single bill July 10.

Freulich's 'Go West'

Henry Freulich has been assigned to photograph 'Go West, Young Lady', featuring Penny Singleton, Glenn Ford and Edgar Buchanan, at Columbia.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

Now comes a crucial day in June, the day of high school graduation,
When most of the kids grab their diplomas and wonder where they can grab a fifteen-dollar-a-week situation,
But in Hollywood the sweet girl graduate
Calls up her ten-percenter to expostulate
That a lousy salary of $1,500 a week ain't sufficient compensation.

★ ★ ★

Speaking of education, Frankie Thomas reports from St. Louis, where he is performing in the Municipal Opera, that he has been awarded a collegiate distinction, in a sort of way. Students of Washington University presented a monkey to the Forest Park Zoo and named it 'Frankie Thomas'.

Sam Goldwyn is prepping his Bob Hope starrer, 'Treasure Chest', which will naturally be re-titled 'Hope Chest'.

'Kings Row' sounds like a game of chess and seems to be moving at the same speed.

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Sam Wood says: Everybody tells a star how wonderful she is and then wonders at her foolishment when she believes it.

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Past our office observatory walks a gal in a black robe and a mortarboard hat, the kind that makes old professors look older. There seems to be a rakish angle in those lids that the male educators have overlooked in their ancient philosophies. Culture with oomph.

Humphrey Bogart, upholding law and order, is likely to grow absent-minded and take a pot shot at himself.

Hubert the Horse was loafing in the home stretch, three lengths ahead.

'Lissen, ya big lug', said Joe the Jockey, 'why the slowdown strike?'

'I am slowing down for a photo finish', replied Hubert the Horse, who had a fine profile from the right side.

Moral—They all go Hollywood.

★ ★ ★

Ray LeStrange, who is writing a black-and-white stage drama, relays this one from Jack Oakie:

'With all those blondes on Vine street, it looks like we are back on the gold standard.'

★ ★ ★

Nelson Eddy, they tell us, is going to sing the 'Hut Sut Song' at the USO show, and why not. After all those 'Shortnin' Bread' solos, he is willing to try anything.

★ ★ ★

Shakespeare would be proud if he knew about the San Quentin Drama Group, staging his play, 'Julius Caesar'. In his younger days Bill was only two strides ahead of the sheriff.

★ ★ ★

Joe Smith is doing a noble job as managing editor of 'The Other Side of the Inside'. One of our favorite

■ Continued on page 4 ■

Preview

★

The Bride Came C.O.D.

(*Comedy*)

Warner Bros. production and release. Stars James Cagney and Bette Davis. Cast: Stuart Erwin, Eugene Pallette, Jack Carson, George Tobias, Harry Davenport, William Frawley, Edward Brophy, Harry Holman, Chick Chandler, Keith Douglas, Herbert Anderson, William Newell, DeWolf Hopper. Producer, William Cagney. Director, William Keighley. Screenplay, Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein. Story, Kenneth Earl, M. M. Musselman. Photography, Ernie Haller. Film editor, Thomas Richards. Music by Max Steiner. Previewed at the Studio City theatre, June 26. Running time: 86 mins.

In 'The Bride Came C.O.D.' Warners has turned out a splendid light comedy that is liberally garnished with slapstick and one that has a huge potential draw through the box office names of James Cagney and Bette Davis.

Cagney is an aviator about to take Miss Davis and Jack Carson from Los Angeles to Las Vegas on an elopement flight when he learns that the girl's father, Eugene Pallette, a multi-millionaire oil man, will pay him handsomely to prevent the marriage. He lures Carson and Stuart Erwin, a radio gossip, out of the plane and takes off alone with Miss Davis. The ship he is trying to keep out of the hands of the finance company crashes in the desert near a ghost town inhabited only by Harry Davenport. Davenport believes Cagney has kidnaped Miss Davis and locks him up in the old town's jail. Later, he realizes that Cagney is in the right. Pallette, in one plane; Carson in another, and a flock of newspapermen in still another, search for the ghost town.

Pallette hopes to get there in time to keep his daughter from marrying. Carson brings a Nevada justice of the peace with him in his anxiety to be married. Meanwhile, Miss Davis falls for Cagney. But by the time Carson has arrived she has changed her mind and, to spite Cagney, marries Carson. Wedding is illegal, however, because the judge is from Nevada and the ghost town is in California. Cagney wins the girl.

Miss Davis does a fine piece of work as the spoiled, naive heiress who has a penchant for falling on her derriere into patches of desert cactus. Cagney is Jimmy at his best: the good, clean-cut American youngster, who goes after the gal only because he loves her and not because her old man has pots of dough. Carson turns in a good performance as an orchestra leader with a yen for the deb. Davenport is standout as the understanding old ghost town inhabitant, getting true warmth and sympathy into his part. Such comedy veterans as Erwin, Pallette, George Tobias, William Frawley, Edward Brophy, Harry Holman and Chick Chandler keep the action lively with their excellent support.

Screenplay, by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein, is slow in starting, but it is packed with sly twists and situations that bring out the best in Cagney and Miss Davis. William Cagney qualifies as a top producer with his work. Direction, by William Keighley, is up to his usual standard, which is to say, tops. Technical assistance, in every department, is first-class.

INDIE PRODUCERS FIGHT TO SAVE DOUBLE BILLS

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

the tide of opinion against dualings, all those whose livelihood would be endangered will be asked to join in a fighting campaign against movements to curtail picture house programs. It was pointed out at the meeting that most of the labor and technical crews, and many of the actors working for the independents, are not employed by major companies and depend almost exclusively on dual bill products.

Gathering under the chairmanship of I. E. Chadwick, the Producers also drew up a counter proposal on the purity seal charge which the Hays office recently fixed for low budget films, ranging from a minimum of $100 for pictures costing up to $25,000. The IMPPA proposes a payment of $50 for pictures costing up to $25,000, increasing to $150 for films costing $100,000, the scale beyond that figure to conform with the fees paid by major companies.

The meeting last night was called primarily to revive the long dormant Independent Motion Picture Producers' Association with an active campaign to get recognition from the industry for independent producers. In addition to enlisting the support of the unions against single bills, the IMPPA also will map plans to prevent the introduction of legislation or any other movements to stop dual bills. Exhibitors who cannot operate profitably with single bills will be asked to line up with the independent producers.

Attempts will be made to get all independent producers not currently in the association to become members. Among the companies represented last night were Monogram, Producers Releasing Corp., Banner, Supreme, I. E. Chadwick, Gold Seal, Million Dollar, Mascot, Kozinsky Bros., Boots and Saddles, George Weeks, Al Herman, Sarecky-Horwin, Alexander, Cinecolor and Windemere Productions. All independents who come into the association by July 30 will not be taxed with the $100 initiation fee, which becomes effective after that date.

Among the first problems to be tackled was the case of an independent producer who was obliged to pay time and a half for electricians on the set because no other union men were available to take their place after the six-hour shift.

In connection with the campaign against single bills a committee was appointed to consult with the Screen Actors Guild, Screen Writers Guild, the Cameramen and other guilds and unions.

Officers of the IMPPA were elected as follows: I. E. Chadwick, president; William Hackel, vice-president; Lindsley Parsons, second vice-president; Edward Finney, secretary-treasurer.

Play Review

THE VINEGAR TREE

Paul Osborne's tangy comedy of love on the loose and everyone on the make, sophisticated in its day (ask dad, he knows), serves well the talents of another fine actress, Billie Burke. Henry Duffy put the ancient piece on display at El Capitan last night for what is hoped to be a run of four weeks or more after carrying on in Frisco for six weeks. If the reception of the first nighters is any yardage of its revived popularity, it should make a healthy go of it at the boulevard playhouse.

Miss Burke is her fluttery self, a glove-fit for the part. She makes every line tingle with laughs, albeit her punchiest dialog trails off into thin little squeaks. She's mistress of the role all the way, however, and plays it to the hilt. Her artistry overcomes some of the dated repartee and indelicate passages. Every line is geared for a laugh and no holds barred.

Supporting cast is small but competent. Paul Cavanagh and Charles Waldron carry the featured billing. Both seasoned troupers, they never let the pace slacken, and are expert foils for Miss Burke's caperings. An interesting youngster is Eleanor Lawson, who shapes up as picture material. She handles her lines well and holds her own with the more mature troupers. Leona Maricle gives a forthright performance and Henry Wadsworth is okay as the juvenile patsy.

Russell Fillmore directed the three-acter with brisk tempo, and Ernest Glover's set is colorful.

Modification of Lesser UA Deal Up Today

Final details of modification of contract with United Artists which will release Sol Lesser of further commitments after completion of 'Any Girl Would', formerly 'Strange Victory', will be worked out today with Loyd Wright, local UA attorney, tendering him the release. Lesser then would clean up his UA work over weekend and be ready to report at RKO on Monday. He will produce his UA pic on the RKO lot, starting late next month.

Wobber Ogles Product

Herman Wobber, 20th-Fox sales head, arrived in Hollywood yesterday and checked in at the studio to look over product. He spent the greater part of the day screening and confabbing with lot executives.

Sign Barbara Slater

Barbara Slater, fashion model, yesterday was signed to a term deal by Paramount. Jack Pomeroy set the deal.

In from the East

Frances Langford
David Rose
Casey Robinson
Harold Lloyd (UP)
Patrick M. Cunning

Heading East

Ed Raftery
Harry Muller
Barney Balaban
Stanton Griffis
Russell Holman
John Hicks

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

JOSEPH I. BREEN, new executive vice president in charge of production and studio operations at RKO, was guest of honor at a get-acquainted dinner last night hosted by George Schaefer, company president. Attending were studio executives and department heads. . . Harold Lloyd trained in yesterday on the Union Pacific Streamliner from Indianapolis where he attended the national Shrine convention. When the producer left here he was Imperial Outer Guard for Malaikah Temple, but at the convention he was elevated to post of Imperial Captain of the Temple, highest ranking honor. . . . Grace Hayes has been appointed an honorary lieutenant in the California State Guard Women's Auxiliary Ambulance Corps, and has donated a hall in the valley to be used for training purposes for the corps. She is arranging benefit to be held shortly at the Studio City theatre to raise money for uniforms for the group, which will be instructed in emergency war work. . . . Martha Raye has invited her 150 closest friends to a housewarming and birthday party Sunday at her new Encino home. . . . Jack Briggs and Marcia Mae Jones at the Beverly Tropics.

The Paramount casting department currently has a tough problem to solve. A girl is wanted who can sing with Bing Crosby and dance with Fred Astaire in 'Holiday Inn'. Elmer Rice is working on the script.

BUCK JONES, now starring in a western series for Monogram, has been invited to be guest of honor at the annual Prescott, Ariz. rodeo July 3-6. Buck Jones is the first film personality to be sought for the guest of honor spot since the death of Will Rogers, who formerly headlined the celebration. . . . Walter Winchell's column did not appear yesterday in the Los Angeles Herald-Express. Inquirers were told that the column for yesterday did not arrive from New York. . . . The Richard Macaulays celebrate their eighth wedding anniversary tonight and friends have arranged a tour of the spots most frequented by the couple during their married life. . . . Muriel Babcock has been appointed editor of Movies magazine by William Cotton, president of the Ideal Publishing Corp.

RKO is pointing proudly to the fact that the studio cafe has been given a rating of 97.5% by the Los Angeles Health Department.

VICKIE LANG, wife of the picture producer, Howard Lang, plays the native girl in the KHJ dramatic serial, 'Captain Danger'. . . . NBC's program board tosses a feed today for Major Marvin Young, who leaves the net's production staff to report July 2 to the Army's morale division in Washington. . . . Boots Mallory's strawhat production of 'Shanghai Gesture', which she put on a Martha's Vineyard, Mass., moves to Westbrook, Me., for a run beginning July 2. . . . William Powell and wife, Diana Lewis, dined at Charlie Foy's Supper Club last night.

Larry Crosby Joins Mercer & Morris On Par, Indie Tunes

New York, June 26.—On his return to New York today, Buddy Morris, head of Mercer & Morris music publishing firm, confirmed the report they closed a deal for the inclusion of Larry Crosby as partner in a new subsidiary. Latter will handle scores of indie pictures made by Bing Crosby as well as part of those he does for Paramount.

Alliance with Morris replaces one Crosby has had for five years with Santly-Joy-Select, in which firm Larry had stock and a drawing account of $200 a week.

Raftery Hies Eastward, Seeing Selznick, Capra

Ed Raftery, United Artists attorney, here for past eight weeks on company matters planed to New York last night. Going on to further confer with David O. Selznick and Frank Capra on deal whereby each would get units of member ownership in United Artists. Deal provides for ten year releasing contract of each to produce at least two pictures a year. Final contracts when approved will be signed here. Harry Muller, UA treasurer, trained to New York yesterday.

Dick Foran Assigned U 'Cowboy' Topper

Dick Foran has been given the lead opposite Anne Gwynne in Universal's 'Ride 'Em Cowboy'. True Boardman is writing added dialog for the Abbott and Costello picture. Leo Carrillo and Samuel S. Hinds have joined the cast.

Vallee Pact Re-Inked

Rudy Vallee, headman on the Sealtest airer, had his contract renewed yesterday to Jan. 1.

Coast League Baseball Results

Hollywood, 10; Sacramento, 9.
Los Angeles, 2; Portland, 1 (10 innings).
Oakland, 8; San Diego, 5.
Seattle, 6; San Francisco, 1.

HARRY LANGDON
HALLAM COOLEY
Personal Repr.

GOGI
announces the opening of his new
GARDEN
at
SCHEHERAZADE
Tuesday, July 1
with
RICHARD SMART
Singing Star of Monte Carlo, N.Y.C.
CONTINENTAL DINNER
THREE DOLLARS
Reservations: BR. 2-3383
9236 SUNSET BLVD.

FIRST TRADE SHOWINGS UNDER CONSENT DECREE

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

ing to Los Angeles exhibs at the Victoria theatre on July 14. One week later (21) company will screen its 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde', and on July 28 'Down In San Diego', new handle for 'Young Americans', will be shown.

First local screenings for 20th-Fox product will be around end of July, at theatres yet to be announced, and RKO is expected to have its trade showings about the same time. Latter company will have a full package of five ready for exhibs to pass judgment on before they sign on the dotted line.

Paramount and Warners have not as yet set any trade-show dates, but they are expected to swing in line almost any day now.

Universal, Columbia and United Artists, which are not bound by the government consent decree, will continue to sell their entire season's output in bulk, and already have numerous contracts lined up covering their 1941-42 output.

Mutual, WKRC, AFRA Meet in Chicago On Cin. Station Strike

Chicago, June 26. — Representatives of Mutual Broadcasting Co., Station WKRC, the network's Cincinnati outlet, and the American Federation of Radio Artists meet tomorrow morning at the Drake hotel here to try and settle the union strike against the broadcasting station. Session was originally slated for yesterday morning, but was cancelled late Tuesday when Hulbert Taft, Jr., owner of WKRC, declared he was unable to deal with AFRA because there is another union in the field.

AFRA claims the latter, an independent local organization of announcers, is Taft-dominated. AFRA's national headquarters has not yet sent to the agencies the resolution passed by the national board last Tuesday calling a strike as of July 7 against all Mutual sponsors' programs fed to WKRC. That move is now in abeyance pending the Chicago conference.

Par Camera Crew Out For Calgary Stuff

Paramount camera crew of 14 planes out for Calgary via Western Air over the weekend to film scenes of the annual stampede there for use as future background material in the Hopalong Cassidy series of westerns produced by Harry Sherman. Crew will also collect shots of the country around Lake Louise and Banff before returning to the studio. Next of the Hopalongs, 'Stick to Your Guns', rolls on location at Lone Pine July 7 under the direction of Lesley Selander with Russell Harlan photographing.

USO Airer on KFWB

First live radio dramatization devoted entirely to the United Service Organization, and titled 'American Sketches', will be broadcast over KFWB Saturday night at 7:45, for 15 minutes. Program, sponsored by the B'nai B'rith, is being produced, written and presented by Nat Tanschuck. Bruce Bennett and John Tyrell are featured and Atty. Sidney Tannen will be commentator.

Plug Defense Bonds

Deanna Durbin, Abbott and Costello have been set to appear in a Columbia Broadcasting System show plugging National Defense Bonds in July. Series of broadcasts for the bonds starts July 2.

City for 'Jungle'

Accommodations for 500 persons have been arranged in the quarters built at Lake Sherwood in Sherwood Forest by 150 workmen in connection with location shots on Alexander Korda's 'The Jungle Book'. Many of the workers, the entire technical crew and most of the extras will be quartered there until shooting is completed in September.

Trammell Huddles With Ascap Board

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

afternoon to go over the details of a licensing contract with Mark Woods, vice prez, who has been negotiating with Ascap for the past several weeks. Trammell explained he was unable to meet with the Ascap board today as tentatively scheduled because a conference he was holding with a group of network affiliates consumed more time than he anticipated.

Meanwhile Ascap counsel warned members of the board not to discuss any terms with CBS since this might jeopardize the anti-trust suit which Ascap is set to file against CBS, Broadcast Music and National Assn. of Broadcasters early next week.

Kellaway Reaches Par

Cecil Kellaway, who has been on location in Nassau and Salt Cay with Par's 'Bahama Passage' troupe, returned to the studio yesterday. Unit, under Producer-Director Edward H. Griffith, remains on location at Nassau for a few more days filming underwater scenes with the leads, Madeleine Carroll and Stirling Hayden.

Circuit Takes Mono

Deal has been closed by Monogram with the Freeman-Newbold circuit to play the entire 1941-42 program in the chain's Ohio theatres.

Retakes

■ Continued from page 2 ■

exchanges is the San Quentin News.

★ ★ ★

Random thought while strolling on the beach:—What becomes of all the Miss Americas?

★ ★ ★

The truckman in his overalls devours many a potent dish.
The movie extra hungers as he walks in soup and fish.

Two Radio Programs For Fall Sought Here by R&R

Two radio programs for the fall are being sought here by Ruthrauff & Ryan agency. One is understood to be a replacement for the daytime serial, 'Big Sister'. Bob Burns has been auditioned for a prospective client, said to be Lever Bros. or an oil company. Burns has a contract with Kraft Music Hall running to the first of the year but sponsor would give him his release as it is doubtful he will be renewed unless he agrees to a deep salary cut.

Edward G. Robinson's 'Big Town' series for R & R's Rinso has been renewed for the fall along with the entire cast and production setup, quieting reports that one of the shows sought by the agency would replace the dramatics. 'Big Town' takes off July 2 for the summer, returning Oct. 8. Pinch hitter is 'Grand Central Station'.

'Gesture' Rolls Aug. 11

Arnold Productions has set Aug. 11 as the starting date for 'Shanghai Gesture', which will be filmed on the Hal Roach lot. Albert Basserman and Eric Blore yesterday were signed for top roles in the picture. Josef von Sternberg is directing.

Frisco Chatter

San Francisco, June 26.—'Citizen Kane' stays for a sixth week at the Geary starting (1). Extra show will be spotted at 5:45 p.m. on July 4.

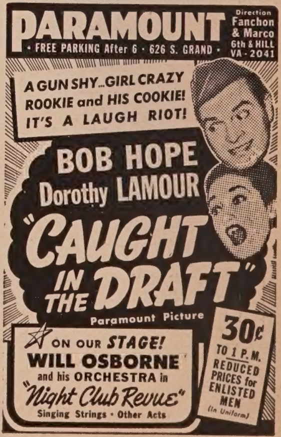
Earl Carroll Revue opens on Golden Gate stage Wednesday (2) following current run of 'Funzafire'.

Faith Bacon doing a week at Donovan's in Sacramento.

MCA has set Matty Malneck's ork into the St. Francis July 24, with Ernie Hecksher's band booked for the Mark Hopkins starting July 18.

B.B.B. heads talent lineup at the newly opened Deauville, known as Lindy's when it folded a couple of weeks back. New operator is J. J. Canham of 7-Up, who has a 10-year lease.

Fred Curtice upped to house manager at Golden State theatre Uptown.



PARAMOUNT
• FREE PARKING After 6 • 626 S. GRAND •
Direction Fanchon & Marco
6th & HILL
VA-2041
A GUN SHY...GIRL CRAZY ROOKIE and HIS COOKIE! IT'S A LAUGH RIOT!
BOB HOPE
Dorothy LAMOUR
"CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT"
Paramount Picture
ON OUR STAGE!
WILL OSBORNE and his ORCHESTRA in
"Night Club Revue"
Singing Strings • Other Acts
30¢ TO 1 P.M.
REDUCED PRICES for ENLISTED MEN (In Uniform)

RKO Re-arranges Setup Of Blurbing Films Under Consent Plan

RKO is changing its usual publicity handling of pictures to meet new problems that might arise under consent decree selling. New setup will have publicity campaigns started on a picture at least two weeks before it begins production and following through until after the time of trade showings and first runs are cleared.

Change in method of publicizing features also will aid studio publicity department in servicing publications that require feature stories and art far in advance of a film's release due to printing deadlines. Operation under the consent decree with the greatly lessened time between production and exhibition would stymie such mag planting unless unit publicity work was geared to get under way at an earlier date than has been the customary practice.

Linda Grey of 'Purchase' Signed for Par Pic

Linda Grey, who appeared in the stage production of 'Louisiana Purchase', has been signed at Paramount to do one of the 12 models studio is lining up for the film version of the musical. Miss Grey makes the fourth member of the original cast to be set for the picture and arrives Monday along with Irene Bordoni. Others are Vera Zorina, already here, and Victor Moore, due next week. Picture starts July 7 with Bob Hope starred and Irving Cummings directing.

Small Seeks Dekker For 'Corsican' Pic

Edward Small is dickering with Paramount for the loan of Albert Dekker to play a featured role in 'The Corsican Brothers', which producer puts before the cameras July 15 for United Artists release. Dekker is now on loan to Metro for 'Honky-Tonk'. Small has signed Nicolai Remisoff to do the production design for 'Corsican Brothers'.

Gibbons' 'Serenade'

Republic has assigned Eliot Gibbons to do the final screenplay on 'Prairie Serenade'. Harold Goldman is doing a polish job on the dialog. Karl Brown, after finishing the first draft, checked off the lot. Robert Shannon and Mauri Grashin have also left Republic after doing the screenplay for 'Pardon My Stripes'. Anne Morrison Chapin has completed the screenplay on 'Sunset in Wyoming'.

Vic McLeod Chored

Vic McLeod finished his writing assignment on U's 'Bombay Clipper' and has been assigned to do comedy sequences on 'Bad Lands of Dakota' on the same lot.

Ill in Pix

BILL QUINN, veteran indie distributor, is recuperating at his home, following a month's siege in the Methodist hospital, suffering from severe injuries sustained in an auto crash.

MRS. BUZZ EAGLE is convalescing following a major op at Cedars of Lebanon.

PRODUCERS NIX VACASHES FOR HOURLY WAGE WORKERS

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

ton, who have been handling negotiations with the IATSE studio locals. Laboratory heads attended from Paramount, Metro, Warners, 20th-Fox and Columbia. One counter proposal from the Producers calling for slight wage adjustments has already been vetoed by the union.

Representatives of Motion Picture Set Electricians Local 728 and other IATSE crafts talked briefly with Casey and Pelton regarding their demands. Sound Technicians Local 695 and Motion Picture Studio Projectionists Local 165 have already presented their individual demands on wages, hours and conditions. The Producers have promised them a rejection, acceptance or counter proposals early next week.

The IATSE studio locals have set a deadline of July 1 for consummation of negotiations covering proposed contract revisions. The Producers have agreed to the deadline, but because of the vast amount of details to be covered there is a probability company representatives will ask that the time be extended.

Practically all the film unions are requesting vacations for their members, including the IATSE studio locals, Moving Picture Painters Local 644, and other crafts which have contracts calling for hourly wage scales.

CARRY ON DISNEY PEACE SESSIONS

★ Continued from page 1 ★

or all proposals for an agreement exhausted.

The company is being represented by William Garrity and Verne Caldwell. The Screen Cartoonists Guild committee of six is headed by Herbert Sorrell, business representative of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 and business manager of the SCG strike.

It was reported that the question of recognition of the Guild has been temporarily sidetracked to see if an agreement can be reached on other points. If the two groups get together on all other points and the company is convinced the SCG has a majority of the workers, it was believed the question of recognition might be settled without the necessity of a National Labor Relations Board election.

The discussions now are understood to center around reinstatement of all employes as of May 15, dismissal of all NLRB complaints, ban on blacklists and fines for nonstrikers, acceptance into Guild membership of non-member workers, proposed wages, hours, conditions and dismissals under the announced studio retrenchment policy. Walt Disney and other company heads are being advised as to the daily conversations at the mediation meetings.

Par H. O. Execs Pullout

Exodus of Paramount home office executives takes place today and tomorrow following windup of studio confabs yesterday. Barney Balaban planes out today via Western Air, stopping over at Lake Mead for a day's fishing before proceeding to New York. Others heading east include Stanton Griffis, Russell Holman and John Hicks.

Comandini on Orig

Adele Comandini has been signed by Warners to write the screenplay of her original story, 'Rhythm Girls'. Gloria Warren and Diana James will make their film debuts in this picture. Lew Seiler directs.

WB Options Wilcox

Warners yesterday lifted its option on Frank Wilcox and assigned him to a featured role in 'They Died With Their Boots On'.

Title Changes

Monogram's 'Rough Riders' back to its original title of 'Arizona Bound'.

Columbia's 'The Medico Rides' now titled 'Thunder Over the Prairie'.

Three Marvin Ditties

Johnny Marvin has completed three songs to be sung by Tex Ritter in 'Roaring Frontiers' at Columbia. Tunes are 'You've Got to Come and Get Me, Boys', 'A Part of the West' and 'County Jail Blues'.

$250,000 Suit Against Kaufman, Others Revealed in NY

New York, June 26.—Suit for $250,000 against George S. Kaufman, Arthur Sheekman and Margaret Shane, writers, by Edward Choate, legit producer, was revealed in New York Supreme court today when Justice Dineer ordered Kaufman's examination before trial on July 21.

Choate claims he advanced $200 to the authors for production rights to the play 'Mr. Big', for the United States and Canada, and for 40% of film, radio and television rights. Kaufman persuaded the writers to refund the $200 and give him the play, Choate claims, in seeking damages and a renewal of the original agreement.

U Resumes Payment On Laemmle Stock

New York, June 26.—Universal resumed payment on 10,300 shares of the old Carl Laemmle first preferred stock when the directors declared a $2 dividend, payable July 11 to stock on record July 7 at a special meeting. This marks the first dividend on this stock since Oct. 1, 1932, and there will still be $68 due in arrears after the payment. At the same meeting John O'Connor and Matty Fox were elected to the board of directors of the company.

Eric Blore in 'Town'

Eric Blore has been cast for a comedy role in 'Three Girls About Town' at Columbia.

Puddin' Head
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

GHOST: "Well done! Let me shake your hand."
JUDY: "You don't have to—it's shaking already."

JUDY CANOVA with
FRANCIS LEDERER
RAYMOND WALBURN · "SLIM" SUMMERVILLE
EDDIE FOY, JR. · ASTRID ALLWYN · ALMA KRUGER · HUGH O'CONNELL · "CHIC" CHANDLER
JOSEPH SANTLEY—Director · Screen play by Jack Townley and Milt Gross · Original Story by Jack Townley

Army Camp Troupe Starts Tour Today At Camp Callan

Unit touring army camps under the auspices of the Motion Picture Committee for Talent and Camp Recreation starts today with a show at Camp Callan, playing Camp Haan on Saturday (28); Camp Roberts, June 30; Hamilton Field, July 1; The Presidio, San Francisco, July 2; Moffett Field, July 3. The show was originally scheduled for presentation at Watsonville, Calif., on June 30, for men of the 250th Coast Artillery, Camp McQuaide, 116th and 82nd Observation Squadrons, Salinas Airport, and 91st Observation Squadron, Watsonville Airport, but has been set for a later date.

Talent set for the unit includes Judy Canova, Kay Kyser and his orchestra, Ginny Simms, Ish Kabibble, Ann Miller, Jerry Adler, Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Kay Francis, Linda Darnell and Eugene King. Performers will alternate on assignments.

Shirley Van Signed

Shirley Van, former dancer and soloist with Phil Harris' band, has been signed for the 'live' revue portion of the new Yale Puppeteers show. Revue, titled 'Turnabout' and being directed by Dorothy Neumann, opens at the Turnabout theatre July 10.

Let's Go!
DINE
DANCE
PLAY
with the
STARS
at
Grace Hayes' Lodge
and under the
STARS
at the new
SIDEWALK CAFE
ALL HOLLYWOOD IS RAVING ABOUT THE
NEW GIRL SHOW!
NEVER A COVER CHARGE

Grace Hayes
Peter Lind Hayes
Mary Healy
Neville Fleeson
and
Mavis — Inecita — Sylvia

You'll Never Forget Your Visit to
GRACE HAYES' LODGE
11345 VENTURA BLVD.
Phone SUnset 22635 for reservations

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES	THE NEWS	LA TIMES	LA EXAMINER	LA TIMES	HER.-EXP.
Oscar Otis	**Bob Hebert**	**Paul Lowry**	**Bernard**	**Martha**	**Jim Mitchell**
1—Lawyer's L't	1—Certie	1—Saku	1—Lawyer's L't	1—Saku	1—Lawyer's L't
Saku	Saku	Lawyer's L't	Certie	Lawyer's L't	Saku
Certie	Lawyer's L't	Certie	Iron Plunger	Certie	Certie
2—Hada Star	2—Irrelevant	2—Hada Star	2—Hada Star	2—Hada Star	2—Rock'way Boy
Irrelevant	Hada Star	Single Wing	Justice Nap	Redeem	Hada Star
Single Wing	Quero Green'k	Justice Nap	Irrelevant	Quero Green'k	Quero Green'k
3—Smoky Snyder	3—Smoky Snyder	3—Ardenell	3—Smoky Snyder	3—Smoky Snyder	3—Bettina
Bettina	Ardenell	Smoky Snyder	Ardenell	Bettina	Smoky Snyder
Clarcarole	Bettina	Bettina	Clarcarole	Ardenell	Clarcarole
4—Jubal Junior	4—Jubal Junior	4—Jubal Junior	4—Jubal Junior	4—Jubal Junior	4—Suffern
Suffern	Last Gold	Suffern	Suffern	Suffern	Justice M.
Last Gold	Justice M.	Last Gold	Justice M.	Justice M.	Jubal Junior
5—Pepinillo	5—Pepinillo	5—Pepinillo	5—Pepinillo	5—Pepinillo	5—Discussion
Yankee Co'l	Bon Boots	Bon Boots	Tory Tom	Bon Boots	Pepinillo
Bon Boots	Tory Tom	Sword Play	Bon Boots	Listowel	Kankee Co'l
6—Foxster	6—Foxster	6—Coronado	6—Coronado	6—Our Bud	6—Coronado
Coronado	First Choice	Our Bud	Foxster	Foxster	Foxster
Our Bud	Scotch High	Foxster	Our Bud	Coronado	Our Bud
7—Bulwark	7—Bulwark	7—Bulwark	7—Xenoras Fox	7—Bulwark	7—Bulwark
Raby Rattler	Hard Lu	Best Beau	Bulwark	Xenoras Fox	Hard Lu
Xenoras Fox	Xenoras Fox	Pageboy	Raby Rattler	Jeff's Pride	Raby Rattler
8—Rushaway	8—Taken	8—Day Dawn	8—Day Dawn	8—Day Dawn	8—Taken
Day Dawn	Day Dawn	In Range	Taken	Taken	Rushaway
Taken	Bonnie And'w	Taken	Bonnie And'w	Rushaway	In Range

a.m. Dailies

Tierney Petition Denied—
Petition filed by the parents of Gene Tierney in a Bridgeport, Conn., court, seeking to prevent 20th-Fox from negotiating a new contract with the actress, and asking $50,000 damages, was denied yesterday. Miss Tierney's original pact was made through her parents and the Belle-Tier Corp., which controls her acting services and receives 25% of her earnings.

Sculptor Testifies In Suit—
Edward Roller, sculptor, testified yesterday at trial of his $51,900 damage suit against Universal that studio had rented his statue titled 'Adam and Eve Torso' for use in 'One Hundred Men and a Girl', but had made copies for subsequent use in other pictures.

Probe Hymer's Earnings—
Warren Hymer was questioned by Court Commissioner Kurtz Kauffman yesterday about his film earnings and assets in connection with $7,933 judgment held by his former wife, Mabel Hymer Bolton, for back alimony and interest.

Wayne Morris Inducted—
Wayne Morris was inducted into the Procurement Division of the Naval Aviation Reserve as an ensign yesterday at Long Beach.

Houston Redoes 'Ballad'

Norman Houston is rewriting his 'Ballad of a Buckaroo' into a dramatic vehicle to be produced in the fall by Ted Myers and John Samson.

Spot M. Chapman

Marguerite Chapman has been set for the lead in 'West of the Rockies', two-reel western, at Warners.

DAVID ROSE AT PAR ON BRITISH BIZ

David Rose, managing director for Paramount in Great Britain, arrived at the studio yesterday for confabs on British production with studio executives and to line up a player to do the lead in 'The Admirable Crichton'.

'Hatter's Castle' is now filming in England for Paramount, with Robert Newton and Emlyn Williams starred. Company's 'I Wanted Wings' will have a double premiere at the Plaza and Carlton theatres in London tonight, according to Rose.

Roy Disney May Assume Hal Horne's Duties

New York, June 26.—Roy Disney, before planing for the Coast tonight, indicated he will carry on the distribution end for Walt Disney Productions without any successor being named to replace Hal Horne, who resigned, effective July 15, although William Levy, Disney's London representative, has been mentioned as a possible successor. Roy Disney would handle the eastern end, and also distribution between here and the Coast.

Benee Russell Seeking Lead for NY Play

Benee Russell, composer-playwright, is here from New York to engage a picture name for the lead of his play, 'I Will Rock the World', which the Shuberts produce on Broadway next fall. Another of Russell's plays, 'Heaven Please Do Not Disturb', may get a breakin here in the autumn. Russell also wrote the score for the 'Follies' which the Shuberts stage in early fall.

Planted

Warners

Roland Drew, Hank Mann, Fred 'Snowflake' Toomes, Jack Mower, Fred Kelsey, Frank Mayo, Tom Wilson, Creighton Hale, 'West of the Rockies'.

Elliott Sullivan, 'New Orleans Blues'.

Frank Mayo, 'One Foot In Heaven'.

Bretherton Will Direct Sherman 'Twilight'

Howard Bretherton has been set to direct 'Twilight On the Trail', Hopalong Cassidy western to be produced by Harry Sherman for Paramount. Cecile Kramer and Ellen Hansen Corby did the original story and J. Benton Cheney is now scripting.

Explains MG Sales

Denying rumors that Metro pictures would be offered only on percentage terms next season, William F. Rodgers, general sales manager for Metro, yesterday issued a statement to the effect that films will be sold on a percentage to those who usually play on percentage, and a fixed price basis to those who usually buy on a flat rental. Whether percentage or otherwise, rentals for next season are to be based on the findings of the Metro field staff of district and branch managers and home office executives who have visited all territories and made a complete study of every theatre and its individual problems.

Famous DARKTOWN DERBY
Sunday at CALIENTE
STAR NEGRO RIDERS IN
THRILLING MILE DASH
NOTED MOVIE STAR WILL CROWN WINNER
12 RACES • 4 FEATURES • FIRST POST 1 P.M.

'Hang up de Fiddle and de Bow'
at 39 . . ? . . NIX!
●
WHO NEEDS A
Professional Young American
VIOLINIST-LEADER
Whose Experience Embraces
Radio Screen
Stage ● Concerts
Hotels Dance
What can you lose by writing to
Box 27, c/o Daily Variety

SOEG Will Elect New Vice-President At General Sesh (1)

A new vice-president of Screen Office Employes Guild will be elected at the general membership meeting scheduled July 1 at the Roosevelt hotel. The office became vacant when Peggy Vaughn was elevated to president to succeed Glenn Pratt, who resigned to become SOEG business representative.

Since the Guild Constitution provides no two officers may be employed at the same studio, the new vice-prexy will have to be selected from companies other than RKO and Metro. The SOEG vice-prexy presides as head of the membership committee, and is responsible for co-ordination of the committee's work and the collection of dues.

The progress of negotiations with the major companies, particularly the failure to speed up parleys at Metro, also will be discussed at the general meeting. Reports will be made by Glenn Pratt, Attorney George E. Bodle, and others.

Pommer Will Start 'Bordeaux' Aug. 1

Erich Pommer's next production at RKO will be 'Passage to Bordeaux', and is slated to start shooting under the direction of Robert Stevenson Aug. 1. Lucille Ball and Joseph Cotten have the leads.

Seeing Stars

Members of Society of Motion Picture Engineers drive to Mt. Wilson Observatory tonight for meeting at which Drs. Nicholson and Hoge will deliver lectures on research work being conducted at the observatory.

Fort Scribes 'Broadway'

Garrett Fort has been signed at Paramount to write the adaptation and screen play for 'Doctor Broadway' on a deal agented by the A. & S. Lyons office.

Story Buys

KB Productions yesterday bought an original by George Bricker, who also was signed to develop the screenplay. Picture will go ahead of KB's 'Mr. Celebrity', with Phil Rosen directing. Story concerns the work of G-men among hoboes in ferreting out subversive elements.

Republic has purchased 'Body Guard', an original by Al Block. Story will be used for Gene Autry, and Harry Grey will produce.

NOW!
Clark GABLE
Rosalind RUSSELL
in CLARENCE BROWN'S
Production of
They Met in Bombay
M-G-M HIT with PETER LORRE
Companion Feature
"FOR BEAUTY'S SAKE"
NED SPARKS • MARJORIE WEAVER
General Admission 30¢-1 40¢-6 Week Days
SPECIAL PRICES! to All Non-Com SERVICE MEN in Uniform
WORLD FAMOUS Grauman's CHINESE and LOEW'S STATE
HOLLYWOOD NEAR HIGHLAND
7th and BROADWAY

Features Started This Week

Title	Studio	Producer	Director	Starting Date
'Three Girls About Town'	Columbia	Sam Bischoff	Leigh Jason	June 24
'Roaring Frontiers'	Columbia	Leon Barsha	Lambert Hillyer	June 23
'You Belong to Me'	Columbia	Wesley Ruggles	Wesley Ruggles	June 23
'Married Bachelors'	Metro	John W. Considine	Eddie Buzzell	June 24
'When Ladies Meet'	Metro	Front Office	Robt. Leonard	June 25
'Dynamite Canyon'	Monogram	Robt. Tangey	Bob Hill	June 23
'Bowery Blitzkrieg'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Wallace Fox	June 23
'Lone Rider'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Sig Neufeld	Peter Stewart	June 25
'Reg'lar Fellers'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Arthur Dreifuss	Arthur Dreifuss	June 25
'Obliging Young Lady'	RKO	Howard Benedict	Richard Wallace	June 23
'Rags to Riches'	Republic	Joseph Kane	Joseph Kane	June 23
'Hellzapoppin'	Universal	Jules Levey	Henry C. Potter	June 26

5 Pictures Ready to Roll Next Week

'Sweet Sixteen'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Jean Yarbrough	June 30
'The Remarkable Andrew'	Paramount	Richard Blumenthal	Stuart Heisler	June 30
'Ride 'Em Cowboy'	Universal	Alex Gottlieb	Arthur Lubin	June 30
'Badlands of Dakota'	Universal	George Waggner	Alfred E. Green	June 30
'They Died With Their Boots On'	Warners	Robert Fellows	Raoul Walsh	July 2

34 Films Skeded to Start Within Month

'The Stork Pays Off'	Columbia	Jack Fier	Lew Landers	July 7
'Harmon of Michigan'	Columbia	Wallace MacDonald	Chas. Barton	July 7
'New York Story'	Metro	Front Office	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Keeping Married'	Metro	Sam Marx	S. Sylvan Simon	Preparing
'Saddle Mountain Roundup'	Monogram	George Weeks	S. Roy Luby	July 7
'Night of Horror'	Monogram	Sam Katzman	Unassigned	Preparing
'Isle of Lost Men'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'Army Hostess'	Monogram	Lindsley Parsons	Unassigned	Preparing
'Louisiana Purchase'	Paramount	Harold Wilson	Irving Cummings	July 7
'Sing a Song of Homicide'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Wm. Clemens	July 7
'Stick To Your Guns'	Paramount	Harry Sherman	Lesley Selander	July 7
'Take a Letter Darling'	Paramount	Fred Kohlmar	Unassigned	July 14
'Her Jungle Mate'	Paramount	Monta Bell	Unassigned	July 14
'Mr. Aldrich's Boy'	Paramount	Sol C. Siegel	Hugh Bennett	July 28
'The Great Fib'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Jed Buell	Wm. Beaudine	July 7
'Jungle Siren'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Ted Richmond	Unassigned	July 12
'Mr. Celebrity'	Prod. Releasing Corp.	Kozinsky Bros.	Unassigned	July 20
'Playmates'	RKO	David Butler	David Butler	July 7
'Riding the Wind'	RKO	Bert Gilroy	Edward Killy	July 7
'Joan of Paris'	RKO	David Hempstead	Unassigned	July 10
'Doctors Don't Tell'	Republic	Albert J. Cohen	Jacques Tourneur	July 7
'Prairie Serenade'	Republic	Harry Grey	Unassigned	July 7
'Three Texas Rangers'	Republic	Lou Gray	Unassigned	July 7
'Cadet Girl'	20th-Fox	Sol Wurtzel	Ray McCarey	July 7
'Small Town Deb'	20th-Fox	Lou Ostrow	Harold Schuster	July 7
'Detour to Love'	20th-Fox	Walter Morosco	Alfred Werker	July 7
'Swamp Water'	20th-Fox	Darryl Zanuck	Jean Renoir	July 14
'Jungle Book'	UA	Alexander Korda	Zoltan Korda	July 7
'All American Girl'	UA	LeRoy Prinz-Hal Roach, Jr.	LeRoy Prinz-Hal Roach, Jr.	July 7
'Corsican Brothers'	UA	Edward Small	Gregory Ratoff	July 15
'The Eagle Squadron'	UA	Argosy Corp.	Unassigned	Preparing
'Never Give a Sucker An Even Break'	Universal	Unassigned	Edward Cline	July 7
'Appointment for Love'	Universal	Bruce Manning	William Seiter	July 14
'Kings Row'	Warners	David Lewis	Sam Wood	July 7

Cowboy Sesh Moved Up

The mass meeting of film cowboys and riders called for Sam Garrett's Burbank Ranch Monday night (30), has been advanced to Sunday night (29). The date was moved up one day because Garrett had to attend a taxpayers session on Monday. The meeting is being called to discuss studio wage scales for the riders.

EXQUISITE HOME
Beautifully furnished in Riverside Ranchos near Warner Bros., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, patio, barbecue, walled yard. Mountain view. Cost $13,000 3 years ago. Now $9,250.
DAVID H. BACKUS
SU. 29990 SU. 23682

Kichaven Opens Agency

Hannah T. Kichaven has opened agency offices on Santa Monica boulevard to handle screen, stage and radio talent. Office has set Carlotta Jelm, 11-year-old actress and racing stable owner, to play the role of Eileen in 'One Foot in Heaven' at Warners.

Yates, Conrad Collab

Hal Yates and Gene Conrad have been set to write the script for 'Miss Polly' for Hal Roach. Gordon Douglas will direct.

George Lloyd's 'Lady'

George Lloyd has been signed at RKO for 'Obliging Young Lady', which Richard Wallace is directing.

BASEBALL ★ TONIGHT
HOLLYWOOD STARS vs. SACRAMENTO
"Family Day"—The Whole Family for One Admission—Saturday, 2:30
Nite Games 8:15
For Reservations Telephone WE-5151
BUS LINE DIRECT TO GILMORE FIELD

WRITERS

The boys in the Army camps must be entertained.

Through the Motion Picture Defense Committee, elaborate shows have already appeared in quite a few camps. They had unprecedented success.

It is now planned to organize a large number of units so that every camp West of the Mississippi will be provided with entertainment out of Hollywood.

All motion picture and radio stars who have been approached are ready, willing and eager to contribute their services.

But we need material for them. Therefore this appeal to the writers.

We need skits, sketches, blackouts, routines for individuals.

If you have any such material stuck away in that file, dig it out, and send it to Robert Riskin at Warner Bros. Studio.

If you have any new ideas, get them down on paper. You can write for any personality or personalities. Virtually all of them are available to us.

There is no reason why Hollywood should not be the fountain from which flows all Army and Navy entertainment in the country.

We need your help!

Writers Committee:

Marc Connelly
Sheridan Gibney
George Oppenheimer
Irving Reis
Robert Riskin

MGM Studios
Attn: Reading Dept
Culver City, Calif

Copy

DAILY VARIETY DAILY
NEWS OF THE SHOW WORLD
Vol. 32 No. 17 Hollywood, California, Monday, June 30, 1941 5 Cents

AMUSEMENT B.O. IN HUGE JUMP

INDIES BALK SDG, AMPP WAGE DEAL

The minimum wage deal between the Screen Directors Guild and Association of Motion Picture Producers, tentatively set last week, has been temporarily stymied by intercession of the independent producers. Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, headed by I. E. Chadwick, is said to have been invited to sit in with the Producer-SDG negotiators today in the hopes of con-

★ Continued on page 7 ★

Chas. Skouras In With New Building Plans

Charles Skouras returned from his New York trip Saturday. With him he brought plans for the erection of a structure on the recreation grounds adjacent to the Fox West Coast executive offices which will house a national film booking department. Plan is to book all films for F-WC theatres and affiliates from this central office with beginning of the new season. Also with Skouras was his nephew, Spyros Skouras, Jr., college student, who will spend summer in local houses working as usher and doorman to learn theatre operation.

Saper, Wald Coproduce 'Dinner' at Warners

Next co-associate producer assignment for Jack Saper and Jerry Wald at Warners will be 'The Man Who Came to Dinner'. Pair just completed 'Navy Blues', their first producing chore after being upped from production manager and writer spots, respectively.

Cowdin At Studio

J. Cheever Cowdin has arrived from New York for huddles at Universal with studio executives.

PREVIEWED

BARNACLE BILL
(MG)

HELLO SUCKER
(U)

(Previews on page 3)

First Sponsored Television

New York, June 29.—Official start on Tuesday of sponsored television over NBC will have the Brooklyn Dodgers game broadcast in the afternoon under General Mills for Wheaties, Lowell Thomas in the evening newscasting for Sun Oil, and Spry's 'Uncle Jim's Question Bee' at 9:15 p.m.

Gloria Stuart and Lionel Stander will be the guest interviewees on the quiz.

Doubtful how many sets in New York can bring in telecast at 525 lines, since most of the 2,000-odd installations in area were originally 441 lines and have not been revamped.

25,000 OVERFLOW BOWL FOR HUGE USO BENEFIT

Hollywood Bowl was literally filled with star dust last night as some of the highest priced stars from pictures and radio entertained and appealed to an overflow audience estimated at more than 25,000 to support the United Service Organizations' $11,000,000 campaign for funds. The highlight came with an announce-

♠ Continued on page 6 ♠

ASCAP HUDDLES ON TRAMMELL PROPOSAL

New York, June 29.—The board of directors of American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is studying a proposal by Niles Trammell, president of National Broadcasting Co., looking to an agreement for restoration of the Society's music to the chain's two networks. Main points of NBC's willingness to bargain are:

1. NBC agrees to pay 2½% on

♥ Continued on page 4 ♥

DISNEY BANKER IN STRIKE HUDDLES

A new effort to work out an amicable settlement of the Walt Disney strike is being made by Richard Storey, of the Boston banking firm of Kidder, Peabody & Co., which handled the Disney stock

◆ Continued on page 4 ◆

Extra Jobs

The following extra placements were reported for today:

Central Casting	153
Major Studio Calls	78
Total	231

Ten Best Song Sellers Last Week

New York, June 29.—Following are the 10 best song sellers last week, nationally. Full list of the country's best sellers is published in the current week's Variety.

Hut Sut Song	Schumann
Things I Love	Campbell
Intermezzo	Schubert
Daddy	Republic
Maria Elena	Southern
South of North Carolina	Porgie
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway
You Are My Sunshine	Southern
My Sister and I	BMI
The Band Played On	PD

WICKET TAX NEARS A RECORD

Washington, June 29.—Amusement business turned upward again in April, after a sickening slump the month before, according to latest treasury department admissions tax figures.

Uncle Sam last month raked in $6,955,991 from the turnstile bite, a rise of $1,328,597 over the prior month's collections, and a jump of $5,164,896 over the corresponding month in 1940. This comes within

♣ Continued on page 5 ♣

Carol Bruce, Selznick Sign 1-a-yr. Deal

Carol Bruce has been signed by David O. Selznick for one picture a year. Miss Bruce, who appeared in 'Louisiana Purchase' is also under a picture contract at Universal and is now doing her first film assignment, 'This Woman Is Mine' for Frank Lloyd.

Cantor In Today

Eddie Cantor arrives today from New York where he has been doing radio work. Comedian expects to remain here until September and will decide shortly as to when he will go into production with a picture for United Artists. His daughter, Marilyn, who has been attending school in the east, accompanies him.

DOC BAKER

1st RACE—**Pio Pico**
Liedevin
Al Greenock
2d RACE—**Betty Sweep**
Canterup
Ipako
3d RACE—**Musical Jack**
Gold Bewithus
Be Quaint
4th RACE—**Lotagold**
Royal Marlboro
Mad Macaw
5th RACE—**Teddy Kerry**
Vain Bo
Journey On
6th RACE—**IRA PAN**
Welcome Pass
Rackatack
7th RACE—**Staretor**
Present Arms
Vain Grove
8th RACE—**Potlatch**
Fervorita
Peter Tokalon
CHANCE BET—**Burgoo Trail**
(3)

Selections consensus, page 7.

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ARTHUR UNGAR, Editor

Chatter

Perry Lieber, Jr., has whooping cough.

Harry Warner has returned from New York.

Dave Rose and family spent the weekend at Coronado.

Bill Katz and Bill Poppe, Jr., vacationing in New York.

L. E. Behymer hopped on the UP for a vacation in Yellowstone Park.

Tom Lewis and Loretta Young shove off Wednesday for Honolulu.

David O. Selznick is expected back from New York the end of the week.

Myrt Blum's business administration outfit is in its new Beverly Hills home today.

Tom McAvity, v.p. in charge of radio for Lord & Thomas, here for a brief respite.

Hugh Braley motored out for tour of the Paramount Frisco, Portland and Seattle exchanges.

Jack Benny nursing sprained shoulder and ankle from taking tumbles in 'Charley's Aunt'.

Arthur Hornblow, Jr., and Myrna Loy left yesterday for a month's vacation in British Columbia.

Henry Henigson arrived yesterday after business trip to New York on production plans for Globe.

Pathe News moves into new quarters at the RKO-Pathe studio as soon as the paint dries after redecorating job.

Carl Benton Ried, in the cast of 'The Little Foxes', leaves for Cleveland this week to marry Mrs. Hazel Hyatt.

Ralph Staub is celebrating his ninth year at Columbia studios as producer and director of 'Screen Snapshots'.

Gordon Griffith checks in at Columbia this morning to officially take over his new post as studio production manager.

It was Sally Shaw, not Janet, who was signed to a term contract at Hal Roach studio last week and added to the cast of 'Tanks a Million'.

Joe Meyers, son of Fred Meyers of Universal, who was visiting with the Nate Blumbergs for a fortnight, returned to New York by plane last night.

Lou Costello will be in Champion Petey Scalzo's corner at the Olympic tomorrow night when he defends his featherweight title against Richie Lemos.

Benny the Gouge sez—There was a time when the comedians wanted to play Hamlet. Now the heavies are playing Joe Miller.

Hollywood Inside

GOVERNMENT check on Communists, Nazis, etc., in the industry is reported to have revealed a lot of unAmericanism in the studios. As a result specific cases will be cited to studio heads with recommendations that foreigners who have been acting as agents for belligerent European nations be eliminated from payrolls as expediently and graciously as possible, as otherwise the Government would take drastic steps that would possibly bring unfavorable publicity on the industry. The reports also cover number of writers of foreign extraction, as well as Americans, who have been espousing Communistic and Fascistic doctrines unreservedly and either must be straightened out or forgotten about by the business. Report is said to cover around 200 names and among them people whom no suspicion has been cast upon. Understood that the cleaning out process will begin shortly and the Government agents feel they can have it completed within a month.

☆ ☆ ☆

WARNERS U. S. distribution of 'The Prime Minister', made in England with John Gielgud and Diana Wynyard co-starred, marks the first time in years that company has placed one of its English-produced film on its release program in this country. Picture will be distributed this fall as one of Warners deliveries for 1941-42 and is expected to be included in one of the first groups to be sold under the consent decree. When film was received at the studio, executives put it into the editing rooms for general tightening and to speed the action. Footage totaled 14,200 on delivery and has now been trimmed to 11,000 feet. Because execs believe picture has box office possibilities that will match successes established by a few other features made in England, a special exploitation and advertising campaign will be lined up to sell it in this country.

☆ ☆ ☆

PARAMOUNT is forming plans to sell 'The Remarkable Andrew' as a modern comedy, while at the same time maintaining the value of the historical characters that appear in the picture. Problem is to keep the public from getting the idea that picture is a costume drama, which might result from the use of such names as Andrew Jackson, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and other such historical figures who, according to the story, reappear on the earth during present times to take part in the events in a human's life. Studio is also having some difficulty lining up actors to portray the various figures, having so far set only two. Brian Donlevy, who plays the top role of Andrew Jackson, and Rod Cameron, who will do Jesse James.

☆ ☆ ☆

NO OFFICIAL confirmation has been made by Warners as to whom will play the title role in 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', although current reports have Monte Woolley, playing the role in the New York stage version, as the most likely winner. Studio has tested John Barrymore, Fredric March, Charles Laughton, David Cowles and Laird Cregar for the role and at one time was discussing the possibility of testing Director Edmund Goulding for the spot. Since the assignment of Bette Davis to the secretary role, there has been renewed activity from players who would be available for the part, all seeking the assignment.

☆ ☆ ☆

CAST juggling at Universal over the weekend resulted in switches on three player assignments for as many pictures. Robert Stack, originally slated for 'Hellzapoppin',' now goes to 'Bad Lands of Dakota'. Robert Paige jumps from 'Ride 'Em, Cowboy' to the Stack role in the Olsen and Johnson feature. Dick Foran joins 'Ride 'Em, Cowboy' to replace Paige. Johnny Mack Brown, Universal western star, also joins the latter picture to play the role of the ranch foreman.

☆ ☆ ☆

HOLLYWOOD offices of Kay Kamen, Ltd., handling commercial tieups for products using Walt Disney characters, have been closed and company will continue to handle the majority of its business in its New York headquarters. Local offices were opened several months ago as a test to see if commercial tieup business on the Coast would justify expansion of company to Hollywood.

☆ ☆ ☆

AN ADDITIONAL appropriation of more than $100,000 has been set aside by Paramount to advertise 'Aloma of the South Seas' with color copy in national magazines and colored roto newspaper sections.

Dave Griesdorf Made UA Exchange Mgr.

Dave Griesdorf, for a long time branch manager for United Artists in Montreal, and more recently Capt. James Roosevelt's rep in New York, has been named manager of the UA Los Angeles branch. He replaces Earl Collins, transferred to be branch manager at Dallas.

Holzman In New Biz

Ben Holzman, former personal manager for Eddie Cantor, who joined the William Morris agency about six months ago, is leaving this week. Holzman plans going into defense program manufacturing with Jerry Baum.

Tansey Sets 'Montana' As Next Tom Keene

Next Tom Keene western to be made by Robert Tansey for Monogram release will be 'The Man From Montana', original screen play by Frances Kavanaugh. Tansey will put the picture before the cameras next month at the Prescott Studios in Prescott, Ariz., which he has under long term lease.

Soph In Seattle

Seattle, June 29.—Sophie Tucker opens at the Music Box tomorrow for a two-week stay. Spot said to be dickering with Gypsy Rose Lee for following two weeks.

Retakes

By GEORGE E. PHAIR

There was an old fellow named
History
Whose temper grew heated and
blistery,
'The pictures I've seen
Of myself on the screen',
He said, 'are a positive mystery'.

★ ★ ★

Poetic license, with due restraint, is often exercised in literature, but when History is dragged into a screen play he generally resembles a couple of other fellows.

★ ★ ★

It is painfully evident that the Douglas B-19 had no studio flack. Nobody called it a super-colossal production.

★ ★ ★

'Kiss the Boys Goodbye' is not a popular title among the boys, who prefer to be kissed hello.

Neil Hamilton has a new definition of will power. 'It is the ability', he says, 'to eat one salted peanut'.

Now and then somebody in Hollywood does a perfect job of casting. In this case it is Frank Moran as an elderly prize fighter.

★ ★ ★

The ghost of Bobby Burns walked along Hollywood Boul and burst into song:

Her brow is like the snowdrift,
Her neck is like the swan,
And she has the fairest midriff
That e'er the sun shone on.

★ ★ ★

By the time a war picture is ready for release, the war has moved into a new part of the world. Even the news reels are six furlongs behind. One way to keep up with the times is to write a story about the next war.

★ ★ ★

Tragedy with a belly laugh, currently the vogue in Hollywood, is spreading to the stage. Edgar Kennedy is about to tour in 'Romeo and Juliet.'

It may not be a colossal production, but 'A Million Spies' has a colossal title.

With Bette Davis and Ann Sheridan in the cast, the man in 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' is merely an added starter.

★ ★ ★

It will be a real Hollywood miracle if Maxie Rosenbloom develops that Harvard accent.

★ ★ ★

Three current productions are featuring ministers of the gospel, probably as an antidote for all those 'Devil' pictures.

★ ★ ★

Some plays stand out in an old guy's memory after a lapse of years, for no particular reason. Maybe it was a good show, or a good actor. One of them is 'The Tenderfoot', with Dick Carle singing 'I'm a peaceable party.'

★ ★ ★

David Rose came all the way from London to Hollywood to find a British actor for a picture in England.

★ ★ ★

On the Tivoli marquee:
'Louis-Conn Fight'
'Blackout'.

Film Previews

Barnacle Bill

(*Comedy Drama*)

Metro production. Stars Wallace Beery. Features Marjorie Main, Virginia Weidler, Leo Carrillo, Barton MacLane, Donald Meek. Supporting players; Connie Gilchrist, Sara Haden, William Edmunds, Don Terry, Alec Craig. Director, Richard Thorpe. Producer, Milton Bren. Screen play, Jack Jevne and Hugo Butler, based on an original story by Jevne. Photography, Clyde De Vinna. Musical score, Bronislau Kaper. Recording director, Douglas Shearer. Art director, Cedric Gibbons; associate, Urie McCleary. Set decorations, Edwin B. Willis. Film editor, Frank E. Hull. Previewed at the Alexander, Glendale, June 27. Running time: 92 mins.

'Barnacle Bill' would be a better general audience picture if much of its excess footage was trimmed, but as it stands there are a number of swell laughs and typical Wallace Beery mugging to help sell it to his fans. The Bill Johansen he portrays is reminiscent of his 'Bill' in 'Min and Bill', made years ago with Marie Dressler—the same type of lazy, dirty, uncouth fisherman with questionable ethics. The plotting of the story could have been presented in a tighter, snappier form if so much attention had not been paid to surplus material.

Beery goes through the usual paces as a seldom-working fisherman at San Pedro, completely useless and cadging from friends to get along. To bring about a character rejuvenation, the story introduces a long-absent daughter. Her pride in his sailing ability and the affection which springs up between them gradually works a change. He renounces old habits, aids the other fishermen get fair prices for their catch and marries the operator of a boat ways, Marjorie Main. A big laugh is the sequence in church, where Miss Main and Virginia Weidler, the daughter, have dragged him, as they raise cracked voices in hymn-singing. Thrilling are the seascapes of a schooner battling a storm.

Miss Main hits full stride as the blowsy, raucous waterfront business woman. Miss Weidler accounts for an appealing character as the daughter. Leo Carrillo is prevented from giving his customary exhuberance to the role of Pico, Beery's stooge, but makes the part important. Barton MacLane is villainous as the fish-buyer and Donald Meek does well by the part of Miss Main's father. Others capably take care of supporting assignments.

Richard Thorpe's direction from the screenplay by Jack Jevne and Hugo Butler, based on Jevne's original, keeps the action rolling and best displays the material supplied him. Production values marshalled by Milton Bren catch the flavor of the San Pedro fishing wharfs. Clyde De Vinna has handled his camera in excellent style. The musical score by Bronislau Kaper is good, and other technical appurtenances are topnotch.

Spot Alan Mowbray

Alan Mowbray will play the role done by Arthur Treacher on the New York stage in Metro's picturization of 'Panama Hattie'. Mowbray also is up for Warners 'The Man Who Came To Dinner'. Sam Jaffe agented.

Hello Sucker

(*Comedy*)

Universal production. Stars Hugh Herbert. Features Tom Brown, Peggy Moran, Lewis Howard, June Storey. Supporting players; Walter Catlett, Robert Emmett Keane, Mantan Moreland. Director, Edward Cline. Associate producer, Ken Goldsmith. Screen play, Maurice Leo, Paul Gerard Smith. Original, Arthur T. Horman. Photography, Charles Van Enger. Art direction, Jack Otterson; associate, Ralph M. DeLacy. Film editor, Ralph Dixon. Musical director, H. J. Salter. Sound supervisor, Bernard B. Brown; technician, Hal Bumbaugh. Gowns, Vera West. Set decorations, R. A. Gausman. Previewed June 27. Running time: 60 mins.

Another of Hugh Herbert's zaney celluloid adventures that will bring chuckles to his fans and serve well in its secondary billing position. The pattern used is the usual Herbert formula of hoke comedy, sold in his style of funmaking for satisfactory results all around. The cast of younger players lends good support to the doings and Edward Cline's brand of direction is geared to develop laughs.

Tom Brown and Peggy Moran, bumpkins fresh from the country, are sold a defunct theatrical agency by sharpers Walter Catlett and Robert Emmett Keane. Herbert is a magician who had previously been a sucker-buyer in the agency, and aids the new owners to build a successful business. Romantic interest between the partners, then jealousy when June Storey, a sexy model, is discovered undraped in Brown's office, serves to carry the skimpy plot along for sufficient footage. Miss Moran loses her farmer fiance, Lewis Howard, to the physical blandishments of Miss Storey, and rights her troubles with Brown for the tag in the script developed by Maurice Leo and Paul Gerard Smith from the original by Arthur T. Horman.

Herbert carries off the star billing with his usual aplomb. Brown takes care of the romantic male lead capably. Miss Moran shows increasing promise as a femme lead with a flair for lighter portrayals. Howard does okay by the country fiance part, and Miss Storey is good as the model. Catlett and Keane team well as the city slickers, and Mantan Moreland has a funny elevator boy bit.

Production is neatly presented within budget requirements by Ken Goldsmith. Charles Van Enger's photography and other technical aids are good.

Studio Machinists Demand 10% Tilt

Studio machinists are demanding an immediate 10% wage tilt. They claim the machinists were not included when the other American Federation of Labor studio crafts were given a wage boost and are insisting this oversight be rectified before they start negotiations on current contract revisions. The demand is being given serious consideration by company executives because of the scarcity of machinists who are being given attractive offers to work on Defense Program projects.

Webster On 'Danger'

Warners has signed M. Coates Webster to polish the screenplay of 'Background to Danger'. A. & S. Lyons agented.

Odlum Power Boosted On KAO as Comish OK's Stock Deal

Washington, June 29.—Floyd A. Odlum's move to grab control and a much tighter grip of Keith-Albee-Orpheum, with the reduction in the importance of Michael J. Meehan in the enterprise, is seen in the back-and-forth details in KAO paper. Securities and Exchange Commission has given its approval to the deal and Odlum's power is thus increased.

Holding that the transactions were fair and reasonable, the comish ratified the sale of 70,386 shares of KAO preferred for $5,580,669.75, and voting trust certificates covering 6,000 more ducats for $600,000.

KAO bought 48,586 shares of its own preferred stock from Radio-Keith-Orpheum for $3,090,019.17 and Atlas Corp. (Odlum) and American Company bought 21,800 shares of KAO preferred from Meehan for $2,490,650.

Commission noted that Atlas and American bought on behalf of RKO. In addition, RKO took from Atlas and American for $600,000 the batch of voting trust certificates.

PROD'S RECONSIDER UNION VACASHES

Producers meet today to consider demands of the studio locals of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes for paid vacations, wage tilts, improved conditions and a six-hour minimum for men on daily call. The executives first turned thumbs down on vacations, but are said to have agreed to reconsider when unionists pointed out that company heads in the east had okayed vacations for workers who had been steadily employed for certain periods.

A conference with local heads will be arranged after today's session to discuss counter proposals to be drafted by the Producers. A deadline of Tuesday has been set by the IATSE negotiators headed by Harold V. Smith for completion of proposed contract revisions.

Par H.O. Execs Leave

Paramount home office executives have left for New York. Adolph Zukor pulled out Friday night on the Super Chief for Manhattan, John C. Hicks and Russell Holman went out on the City of Los Angeles; Barney Balaban and Stanton Griffis planed out via United Air Lines.

In from the East

Henry Henigson
Eddie Cantor
Charles P. Skouras
Andy Krappman
Bill Lyris
Harry Warner
Joseph Clark
J. Cheever Cowdin
Tom McAvity
Spyros Skouras, Jr.

Heading East

John C. Hix
Adolph Zukor (SF)
Russell Holman (UP)
Barney Balaban (UA)
Stanton Griffis (UA)
Max Arnow
Joe Meyers

★ Gab ★

By ALTA DURANT

SIGRID GURIE, preparatory to announcing that she will return to pictures, tossed a barbecue party Saturday night for members of the local press and a few intimate friends. Her husband, Dr. Lawrence Spangard, broiled the steaks. John Calvert, the magician, put on a two-hour show of his tricks for the guests. . . . Perc Westmore and his new bride, Julietta Novis, former wife of Donald Novis, are on a 10-day yachting honeymoon after being wed Friday. This is Westmore's third marriage. Prior to taking off on the nuptial trip a reception was held at the home of Charles Henderson. . . . Jack Warner is general chairman of the seventh annual Comedians vs. Leading Men benefit ball game to be played Aug. 14 at Wrigley Field. Proceeds go to the Mount Sinai hospital and free clinic. . . . Lois Ranson and Chet Root, aircraft factory employe, are scheduled to return tomorrow from Las Vegas, where they were married yesterday. . . Johnny Downs and June Ellen Draper, who were married Saturday at the Cathedral Chapel, are on a honeymoon in northern California. Almost 250 friends attended the ceremony. The actor and his bride will live in Westwood after a brief honeymoon trip. . . . For the first time, Bette Davis and Somerset Maugham met each other Saturday when the writer visited the actress on the set of Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Little Foxes'. Miss Davis has been in two films from Maugham's pen, 'Of Human Bondage' and 'The Letter'. . . . More than 10,000 persons at Oklahoma City Saturday attended dedication of the Army's air base there to Will Rogers. 'Will Rogers' love of country and faith in aviation has been an inspiration to all airmen', General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, said in a message to those at the ceremony.

Hedda Hopper will be featured speaker at the Pacific Advertising Clubs Association convention luncheon at the Santa Barbara Biltmore tomorrow.

CAROL BRUCE will be Queen of the Los Angeles Fall Fashion Showings at the Biltmore July 14-16, making appearances at four fashion shows. . . . With a birthday cake that played 'Happy Birthday' as the first slice was cut, Martha Raye yesterday topped off a birthday party and housewarming at her Encino home. Party was for her husband, Neal Lang. . . . Lee Mortimer, film editor and critic of New York Daily Mirror, gets in this morning for three weeks of studio observation and nite spot coverage.

WHEN the Columbia Junior Workshop Players broadcast 'Meridian 1212' over CBS yesterday it marked the 36th presentation of the Irving Reis radio script since he first wrote and produced it six years ago. . . . Gilbert Miller, production associate of Lester Cowan on 'Ladies in Retirement' at Columbia, was guest, with Mrs. Miller, at a party tossed by the cast and crew of the picture at the Beverly Tropics.

George Barnes To MG For 'New York Story'; 'Species' Poised

George Barnes has been borrowed from David O. Selznick to photograph 'New York Story' and picture goes before the cameras at Metro today with Mervyn Le Roy directing. Cast is headed by Edward G. Robinson, Edward Arnold, Laraine Day and Marsha Hunt.

Studio launches 'Female of the Species', with a cast lineup including Rosalind Russell, Don Ameche, Kay Francis and John Carroll tomorrow under the direction of W. S. Van Dyke. Ray June will photograph the Joseph L. Mankiewicz production and Tom Andre is assistant director.

Three 20th Units Grab Backgrounds For 3

20th-Fox had three units out over the weekend, collecting footage for as many productions. Otto Brower, directing a second unit of 'Man At Large', was working with a crew at night at Franklin Canyon lake doing chase scenes. Ray McCarey was at Camp Haan doing shots for 'Cadet Girl' and Al Werker was filming backgrounds aboard Preston Foster's yacht for 'Detour to Love.'

Jeanette MacDonald on Defense Airer (18)

Jeanette MacDonald will appear as guest star on 'Proudly We Hail', new Columbia Broadcasting weekly program which will be launched Friday, July 18, as a salute to defense workers, airing between 6:30 and 7 p.m. Coast time. Brewster Morgan is producing for CBS in New York.

Option Leonard, Porter

Sheldon Leonard, brought here from New York by 20th-Fox for 'Tall, Dark and Handsome', stays at the studio for another term under contract option renewal. Studio also has picked up its option on the services of Lillian Porter, stock contractee.

Levien on Orig at U

Universal has signed Sonya Levien to write the screenplay on her original story, 'The Man Who Lived Alone', which Bruce Manning will produce.

Set Howard, Kolb

Lewis Howard and Clarence Kolb have been assigned roles in 'Hellzapoppin' at Universal.

Coast League Baseball Results

SUNDAY DOUBLE-HEADERS

Hollywood, 9-2; Sacramento, 8-0. (First game 10 innings.)

Los Angeles, 1-2; Portland, 4-0.

San Francisco, 1-6; Seattle, 9-4.

San Diego, 10-3; Oakland, 6-2. (First game 13 innings; second game eight innings.)

SATURDAY RESULTS

Sacramento, 7; Hollywood, 3.

San Diego, 4; Oakland, 2.

Seattle, 7; San Francisco 6 (10 innings).

Los Angeles at Portland—Rain.

FRIDAY SCORES

Sacramento, 1; Hollywood, 0.

Los Angeles, 7; Portland, 5. (Second game called, rain.)

San Francisco, 6; Seattle, 2.

San Diego, 5; Oakland, 3.

Network Plugs, 8 A.M. to 2 A.M.

Following tabulation of network popular music performances is confined to WOR, New York outlet for Mutual Broadcasting System. Compilation herewith covers the week beginning June 21-27 (Friday) from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m., and is based on data provided by accurate reporting service, regular checking source for the music publishing industry:

Title	Publisher	Total
Aurora	Robbins	20
I Understand	Feist	14
Hut Sut Song	Schumann	14
Intermezzo	Schubert	12
Harbor of Dreams	Miller	10
Tale of Two Cities	Harms	9
Kiss the Boys Goodbye ('Kiss the Boys Goodbye')	Famous	9
Beau Night	Berlin	8
You're Dangerous	Santly	7
Apple Blossom Time	Broadway	7
Dolores	Paramount	6
Memory of a Rose	Shapiro	6
My Sister and I	BMI	5
Love Me a Little Little	Mayfair	5
Amapola	Marks	5
Bewitched ('Pal Joey')	Chappell	5
I Guess I'll Have to Dream the Rest	Block	5
We'll Meet Again	Dash	5
Where You Are ('Great American Broadcast')	Feist	5
Yours	Marks	5

Pay Boosts Given Technicians On Lee Stations

Wage increases ranging from $25 to $75 a month were negotiated for 75 technicians employed on the four Don Lee stations in the state in an agreement reached with the network by Hollywood Electrical Workers Local 40. Stations affected are KHJ, KFRC, Frisco; KGB, San Diego, and KDB, Santa Barbara. Increases retroactive to June 1 represent around $20,000 a year.

New contract also calls for double pay for six national holidays; two weeks vacation with pay and sick leave; full protection of seniority rights, and an AFL closed shop.

Only local stations still outside the fold of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are the NBC affiliates, KFI and KECA.

Variety Club Organiz'g Group Meets Tonite

Meeting of the steering committee in charge of the formation of a Los Angeles branch of the Variety clubs will meet at 6:30 tonight at the Nikabob cafe. Charter will be ready for signatures of those members already lined up. There are approximately 15 men in exhibition and distribution hereabouts that have belonged to other Variety clubs throughout the country, and about 50 in the production end of the industry.

Pair For Litel

John Litel goes to Warners for a feature role in 'They Died With Their Boots On', and follows that with the father role in the next 'Henry Aldrich' feature at Paramount.

Blandick Valley Move

Clara Blandick moved over to Universal for 'Almost An Angel' after finishing in 'One Foot In Heaven' at Warners.

Spot Garry Owens

Garry Owens has been signed by Columbia for 'You'll Never Get Rich'. Seiter-DeNormand agency set deal.

Walt Disney Banker Enters Strike; Smith Still Maneuvering

◆ Continued from page 1 ◆

issue; William R. Walsh, regional director of the National Labor Relations Board; company executives and officials of the Screen Cartoonists Guild. Walsh met with Storey Saturday, and later in the day both of them discussed the situation with Herbert Sorrell, strike business manager, and George E. Bodle, SCG counsel.

In the meantime conferences arranged by Harold V. Smith between Disney studio managers and Guild leaders have been temporarily suspended to give the company an opportunity to digest the proposed SCG contract. Smith, who is business representative of Sound Technicians Local 695, has been acting as strike mediator in an effort to get the two groups together.

Another conference between Storey, Walsh and other executives is expected to be held today. It is understood the two hurdles to be overcome before a settlement is reached deal with the demand for retroactive pay and the disposition of employes who signed pledge cards with the Guild and then returned to work. The latter, however, probably would be solved by the reductions to be made under the retrenchment policy planned by the studio.

Aubrey Blair, American Federation of Labor organizer here, is continuing a drive by his committee to raise financial support for the strikers. He also has discussed the requested national boycott of Disney products with William Green, AFofL prexy, but is said to be holding off a few days in the hopes that an agreement can be reached without taking that drastic action. The move has already been approved by the Central Labor Council, which made an unsuccessful attempt to settle the 33-day strike.

Vallee Treks East (21)

Rudy Vallee's Sealtest troupe treks east July 21 for a four-week stand. John Barrymore will not make the trip, being held here by picture commitments.

Ascap Board Huddles Trammell's Four Point Proposal

♥ Continued from page 1 ♥

network commercial business while it proposes that the individual stations pay 2% on local and national spot commercial business.

2. NBC will clear and pay for the use of Ascap music on all network sustaining and public service programs.

3. NBC proposes that Ascap offer to the independent network stations four alternate methods for the use of Ascap music locally.

4. NBC proposes that the new services of television, frequency modulation, shortwave, etc., pay for the Ascap music on the same basis when commercial revenue for such services is received.

Proposal is subject to the acceptance by NBC affiliates of their portion of network commercial license fee which NBC, under terms of the Ascap consent decree, must pay for clearing all network music at the source. Copies of the proposal have been sent to all independent stations affiliated with NBC.

Trammell said he was hopeful that the terms would be acceptable to Ascap, adding that 'NBC will pay Ascap somewhat more than it has previously'. The proposal, he said, represents a sincere effort on the part of NBC to return Ascap music to the air on a basis equitable to all.

'Independent stations aligned with NBC remain free to negotiate local licenses with Ascap if they so desire', Trammell declared. 'The alternative methods we have suggested permit of great flexibility in negotiating agreements for the use locally of Ascap music and at the same time provide for fair payment to Ascap.'

Trammell said that Broadcast Music, Inc., would be continued 'and with the completion of negotiations with Ascap a competitive market for music will have been established'. He declared that was the purpose behind the formation of BMI and 'I am sure that if our proposal to Ascap is accepted, the composers, lyricists, arrangers and publishers throughout the country will find an ever-widening use for their music and receive fair and equitable compensation for it.'

'Mrs. Burton' Shifts

General Foods scripter, 'The Second Mrs. Burton', changes product and agencies starting with today's broadcast on CBS. Program wound up for Postum under Young & Rubicam production aegis last Friday and today starts on a pitch for Baker's chocolate, with Mann Holiner of Benton & Bowles producing.

Painters Elect Today

Election of officers of Moving Picture Painters Local 644 is scheduled for today. Herbert Sorrell, business representative of the local, does not have to stand for re-election, having recently been given a three-year contract by the members when they voted unanimously not to accept his resignation.

Robinson's 'Scream'

'Let the Eagle Scream', story by Paul Franklin, will be the last of the current Rinso-Big Town airers starring Edward G. Robinson, ethering Wednesday. Rinso show resumes over CBS Oct. 8.

Theatre Grosses Show Big Improvement In Past 2 Weeks

♣ Continued from page 1 ♣

$170,000 of the record established since the tax schedule was stiffened, and is the second biggest amount received by the treasury this year.

The cumulative receipts for the first five months of this year are $32,776,901, which is more than three times the treasury's haul in the same portion of 1940.

Theatre biz is on the pickup. Whether it is just a flash in the pan, or whether houses are geared for a general uptrend, industry does not profess to know. But the fact remains that grosses during the past week or so have shown a material improvement over takes a year ago.

In 25 key cities, as figured by VARIETY, first run takes are up nearly 200 grand over the corresponding week a year ago. Total gross last week is estimated at $1,411,400 as compared with a combined first run gross in the same number of key spots of $1,292,000 in 1940. This year's estimate is based on 164 theatres as against 167 a year ago.

In New York City grosses were up during the last stanza slightly over what they were a year ago. Twelve theatres last week reported a total take of $251,000, compared with a $244,000 combined gross in 11 houses in 1940.

Subsequent runs also, particularly in the Southern California sector, are reporting an improved tone in attendance. Some of the circuit houses are doing considerably better than they were just a year ago, and general tone of improvement is noted throughout the entire territory.

In Los Angeles the first run situation is materially improved on the current week, takes being considerably above what they were one and two weeks ago, with the exception of the holdovers which are holding their own.

Disney Wins Action

New York, June 29.—No plagiarism was involved in the use of the song, 'Someday My Prince Will Come' in Walt Disney's 'Snow White', Federal court ruled here. Suit of Thornton W. Allen against Walt Disney Productions, Ltd., RKO, Disney Enterprises, and Irving Berlin was dismissed as a result of the ruling.

Houser Comes Home

Mervyn Houser, Paramount unit publicity man who has been working at the Fleischer studios, Miami, Fla., returns to the home lot today.

Raison Treats 'Guinan'

Milton Raison has been set to write the preliminary story treatment on 'Tex Guinan' at Paramount.

Story Buys

Paramount has purchased F. Hugh Herbert's original story, 'Special Delivery', and writer will work on the screenplay. Under his writer-director deal Herbert also may draw the megging assignment.

Republic has purchased 'Raiders of El Dorado', original by Joel Malone, for production as a Three Mesquiteers western.

Wobber Sees More Big Pix Through Decree Operation

Operation under the consent decree will mean the highest negative investment for 20th-Fox in its history and a more vital concern for the individual picture, according to Herman Wobber, general manager in charge of distribution. Bigger budgets will result, not from the expenses attached to decree regulations, but because it is invariably the costly production that shows the most satisfactory box office return, Wobber declared. This type of film and the more careful overseeing of it from the production line to the theatre, is the picture that will be the leader in the 1941-42 consent decree market, he said.

Wobber, here to prepare for the company's national sales convention, to be held at the Ambassador hotel July 16-17-18, stated sessions will be the most important 20th-Fox has ever known, what with the revamping of selling ideas and other operation changes necessitated by the consent decree, but hit an optimistic note as to the new season's outlook because of a number of decree factors that should mean more profitable business, if product is right.

At a conference with representatives of trade publications, Wobber stated 'the trade papers have a function that must be continued'. He refused to be quoted on just how he thought the problem of trade and daily press previews should be solved when asked if he didn't believe film publications should see pictures before the exhibitor screenings.

PREVIEW SITUATION

Solution for the daily press previews will be doped out in New York, where huddles between distribution representatives take place this week. Wobber stated the question of trade press screenings is one that must be answered locally by the producers. He pointed out that the consent decree requires the advertising of exhibitor screenings and that a method is being devised in the east for running the dates of such showings in directory form in film papers.

Regarding the coverage of new pictures by both the trade and daily press, Wobber added that 'from the standpoint of the producers personally we would be much better off without comment by the columns.'

Going into the distribution questions that will arise from the decree, Wobber declared sales problems will be greatly multiplied, but because the decree will not hold companies to a rigid selling policy there is opportunity for great forward strides. He pointed out that had 20th-Fox sold 'Alexander Graham Bell' under the new regulations the company would have realized around 35% more. But again, he added, in the case of 'Chad Hanna' the profit would have been smaller.

Because of the advantages offered in the new season, the company's policy will be geared to make the most of its high-budgeted product through close watching of public tastes and the building of new faces. The old selling method failed to give a true picture of the film's box office value, and by the same token often allowed false star values to be established, he said.

'The old faces are beginning to wear out, at least in box office draw', Wobber said, 'and there is a crying need for new faces to replace them. 20th-Fox will stress every effort and spare no expense to build new ones'. Sales head then named Carole Landis, Gene Tierney, Anne Baxter, John Sutton, Dana Andrews, George Montgomery, Elaine Shephard among those the company is concentrating on at the moment.

CAN'T FATHOM B.O.

The reason for the bullish theatre business around the country at present was something Wobber couldn't give. He said the real dope on why a picture sets new box office records in one spot and then in the next reaches a new low has yet to be analyzed correctly. 'This is the first time motion picture companies have failed to receive their usual share of box office business when there was as much money in circulation among the working class as there is today.'

20th-Fox's first group of five will be decided after the convention, Wobber stated, but among it will be a 'Michael Shayne' and 'Private Nurse'. As 20th-Fox starts its new releasing season Aug. 1 the company is late with its first negatives, he said, and among those to be shown salesmen are 'Charley's Aunt', 'Sun Valley', 'Wild Geese Calling', 'Belle Starr', 'A Yank In the R.A.F.', 'Weekend In Havana' and 'How Green Was My Valley', plus a number of smaller features already completed. Company will not include its Zane Grey western series in any of its groups, but will sell the pictures separately. 20th-Fox is announcing 50 features for the new season, but Wobber declared no one has any knowledge at this time just how near the company will come to that total.

Wurtzel Readies Tw Specials with 'Sage' Ending Quarter

With the finish this week of 'Riders of the Purple Sage', Sol M. Wurtzel will have completed his production schedule for the first quarter of 1941-42 at 20th-Fox. Next for the producer will be two of his specials, 'Cadet Girl' and 'Great Guns', the Laurel-Hardy comedy.

Director James Tinling takes troupe of 'Sage' back to Lone Pine today for three days filming of exteriors to complete the western feature.

Other four now finished on the Wurtzel schedule are 'Dressed to Kill', 'Charlie Chan in Rio', 'Private Nurse', and 'The Last of the Duanes.'

Paramount Reissuing 'Red Gap' Shortly

'Ruggles of Red Gap' is being reissued by Paramount, with prints to be made available by mid-July. This will be additional to the other summer releases scheduled as follows: 'Caught in the Draft', July 4; 'Forced Landing', July 11; 'Shepherd of the Hills', July 18; 'Kiss the Boys Goodbye', Aug. 1; 'Wide Open Town,' Aug. 15; 'Aloma of the South Seas', Aug. 29, and 'Flying Blind', Aug. 29.

Renew Lloyd Nolan

Lloyd Nolan, who plays the title role in 20th-Fox's 'Michael Shayne' detective series, has had his contract renewed for another year.

Ill in Pix

CARLISLE JONES underwent operation for a brain tumor at Good Samaritan hospital Friday, and as soon as he recovers strength will undergo a second to complete the surgery.

DON ALDEN KING, Selznick contract player, recovering from tonsillectomy.

RACES
TODAY!
MONDAY, JUNE 30
CHILD WELFARE DAY
FIRST POST 2 PM
ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO WELFARE
Gen. Adm. $1.10 tax pd.
Clubhouse $2.20 tax pd.
SEASON BOOKS WILL BE HONORED
HOLLYWOOD PARK
Inglewood

Gere-Thomas Sign Par Deal for Six On '41-'42 Sked

Deal for William H. Pine to produce six pictures for Paramount's 1941-42 program in association with William C. Thomas has been closed. The Pine-Thomas unit will make three starring Richard Arlen and three with Chester Morris. Paramount will finance.

First of the new Arlen features will be 'Torpedo Boat', original by Aaron Gottlieb for which Paul Franklin is now writing the screen play. It is slated to start in September following the completion of 'Flying Blind', third of a trio of aviation features with Arlen which Pine-Thomas are doing for the current season.

Chester Morris' initial feature will be 'No Hands On the Clock', detective whodunit by Geoffrey Homes (pen name for Dan Mainwaring) which starts Aug. 15. Maxwell Shane is now writing the screen play.

Selznick Signs Lawson As Lobero Artist

Kate Drain Lawson, stage art director from New York, has been signed by David O. Selznick to be art director for his Hollywood Summer theatre, which opens its season at the Lobero, Santa Barbara, July 24. Miss Lawson will work in conjunction with Alfred de Liagre, Jr., and John Houseman.

Castings For 'Travels'

Julius Tannen and Monte Blue have drawn roles in 'Sullivan's Travels', Preston Sturges production for Paramount co-starring Joel McCrea and Veronica Lake. Others added to the cast are Charles Moore, Arthur Hoyt, Gus Reed, Robert Dudley, George Anderson, Alan Bridge, Jimmy Conlin and Harry Tyler.

Retie Hattie McDaniel

Hattie McDaniel's option has been lifted at Warners and actress has been assigned to featured parts in 'Kings Row' which starts July 7, and 'The Male Animal'.

Benedict at Metro

Billy Benedict goes to Metro for a supporting role in 'New York Story' on deal set by Samuel Arnow.

a.m. Dailies

Fairbanks Court Case—
Mrs. Sylvia Fairbanks, widow of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., goes to probate court here today in an attempt to prove that it is necessary for her to have no less than $3,000 a month for living expenses. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Robert Fairbanks, Letitia and Lucille Fairbanks, Flobelle Burden and Mary Margaret Chappellet, others of the actor's heirs, oppose the $3,000 monthly payments to the widow, claiming that she already has received $45,000 and that she will, if the sum is paid her each month, get more than her legal share of the estate.

Universal Wins Suit—
Edward Roller, sculptor, lost his $51,000 damage suit against Universal Pictures Corp., when Superior court ruled that it didn't make any difference how many times the artist's 'Adam and Eve Torso' statue had been copied for film use.

25,000 OVERFLOW BOWL FOR HUGE USO BENEFIT

♠ Continued from page 1 ♠

ment by Edward Arnold that Edward G. Robinson had given a check for $100,000 as his personal contribution to the USO.

With the Stars and Stripes as a backdrop and batteries of lights flooding the hills, the first half of the 'Star Show for USO', broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System, had names, but gave every evidence of hasty preparation. This was in sharp contrast to a bang-up show arranged by Marco for the second half. Some of the best talent from the studio was handicapped with mediocre material, notably skits which had Fanny Brice, Rosalind Russell, Charles Boyer, Irene Dunne, Frank Morgan, John Barrymore, Lionel Barrymore and Rudy Vallee. Others, reading speeches calling for contributions to the USO, were Tyrone Power, Bette Davis, Norma Shearer, Edward G. Robinson, Hattie McDaniel, Robert Taylor, Barbara Stanwyck and Loretta Young.

NATION-WIDE APPEAL

As a lineup designated to carry weight in a nation-wide appeal for funds to millions of radio listeners, the early portion of the program was understandable. As entertainment it missed fire, a few acts excepted. Orson Welles, reading a few lines from Walt Whitman on America's future, held his audience. Bob Burns sugar-coated his appeal with a few well turned gags and wound up playing his bazooka. Judy Garland delivered in grand style, singing 'America' with the Los Angeles City College choir. Gene Autry, Connie Boswell, and to a lesser extent Dick Powell teamed with Frances Langford, did well with vocals. Burns and Allen with their standard 'Brother Willie' routine, scored, but came on too early, as customers still arriving well after 7:30 p.m. created a little static. Nelson Eddy was another who profited little owing to early spotting.

For radio and as an eye-and-ear stage presentation the first half was out of balance and lacking in comedy, a prime essential. The three-way ribbing contest, with John, Lionel Barrymore and Rudy Vallee, was off key, and at one point off color. Frank Morgan tried hard but unavailingly for laughs with a dull script, while the quartet including Cary Grant, Rosalind Russell, Charles Boyer and Irene Dunne, also toyed with an indifferent comedy skit.

The second half of the program, not on the air, started off with a terrific wallop as soldiers, marines and blue-jacketed sailors marched on stage for a short drill. The lean, bronzed, businesslike boys in uniform bowled them over, with bugles and drums alternately furnishing the musical background. From that point on the show swung into high, with Leo Carrillo, as master of ceremonies, making a flash appearance on horseback. The Ada Broadbent Ballet, the Fanchonettes and the Rogers Dancers clicked smoothly and solidly. Lowe, Stanley and Height, three comic hoofers, scored heavily; the Nicholas Brothers delivered with their smash number from 'Down Argentine Way', and Rufe Davis drew phenomenal returns with imitations. Virginia O'Brien, eccentric songstress, was on too briefly, but managed to get across nonetheless.

Edward Arnold, acting as emcee in paying tribute to Harry M. Warner for starting the USO ball rolling, mentioned H. B. Warner instead, and later called on Harry Maizlish, manager of Warner Bros. Station KFWB to take a bow for handling the arrangements and ticket sales. A gross of approximately $15,000 is expected from the show.

Edward G. Robinson last night gave $100,000 to the United Service Organizations. Announcement of the actor's contribution was made at the USO show in Hollywood Bowl by Edward Arnold. The gift was one of the largest ever made to any organization for any cause. Robinson said 'The army, naval and marine bases are full of boys who have given more. They've given their freedom for an indefinite time; they've given up their own revenue from civil life and they've offered to risk their lives so that we can remain a free people. I just made a small down payment on the privilege of being an American'.

Thomas Dewey, national campaign chairman of the USO, spoke from New York, thanking the industry for its efforts. He acknowledged the Robinson gift and commented dryly that he would rather hear the orchestra leaders who had taken part in one number play in their own bands. Dewey also reported that $7,500,000 had already been raised for the USO with two-thirds of the 3,700 organized communities yet to be heard from.

Paderewski Dies In NY of Pneumonia

Ignace Paderewski, 80, former premier of Poland and world-famed pianist, died last night at the Hotel Buckingham in New York city. Musician succumbed to pneumonia after a week's illness. Paderewski was born Nov. 6, 1860, in what was then Russian Poland. Shortly after the turn of the 20th century he had gained renown as a pianist. By 1910 there was hardly a virtuoso on the international concert stage whose fame equaled his.

McDonald Will Direct Autry's 'Serenade'

Republic has signed Frank McDonald to direct 'Prairie Serenade', next Gene Autry pic which faces the cameras July 7. Studio also rolls two other pictures on that date, 'Doctors Don't Tell', with Jacques Tourneur directing for Albert J. Cohen, and 'Three Texas Rangers', Three Mesquiteers western.

Auster Gets Hasso

First assignment for Islin Auster, who checks in at RKO today to start a new producer contract, will be the Hollywood film bow for Signe Hasso, Swedish actress. Auster will select his initial yarn this week.

John Barry Named Pic Division Head Of Mills Outfit

John F. Barry has been appointed to head the new motion picture division of the Mills Novelty Co., according to announcement by Fred Mills. Barry has also been elected president of the Minoco Productions, Inc., Panoram shorts subjects company, succeeding Ralph Mills.

Barry, formerly Paramount home office executive for 16 years, will announce plans for the new Mills division shortly and is here to line up a staff and set production details. Motion picture division will handle both standard and sub-standard production distribution and exhibition.

Arnow Gloms Strawhat Plays in East

Max Arnow, Columbia production executive, planed east last night to catch plays on the strawhat circuit and confer with company's New York executives. While in New York Arnow will look at 'My Sister Eileen' and 'Pal Joey', legiters that Columbia will film. He will be gone a month.

UA Powwow at Frisco

United Artists sales forces will participate in a western regional powwow at San Francisco next Wednesday and Thursday. Branch managers and salesmen from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Denver will attend, with Ben Fish, western district supervisor, presiding.

Standing in 'Smilin'

Wyndham Standing has been signed for 'Smilin' Through', Jeanette MacDonald starrer at Metro.

Obituary

RICHARD CARLE

Funeral services for Richard Carle, 69, will be held at 11 a.m. today in the Steen chapel, North Hollywood. Carle died early Saturday of heart trouble after being taken ill a week earlier on the set of 'Almost an Angel', in which he was appearing at Universal. The body will be shipped to Melrose, Mass., for interment. Surviving are the widow, Dolly Carle, former stage actress, and a brother, E. W. Carleton, of Melrose.

Carle, who would have been 70 years of age July 7, began his professional career at the Bijou theatre in New York, doing a bit in 'Niobe', later rising to prominence in both straight and musical comedy parts. He appeared in many legit productions in theatres all over the United States and abroad, and made his film debut in 1916 for Paramount, playing in 'It Can't Be Done'. Until 1930 he shifted between films and legit appearances, but since that time had appeared almost entirely in pictures, doing character roles. Among his most recent pictures were 'Moonlight In Hawaii', 'One Night In the Tropics', 'Seven Sinners', all at Universal; 'The Devil and Miss Jones', RKO; 'The Dangerous Game' and 'Ma, He's Making Eyes At Me'.

At the time of his death he was unaware that his friend, Walter Catlett, had replaced him in the cast of 'Almost an Angel' at Universal.

Wallis Going To Can. Formulating Plans For WB 'Clouds'

Hal B. Wallis leaves for Ottawa, Can., this week to complete final details on the production of 'Captains of the Clouds.' Accompanying him will be Joseph Clark, director of public relations for the Royal Canadian Air Force, who arrived in Hollywood Saturday for studio confabs. Wallis expects to be gone two or three weeks, staying on until after start of filming by Michael Curtiz, who directs.

There is a possibility that George Brent will not be able to play the male lead as originally intended since he is not expected to be recevored from an operation performed last week in time to meet the July 7 starting date.

Picture will be made at the Trenton and North Bay, Ontario, air fields, and Uplands Field, Ottawa, with the cast living under military conditions in barracks at the three spots. Flight-Lieutenant Owen Cathcart-Jones, who has been working on the script for the past month with Norman Reilly Raine and Arthur Horman from the latter's original, will serve as technical advisor on the production.

ADMISSION TAX BASE REPORTED PUT AT 10c

Washington, June 29.—Lowering of the admissions tax base from 21 cents to 10 cents was reported to have been decided upon over the weekend by the House ways and means committee in its search for remaining millions to bring in $3,-000,000,000 of additional federal revenue. No estimate of the amount which such a change would produce has been made, though guesses as to the added yield range up to $70,-000,000. This would bring the contribution of amusement seekers towards maintenance of the federal government to around $150,000,-000 annually, against totals of around $20,000,000 under the old scale (starting at 41c) and the indicated yield of $75,000,000 from the present tariff.

Reduction of the starting point was urged by the Treasury and by Allied States Association during hearings several months ago. Abram F. Myers, Allied board chairman, urged competing diversions be taxed and said it is unfair to draw a line between theatres as is done at present.

'Babes' Rehearsal Set

Rehearsals and preliminary recordings on 'Babes on Broadway' Mickey Rooney-Judy Garland starrer, get under way July 7. Shooting starts July 14 under the direction of Busby Berkeley.

Boyd Davis at Col

Boyd Davis, legit actor who played the host in 'The Man Who Came to Dinner', has been signed at Columbia for a character role in 'You'll Never Get Rich'. Samuel Arnow agented.

Siodmak's 'Holiday'

Next directorial assignment for Robert Siodmak at Paramount will be 'Dangerous Holiday', original by Jay Dratler.

Today's Inglewood Consensus

LA TIMES Oscar Otis	Bob Hebert THE NEWS	LA TIMES Paul Lowry	LA EXAMINER Bernard	LA TIMES Martha	HER.-EXP. Jim Mitchell
1—Liedevin Pio Pico Quick Over	1—Pio Pico Leidevin Al Greenock	1—Liedevin Pio Pico Sky Victory	1—Pio Pico Sky Victory Al Greenock	1—Pio Pico Al Greenock Liedevin	1—Black Kerry Pio Pico Liedevin
2—Betty Sweep Patriotic Canterup	2—Betty Sweep Patriotic Ipako	2—Betty Sweep Canterup Patriotic	2—Betty Sweep Canterup Patriotic	2—Canterup Betty Sweep Patriotic	2—Canterup Patriotic Betty Sweep
3—Musical Jack Be Quaint Burgoo Trail	3—Musical Jack Gold B'withus Be Quaint	3—Musical Jack Gold Bewithus Uneasy	3—Musical Jack Be Quaint Gold Bewithus	3—Musical Jack Be Quaint Gold Bewithus	3—Be Quaint Musical Jack Gold Bewithus
4—Canfield Royal M'boro Creakle	4—Creakle Canfield Legend Call	4—Creakle Royal M'boro Legend Call	4—Lotagold Creakle Legend Call	4—Creakle Royal M'boro Canfield	4—Royal M'boro Canfield Legend Call
5—Teddy Kerry Journey On Wise Barrister	5—Wise Barrister Journey On Capt. Cal	5—Teddy Kerry Capt. Cal Vain Bo	5—Vain Bo Teddy Kerry Journey On	5—Capt. Cal Vain Bo Teddy Kerry	5—Wise Barrister Teddy Kerry Vain Bo
6—Wild Oats V'dina Bishop Ira Pan	6—Wild Oats Rackatack Emerald Bay	6—Emerald Bay Rackatack Welcome Pass	6—Ira Pan Rackatack Wild Oats	6—Wild Oats Welcome Pass Rackatack	6—Wild Oats Ira Pan Rackatack
7—Staretor Present Arms Vain Grove	7—Staretor Present Arms Vain Grove	7—Staretor Present Arms Vain Grove	7—Staretor Vain Grove V'dina Eterno	7--Staretor Present Arms Vain Grove	7—Vain Grove Staretor Present Arms
8—Peter Tokalon Fervorita Orra	8—Peter Tokalon Easy Does It Southern Belle	8—Potlatch Peter Tokalon Fervorita	8—Southern Belle Peter Tokalon Fervorita	8—Peter Tokalon Dasko Fervorita	8—Southern Belle Peter Tokalon Wingspread

Independent Producers Stymie Wage Deal Between SDG, AMPP

★ Continued from page 1 ★

cluding an agreement on Guild contract revisions that will carry the approval of the independents.

While the indie producers are not affiliated with the Producers association, executives and attorneys for the major companies are understood to have been apprehensive that the indies might raise the contention that a minimum wage contract was being negotiated to put them out of business. Certain representatives of the SDG are said to have echoed these views and to have expressed a desire for a favorable nod from the boys who turn out small budget pictures.

Indie representatives are said to have pointed out that they are more directly involved than the majors, since the proposed minimum salaries would apply exclusively to small budget pictures, westerns, serials, shorts and low-cost features.

Both the Guild and major companies said they had no desire to adopt any wage scales that would work a hardship on the small producer. Guild representatives said that naturally they realized that the more producers there are the more work that will be provided for directors.

The Guild also is asking that the current 80-20 Guild shop agreement be tilted to 90-10%. This is not expected to meet with any serious objection from the indies, since practically all directors in the business are now affiliated with SDG, including those who work for the leading indies.

The rates requested by the SDG call for a minimum of $300 per week for shorts, $350 for westerns and serials and $500 for features. The minimum would be lower for directors employed on term contracts.

Representatives of all three groups expressed the belief yesterday that an amicable arrangement will be worked out today.

Roach Rehearses 'Girl'

Rehearsal of production numbers and start of pre-recording for 'All-American Girl' gets underway at Hal Roach today. LeRoy Prinz and Hal Roach, Jr., put the picture before the cameras July 7.

Title Changes

20th-Fox's 'Forward March' now titled 'Great Guns'.

Monogram's 'City Limits' to 'Father Steps Out'.

Richard Dix Joins U For 'Badlands'; Ann Rutherford Signed

Universal has signed Richard Dix to play Wild Bill Hickok in 'Badlands of Dakota'. Addison Richards gets the part of General Custer in the feature which Director Alfred Green puts before the cameras today.

Ann Rutherford has been borrowed from Metro to take the femme lead originally intended for Miriam Hopkins. Studio also has signed Gene Solow to do a script rewrite on a deal set through the Sam Jaffe agency.

Garson, Marshall Start In Metro's 'Ladies'

Greer Garson and Herbert Marshall report at Metro today to start their roles with Joan Crawford and Robert Taylor in 'When Ladies Meet'. Robert Z. Leonard and Orville O. Dull are co-producing, with Leonard directing. Jerry Bresler gets the production manager assignment.

Andy Clyde to Talk

Andy Clyde, comic in the Hopalong Cassidy pictures, has been given a vocal assignment in Harry Sherman's next production in the series, 'Stick to Your Guns'. Jenny Holt, 20-year-old daughter of Jack Holt, is featured.

Vera Vague's Scribes

Stanley Davis and Marvin Fisher, writers of the Signal Carnival air program, are doing the comedy sequences for Vera Vague in Republic's 'Ice-Capades', now in production.

Ann Miller Assigned

Ann Miller will do one of the leads in 'Go West, Young Lady' as her first assignment under a two-picture a year contract at Columbia.

David Lang Upped

David Lang, assistant animator in the cartoon department at Metro, has been upped to the studio's writing staff, specializing in dialog.

Sol Lesser Producing Anti-Aircraft Pic For U. S. Trainees

Darryl F. Zanuck, chairman of the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, announces the start of another War Department training film. This film, on anti-aircraft machine guns, will be made by Sol Lesser for the Research Council at the Bicycle Lake Anti-Aircraft Firing Range near Barstow.

Jack Sherwood is directing, with George McNulty as assistant. Barney Briskin is production manager, assisted by Bud Lesser. Jack Smith is director of photography, assisted by Elliott Carter, operative cameraman, and Russell Hoover and Charles Bonhey, assistants. Ray Curtis is film editor, with Lorne Hume and Jack Wilson as grips.

Maj. C. S. Stodter will act as War Department liaison officer, assisted by Capt. H. C. Porter as technical adviser.

MG Terms Higgins

John Higgins has been signed to a term writing contract at Metro.

Births

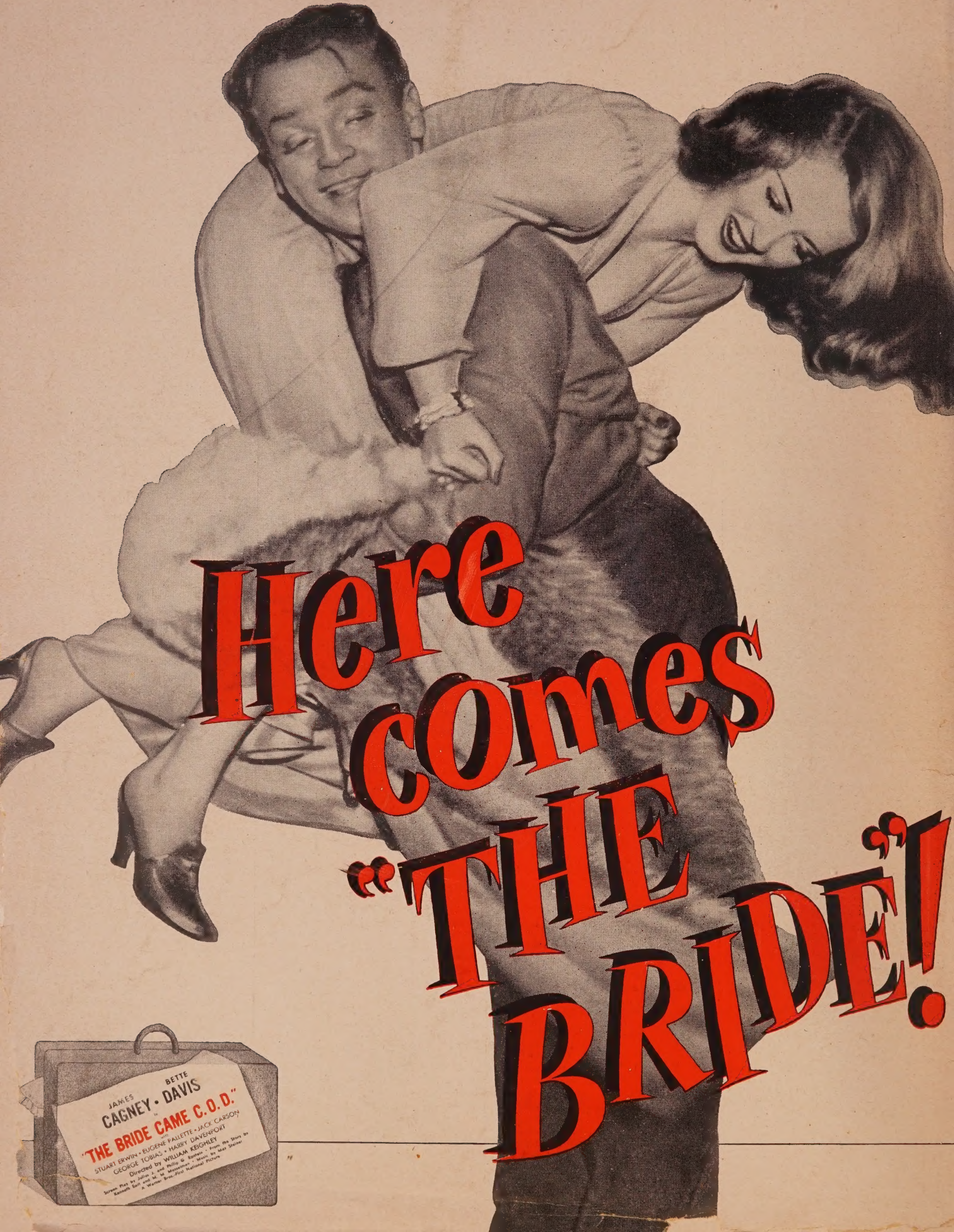
BOY, eight pounds, five ounces, to Mrs. Claudia Dutton, at the Monte Sano hospital, Glendale, June 29. Child will be named David. Father is Myron Dutton, NBC producer.

SON, weighing six pounds three ounces, born to Mrs. Chas. Gerlach, Jr., Saturday evening at the Hollywood hospital. Father is on advertising staff of Daily Variety.

SON, weighing eight and one-half pounds, to Mrs. Jules Yale, at the California hospital, June 25. Father is Daily Variety staff artist.

SON, weighing slightly under six pounds, to Mrs. Richard Carlson, at the Cedars of Lebanon, Friday (27).

BOXING TOMORROW
WORLD'S FEATHERWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP
PETEY SCALZO VS. RICHIE LEMOS
OLYMPIC


Here comes "THE BRIDE"!

JAMES CAGNEY • BETTE DAVIS

in

"THE BRIDE CAME C.O.D."

with

STUART ERWIN • EUGENE PALLETTE • JACK CARSON

GEORGE TOBIAS • HARRY DAVENPORT

Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY

Screen Play by Julius J. and Philip G. Epstein • From the Story by Kenneth Earl and M. M. Musselman • Music by Max Steiner

A Warner Bros.-First National Picture